

Media Release

02 November 2016

Lance Creek Water Connection – Progress Update

The planning process for the delivery of the Lance Creek Water Connection project continues, with finer details and schedules currently being finalised.

The Planning Compliance Report, a key component in ensuring the project is compliant with council planning schemes and overlays, has been a key focus for the project team recently. Productive meetings have been held with Bass Coast and South Gippsland Shire Councils and the report is nearing completion.

Direct contact with land owners along the alignment path has been a high priority South Gippsland Water staff. Personal, one-on-one meetings have provided the opportunity for open and direct discussion regarding the project and pipeline alignment and, importantly, has enabled staff to hear directly from land owners regarding their concerns, preferences and suggestions.

Supporting information has also been provided including explanatory letters from South Gippsland Water and fact sheets outlining elements of the project and addressing frequently asked questions (also available at www.sgwater.com.au).

The proposed alignment of the pipeline between the Lance Creek Reservoir and Korumburra, and then on to Poowong, has been planned along the most direct and accessible route to maximise construction and operating efficiencies for the project. Where possible, alignment takes into consideration:

- property boundaries and existing road easements
- minimising disruption to land owners
- impact of difficult terrain such as high hills and steep slopes
- areas of flora and fauna and/or Aboriginal Cultural Heritage sites.

Elements of design relating to pipeline infrastructure and alignment have been updated recently following consultation with affected land owners, additional survey work, and detailed reviews and inspections. In particular, Giant Gippsland Earthworm assessment has been completed and additional Cultural Heritage assessments along the amended alignment path are nearing completion.

In consultation with land owners, alignment site visits have been undertaken by the project team, along with representatives from Valuer General Victoria; the required survey work and the creation of easement plans are near completion.

Tender submissions for amendments to the project design and tender documentation have been received and the evaluation and recommendation process has been completed. The successful consultant will be announced in the coming weeks.

At this stage, construction is due to commence in the first half of 2017, with pipeline construction on private property due to commence in the second half of 2017. The level of construction activity will reduce during the wetter months in order to minimise disruption to land owners.

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Lance Creek Reservoir spillway



Lance Creek Reservoir water off-take tower