



Speech by

Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Thursday, 30 March 2006

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme

Hon. PD BEATTIE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier) (9.37 am): On the issue of water, one major example of our work to ensure that we have water for Queenslanders and that we drought-proof Queensland as much as we can is the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme in the south-east corner. Stage 1 will tackle recycled water from waste water treatment plants at Oxley, Wacol, Goodna and Bundamba to power stations at Swanbank and Tarong. Stage 2 will link the Luggage Point treatment plant into the scheme. It is the largest recycled pipeline project in the Southern Hemisphere. The scheme will save more than 110 million litres a day from Wivenhoe Dam in stage 1 alone. This represents almost 15 per cent of the region's current daily water consumption.

The project will require almost 200 kilometres of pipeline up to 1.8 metres in diameter through south-east Queensland. Tenders have been called for the supply of these pipes. This scheme could potentially make use of almost all of Brisbane and Ipswich's treated waste water, thereby reducing nutrient input to Moreton Bay and offering the potential to increase environmental flows in the region's catchments.

I can announce today that the project manager, SEQWater, has selected its preferred tenderer for the design of the scheme. The successful consortium includes leading international water services and project manager company GHD, Singapore based Black and Veatch, one of the world's largest water and waste water design and construction companies, and the state government owned rural bulk water supplier and manager, SunWater.

Members of the consortium have now started work. SEQWater expects to finalise the selection of manufacturers and suppliers to the project to be announced next month. Pipe orders covering the first section of the pipeline from Bundamba to Swanbank are expected to be placed by May. The Coordinator-General, along with representatives of SEQWater, is currently meeting with all affected landholders in the key Bundamba to Swanbank section. Advertisements are being placed in newspapers this weekend inviting community input on proposed land management arrangements in this section of the pipeline corridor. The project is due to be completed in March 2008.