

MEDIA RELEASE

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Boosting water services with bumper package of engineering projects

East Gippsland Water customers stand to benefit from the latest \$6.3 million round of engineering projects designed to safeguard and enhance water services.

Major initiatives include construction of a new six-million-litre drinking water storage tank in Sarsfield, which is well underway. This is being built alongside an existing water storage tank of the same size, doubling the storage capacity on the site. Complementing this is an upgrade to nearly six kilometres of water supply pipeline being undertaken now in the Sarsfield area.

These projects are targeted at customers in Nicholson, Johnsonville, Swan Reach, Metung, Tambo Bluff, Lakes Entrance and Kalimna, where they will help meet the long-term needs of a growing population across these communities.

In West Bairnsdale, work continues on the replacement of nearly one kilometre of ageing water main, adjacent to the Princes Highway, with completion expected by this July.

Turning to Wy Yung, work is due to get underway at the beginning of June to install some 400 metres of drainage pipeline alongside a short section of Bullumwaal Road and Eastwood Road, opposite the water storage site at Wy Yung. This project is designed to manage stormwater runoff from the site and distribute this into the Clifton Creek water catchment to benefit the natural environment. Completion is expected in approximately three months.

Running in parallel, an extension will be carried out to the existing drainage system on land to the west of the Wy Yung water storage site.

In addition, preparations are progressing well for the construction of a new 36 million litre, enclosed water storage tank – to be located within the footprint of an existing disused, open storage basin on the Wy Yung site. Work on this reinforced concrete tank is expected to start towards the end of the year, with completion anticipated in 2021.

A valve installation project designed to improve the operation of the main supply pipeline between the Woodglen Water Treatment Plant and Wy Yung storages has also just commenced.

Finally, work is scheduled to start in June to replace and upgrade a water main running under the rail crossing along Lindenow-Glenaladale Road in Lindenow South.

East Gippsland Water's Executive Manager Capital & Service Delivery, Mark McNeil, said, "These initiatives are part of an ongoing drive to enhance our delivery of water services. They are designed to ensure our customers have secure supplies of high quality drinking water well into the future, taking into account forecasts for population growth and the potential impact of climate change on our region.

"We would like to thank those directly impacted by the works for their patience and cooperation. Where traffic measures are required, every effort is made to minimise any inconvenience to nearby residents and motorists."

Ends