

Question on Notice

No. 342

Asked on Wednesday, 12 March 2008

MRS MILLER asked the Deputy Premier and Minister for Infrastructure and Planning (MR LUCAS) –

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide an update on the water infrastructure construction projects centred in Bundamba?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Bundamba for her question.

As you are aware, the South East Queensland (SEQ) Water Grid is the Government's strategic response to ensuring the SEQ region has adequate water supplies to meet projected population growth and the anticipated impact of climate change and climate dependant water storage methods.

This regional strategy incorporates a multi-faceted approach including the desalination plant at Tugun, the use of Purified Recycled Water (PRW) for industry and the supplementing of drinking water supplies, and a number of new dams all connected by a series of pipelines that will enable water to be transported to where it is most needed. The Government has committed to fast tracking these projects to ensure the region's water supply is secure and completed on time.

Bundamba has been a focal point of this activity with both the Southern Regional Water Pipeline and the Western Corridor Recycled Water Project being constructed within this area.

The Southern Regional Water Pipeline links supply sources on the Gold Coast such as the Tugun desalination plant and Hinze Dam with the Wivenhoe system near Mt Crosby, enabling water to be moved between the Gold Coast, Brisbane and Logan City areas as required. Construction of the pipeline and associated Bundamba Pump Station have been completed in the Bundamba area with the section from Cameron's Hill to North Beaudesert currently subject to hydrostatic testing in preparation for commissioning in mid to late April. Pipeline construction is continuing in the Gold Coast region with the project due for completion in October 2008.

The Western Corridor Recycled Water Project is taking secondary treated waste water from Brisbane and Ipswich Council waste water treatment plants for processing through advanced water treatment plants to produce purified recycled water. This

will be used by industry and agriculture to decrease water demand as well as supplementing drinking water supplies through Wivenhoe dam.

The project builder, Western Corridor Recycled Water Pty Ltd, has constructed one of its three advanced water treatment plants at Bundamba. This plant will process secondary treated effluent from the Bundamba, Goodna, Wacol and Oxley waste water treatment plants into PRW. This site, at its peak, had some 500 people working on site and in the space of 18 months poured some 27 000m³ of concrete.

Stage 1A, delivered first water to CS Energy's Swanbank power station on the 27 August 2007. The 20 megalitre per day capacity advanced water treatment plant has an average production of 10 ML/day of recycled water.

At the completion of Stage 1B (June 2008) the Bundamba Advanced Water Treatment Plant will have a capacity to produce up to 66 megalitres per day of PRW. The Stage 1B works are well advanced with construction largely complete and commissioning commenced.

The associated pump stations and pipelines linking the Oxley and Wacol waste water treatment plants to the existing Goodna pipeline are complete, and the delivery of water to the Bundamba plant commenced on 31 March 2008.

Further construction activities in the Bundamba area have been carried out by the Western Pipeline Alliance, which has constructed the 80km pipeline and associated pump stations linking the Bundamba Advanced Water Treatment Plant to Tarong Energy's Caboonbah pump station. This has involved a number of work fronts and some major construction activities such as boring under the Bremer River, the Warrego and Burnett highways.

The construction occurring has been extensive, however, much of this work is now nearing completion as the SEQ Water Grid moves closer to its completion dates. Works on Stage 2 of the Western Corridor Recycled Water Project linking the Advanced Water Treatment Plants at Luggage Point and Gibson Island to Bundamba via the Eastern Pipeline are ongoing, and will be completed on schedule by 31 October 2008. When completed it will be a connected system involving 3 advanced water treatment plants and 205 kilometres of pipelines with a capacity to produce up to 232 megalitres of water.