

MEDIA RELEASE

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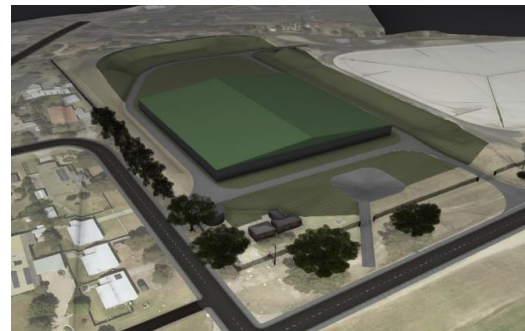


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New Wy Yung water storage

East Gippsland Water is making preparations to construct a new 36 million litre water storage tank at its water storage facility in Wy Yung, to help maintain a high quality water supply to some 22,000 customers well into the future.

The enclosed tank – made from reinforced concrete with a steel roof - will be located within the footprint of an existing, disused, open storage basin on the site. Construction is expected to start towards the end of the year and be completed in 2021.



The open storage basin now and how the project might look on completion

Last month East Gippsland Water hosted an information session on-site. This provided an opportunity for adjacent residents to find out more about the project and discuss the scheduling of works, the potential impact of noise and vehicle traffic during the construction phase and landscaping of the site.

East Gippsland Water's Managing Director, Steve McKenzie, said, "Following a careful assessment of various options, the decision has been made to construct the tank in reinforced concrete given the potential benefits in terms of a long service life, ease of maintenance and value for money.

"We appreciate the interest shown by nearby residents in this project and the feedback we have received so far, and we will be engaging with them further as preparations for construction are finalised and during the construction phase itself. A priority for everyone involved is to minimise any inconvenience to the local community.

"The storage facility at Wy Yung has a vital role to play in our largest water supply network, the Mitchell River system, with an existing 88 million litre covered storage basin in operation on the site. It is a key hub, feeding water to customers across the Bairnsdale area and a number of communities eastwards through to Nowa Nowa, including the larger commercial centres of Paynesville and Lakes Entrance.

"The aim is to maintain the long term efficiency and reliability of our Mitchell River Water Supply System, while taking into account forecasts for population growth and the increasing demands this will place on water services."

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