

# Eyre Peninsula desalination project update



## Advancing water security for Eyre Peninsula

We reached a project milestone this month with the arrival of a drilling rig. The rig, which is 23 metres long, will bore holes for piles, which will support the marine pipeline's tunnel boring machine.



During September, activities at the wastewater treatment plant included:

- Backfilling of old lagoons to prepare for new marine pipe infrastructure.
- McConnell Dowell, our contractor for building marine infrastructure, taking possession of the area where the marine intake pump station will be constructed.
- Preparation of an amenities pad for new site huts, which will be established soon.

Acciona, our partner that is building the reverse-osmosis component of the desalination plant, has been busy establishing its huts on site. They are now starting preliminary civil works to prepare for the construction and installation of the site's buildings and reverse osmosis filtration systems. We'll continue to share project updates as we work toward delivering first water by the end of 2026.

## Prioritising safety with our truck drivers

Truck activity along St Andrews Drive and from DK Quarries to our marine intake pump station site at Billy Lights Point has continued throughout September.

Trucks have been running Monday to Saturday, between the hours of 7am and 5pm. Truck drivers are regularly reminded to adhere to speed limits, and to be cautious around residents entering and exiting driveways.

To help keep roads clean, we have installed a truck wheel wash to remove construction site dirt. We are also regularly cleaning the roads.

We appreciate the community's ongoing patience and support as these important works continue, and welcome you to contact us with any concerns about these activities.

## Transfer pipeline progress

Our contractors, Leed Engineering, are continuing work on our transfer pipeline in Port Lincoln.

The transfer pipeline is a critical piece of infrastructure that will take water from the desalination plant site to the tanks at Northside Hill. The water is then pumped to Summit Tanks, before being gravity-fed around the entire Eyre Peninsula.

The team is preparing to lay out sections of pipe along the side of Proper Bay Road — this process is called 'stringing' the pipe.

Once stringing is completed, the pipes will be welded together and installed.

We have sent out information to all the residents and businesses along the transfer alignment route to ensure they know what to expect, and who to contact if they have any questions.

## Electricity connection

Electricity cables will soon be run through underground conduits that were previously installed under roads.

These cables will connect the marine intake pump station and the desalination plant to the Port Lincoln electricity central substation in Sleaford Terrace. While work is underway there will be temporary fixes on roads, and once the works are finished, roads will be completely fixed and resurfaced.

While most of the cabling is underground, there have been a few new stobie poles erected near and inside the marine intake pump station. New stobie poles are also being installed along the unmade portion of Windsor Avenue and sections of Greyhound Road to take the power to the plant. Vegetation has been cleared to prepare for this work.

## Innovation with Eyre Peninsula's primary producers

Did you know that primary industries on the Eyre Peninsula use 38% of the region's water?

To help farmers capture, store and use water more effectively, we helped set up 'EP Farm Water Security' workshops at Warramboo and Wharminda.

The workshops were a collaboration between SA Water and the Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board; the Department of Primary Industries and Regions; AgCommunicators and AWI Extension SA.

Our team joined the line up for both sessions and explained the measures we're taking to help meet increasing water demand in the region.

The workshops included visits to local farms using innovative methods to capture and store water. Primary producers were given practical information about making the most of rainfall with lined dams and trenches, evaporation control, and leak detection.



## Stay informed and get in touch

Stay in the loop as our project takes shape! With construction now well underway, it is the perfect time to make sure you and those around you are receiving the latest updates.



Encourage your family, friends, and neighbours to scan the QR code and sign up for construction news, so no one misses out on important project progress.

SA Water will be attending at most of the upcoming country shows across the Eyre Peninsula, so feel free to chat to us there about any of your water questions.

If you have any questions or would like to chat with someone from our project team, please feel free to get in touch. We would love to hear from you!



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