

Upper Goulburn Regional Water Supply Project

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Background

In early 2007 Goulburn Valley Water commenced its community engagement program for the Upper Goulburn Regional Water Supply Project. In May 2007 the Corporation established a Community Reference Committee (CRC) of 9 local people. The role of the CRC was to help the Corporation understand the concerns and aspirations of the communities in relation to the project. The main focus was on the benefits and disadvantages of the various suggested pipeline routes. Their input assisted the Corporation in determining the final route for the pipeline.

The Upper Goulburn Regional Water Supply Project involves a \$10 million investment for the provision of high quality drinking water to Alexandra, Eildon and Thornton. It comprises the new water treatment plant at Alexandra which was commissioned in February 2008, a pump station at the water treatment plant and three sections of pipeline (Alexandra to Thornton, Thornton to Eildon and Thornton to Rubicon).

This project will provide the upper Goulburn region with a secure high quality water supply for many decades.

Goulburn Valley Water investigated the provision of water supply connections along the pipeline route. Property owners along the route were asked to submit expressions of interest in a connection. The Corporation did not receive any written responses and made the decision not to allow connections on this bulk supply main. This decision is similar to the position the Corporation has taken on other recent bulk water supply mains.

Project Status

Construction of all three sections of pipeline commenced in April 2009. As at 1 September 2009, 16 km of pipeline has been installed. A number of air valves and valves used for cleaning still need to be installed, due to a delay in delivery. Where the valves are to be installed a section of trenching has been left open. Materials for these valves have now been delivered and installation is underway.

Reinstatement of the pipeline route has been undertaken progressively. However, some areas have not been completed due to the ground conditions being too wet. The reinstatement work will be completed when the ground conditions improve.

The next phase of the pipeline installation is to bore under the Goulburn River and Rubicon River. This work commenced the week starting 7 September. This work involves boring under the river and installing a sleeve pipe to hold the bore open and a carrier pipe to carry the water.

Construction of the pump station at the Alexandra water treatment plant commenced on 7 September and will take approximately eight weeks to complete.

Goulburn Valley Water anticipates that the pipeline will start delivering water by the end of 2009. This will depend on weather conditions over the next few months.

Key Components of the Pipeline

- 25 km pipeline between Alexandra and Eildon and Thornton
- 5 km pipeline from Thornton to Rubicon Village
- 2.7 megalitre per day pump station at the Alexandra water treatment plant.

The pipeline will be connected into the existing clear water storage at Eildon and Rubicon Village and therefore there will be no changes to the existing reticulation system within the towns.

Goulburn Valley Water
PO Box 185, Shepparton 3632
Tel: 03 8532 0400, Fax: 03 5831 1467, e-mail mail@gvwater.vic.gov.au
For more information contact Lachlan McGregor using the above details

...running water from the Mountains to the Murray...



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5

Photo 1—Installation of Thornton to Rubicon tank pipeline.

Photo 2—Installation of the Thornton to Eildon pipeline

Photo 3—locating fibre optic cable using a vacuum truck

Photo 4—GVW Project Supervisor Matt Norris checking construction along the Back Eildon Road.

Photo 5—Stockpile of pipes.