

Eyre Peninsula desalination project update

Greyhound Road provides new access

Fencing along the reinstated section of Greyhound Road has been completed.

The reconstruction of the road was part of works on the 7km transfer pipeline, which was successfully delivered by contract partner Leed. The pipeline will take desalinated water from Billy Lights Point to the Northside Hill tanks, where it will enter our existing infrastructure and supply the Eyre Peninsula.

The new, wider road provides all-weather access to Murray's Point, and is already being used by the community. Please take care when driving around newly planted vegetation in the area, particularly near the wetlands.



New fencing along Greyhound Road

Plant progress

Our partner, Acciona, continues construction of the Eyre Peninsula Desalination Plant.

Multiple activities are underway, including structural works, pipe installation, electrical and communications conduits, and site systems upgrades.

Containers of specialised equipment continue to arrive on site, with our construction teams effectively managing a complex global supply chain of shipments from Europe, Asia, the US, and New Zealand.

Marine infrastructure update

The work on our marine infrastructure, including the intake and outfall pipes, continues. Our partners, McConnell Dowell, are delivering this part of the project and the team has worked around the clock on marine infrastructure construction.

Hard layers of granite rock below the seafloor slowed progress on tunnel construction, making the overall time to build the tunnel longer than expected.

The plant, which will produce up to 5.3 gigalitres of desalinated drinking water to around 35,000 Eyre Peninsula homes and businesses, had previously been forecast to deliver first water by the end of 2026.

Based on the sequential nature of the marine construction activities and with the tunnel taking longer to construct, the project's first water target of late 2026 will need to be revised.

We're working closely with our contract partners to optimise delivery of marine infrastructure, and the revised project timeframe will not negatively impact the EP drinking water security or require the introduction of water restrictions. This is because SA Water's groundwater allocation for 2026-27 is sufficient to meet customer demand.



Photo supplied by McConnell Dowell

Parnkalla Trail accessible via new pedestrian bridge

To accommodate our marine infrastructure works, a small amount of dredging is required. This is being conducted by McConnell Dowell, who has adopted a methodology that minimises sediment disturbance and impact on the marine habitat.

The dredging is being done in accordance with the dredge management plan, which has been approved by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA). During this activity buoys will monitor water quality and a marine fauna observer will visually monitor the area; work will stop if a marine mammal is sighted near the operation.

Dredged matter, known as 'spoil', will be returned to land via a floating pipeline. The pipeline crosses the Parnkalla Trail near the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and a pedestrian bridge has been installed to ensure safe access for trail users.

Dredging is occurring within the vessel exclusion zone, east of Billy Lights Point.



Photo supplied by McConnell Dowell

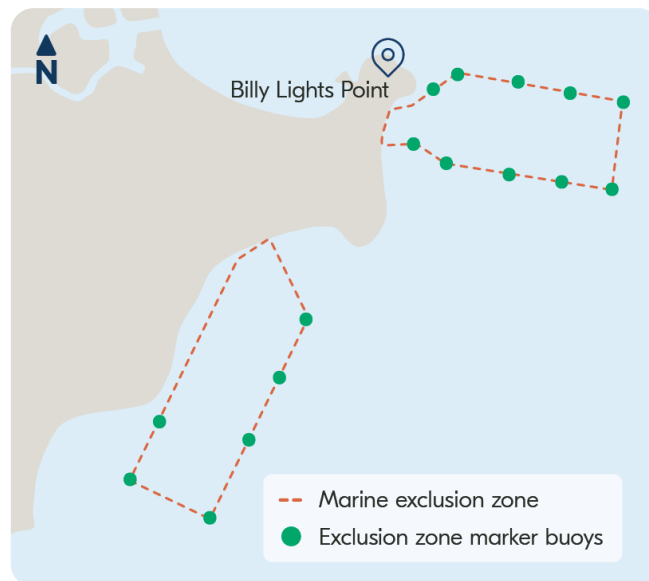
Avoid vessel exclusion zones

Two temporary vessel exclusion zones have been established to support marine construction. The zones are:

- East Billy Lights Point: effective now until 31 January 2027
- Proper Bay: effective 1 September 2026 until 31 January 2027

Mariners must avoid these areas and follow all buoy markers and navigation signage.

These zones have been approved by the Department of Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) under the Harbors and Navigation Act 1993.



We've powered up

SA Power Network's extension of the electricity network to Billy Lights Point has been completed. Lines are strung, bird deflectors are in place, and the power was turned on in early July — we now have a reliable electricity supply to the desalination site.

See you at the shows

Our team will be attending several upcoming agricultural shows, including the Cleve Field Days, sharing water wise tips, information about water security, rebates and the desalination plant — if you see us at a show, please come over and say hello.

Stay informed and get in touch

Our newsletter aims to keep you in the loop as our project takes shape.



Scan the QR code and sign up for construction news to get important project progress.

If you would like to chat with someone from our project team, please get in touch.



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