



Hi

- Mainstream: August 2010

Welcome to Mainstream, the Water Corporation's quarterly e-newsletter designed to keep our business partners and stakeholders informed about our latest projects, initiatives and business opportunities.

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### Water source planning to facilitate Pilbara Cities

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## Consortia shortlist for Mundaring Water Treatment Plant announced

Following the release of an Expression of Interest for the construction and delivery of components of the Mundaring Weir Water Supply Improvement Project, two short listed consortia for the Public Private Partnership (PPP) have been announced.

The consortia have been short listed to design, build, operate, maintain and own the Mundaring Water Treatment Plant, Pump Station C and various pipelines for up to 37 years.

The short listed consortia are:

- Helena Water, which comprises project sponsors Acciona Agua, United Utilities Australia and Royal Bank of Scotland with design support by GHD
- Aquality, which comprises project sponsors Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Degremont Australia Ltd, Abigroup and McConnell Dowell with design support by Worley Parsons and KBR.

Manager Private Finance, Ross Mignacca said that selecting the two best consortia from a world class field of proponents is a significant milestone in the development of this important project.

“Helena Water and Aquality were selected from a very competitive field,” said Mr Mignacca. “Both have demonstrated their capability in designing, building and operating water treatment plants in numerous locations all over the world and they have significant financial support and expertise.”

“When developing their bids, both consortia will be required to adhere to technical, environmental and social criteria set by the Water Corporation.”

The Mundaring Water Treatment Plant and Pump Station C are key components of the Mundaring Weir Water Supply Improvement Project.



*Mundaring Weir*

Other elements of the Project, including the construction of various pipelines, upgrades to pump stations and the Weir and improvements to the tourism precinct, will be carried out by the Water Corporation through traditional construction contracts.

Mr Mignacca said the Project was required to meet increasing water demands and to keep pace with improving water quality standards.

“This Project will not only ensure the reliability of water supplies to more than 100,000 people living in the Perth Hills area and the Goldfields Agricultural Region for years to come, it will also greatly improve the quality of water supplies,” he said.

He said the plant would be designed to treat up to 250 megalitres of water per day (MLD), although its initial construction would be for a capacity of 160 MLD.

It will be located at the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) Perth Hills District Office & Depot current site, situated off Mundaring Weir Road.

The two short listed proponents have until December 2010 to develop and submit competitive bids. The preferred consortium will be announced in July 2011. ■



## New groups formed to meet operating challenges



*Graham Cargeeg*



*Ashley Vincent*



*Paul Ferguson*



*Keith Cadee*

As part of the Water Corporation's Corporate Reorganisation that went live on 1 July 2010, four new Groups have been introduced - Metropolitan Customer Services, Regional Customer Services, Planning and Capability, and Acquisition Groups.

The new Groups replace the previous planning and operational divisions - Planning and Infrastructure, Water Technologies, Customer Services and Asset Management.

Chief Operating Officer Peter Moore said that the changes were introduced to enable the Corporation to become more efficient.

"Our previous structure served us well for about seven years," Mr Moore said.

"But with changes in our operating environment - including the task of meeting water needs of a growing population in a more complex and demanding political and social environment - it was clear that we needed to change.

"Our new operating model will enable us to better respond to our current operating challenges and maintain high levels of service to our customers."

Details on the newly appointed General Managers and the role of each group are as follows:

- Graham Cargeeg - Metropolitan Customer Services Group brings together all units involved in metropolitan customer services and the operations and maintenance alliances
- Ashley Vincent - Regional Customer Services Group drives efficiency in country areas by deploying consistent work practices and arrangements across the State
- Paul Ferguson - Planning and Capability develops and implements asset management strategies, monitors asset capability and plans how to meet future service demands and identifies capital and operating solutions that meet our customers' needs
- Keith Cadee - Acquisition Group delivers new or upgraded infrastructure in a timely and cost efficient manner to meet our customer's needs.

The structure of our Finance and Communication Groups remain unchanged.

To view our new organisational structure please see:

[http://www.watercorporation.com.au/O/organisational\\_structure.cfm](http://www.watercorporation.com.au/O/organisational_structure.cfm) ■



## Follow us on Twitter for the latest news and information

We have recently launched a page on micro-blogging site Twitter to share up-to-date water news with media, stakeholders, community and customers.

The page is updated daily with new posts – or ‘tweets’, that range from waterwise tips to corporate announcements.

Catherine Ferrari, General Manager Communications said that followers of our tweets could expect to be the first to get up-to-date information about water use, how to get involved and have a say on major new projects and updates on works already under way.

“Digital technology and communication channels are significantly changing, as are people’s expectations. We view Twitter as an additional communication medium and another way for us to deliver key messages and engage with the community,” said Ms Ferrari.

A recent tweet announced a link to a Groundwater Replenishment Trial update, as well as a link to videos on YouTube which feature our Water Source Planning Manager Nick Turner, further explaining the trial and its status.

Ms Ferrari said she recognised our online presence was now as real as our offline presence, and further to our website and other communication channels, Twitter was a great way to listen and respond to feedback.

To find our more and to follow us on Twitter, go to [www.twitter.com/watercorpwa](http://www.twitter.com/watercorpwa) ■

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## Water source planning to facilitate Pilbara Cities

The Water Corporation supports Government's vision for a vibrant and sustainable long term future for the Pilbara, to enable industrial and other commercial development while enhancing the residential and community amenity of the region.

While there is enough water today, more is needed to accommodate the Government's long-term vision for the region.

The three water supply schemes in the Pilbara that we are focusing on to meet increased industrial and residential demand are:

- The West Pilbara water supply scheme which draws water from the Harding Dam and Millstream Aquifer and services the towns of Karratha, Wickham, Dampier, Roebourne and Point Samson. Supply is also provided to major iron ore exporting ports at Cape Lambert and Dampier operated by Rio Tinto Iron Ore (RTIO), as well as numerous other industrial customers primarily located on the Burrup Peninsula
- The Onslow Cane River borefield supplying Onslow
- The East Pilbara water supply scheme which consists of the Yule and De Grey borefields and services Port Hedland and South Hedland.

The Water Corporation is undertaking an \$11 million water efficiency program in the Pilbara, jointly funded by the Commonwealth Government under the National Water Security Plan for Cities and Towns.

Water Corporation North West Regional Business Manager Kerrie Chapman said that by working with the community we aim to save 10 per cent of current scheme water supply, across the Pilbara.



*The West Pilbara water supply scheme draws water from the Harding Dam (pictured) and the Millstream Aquifer*

"This equates to saving over 2 gigalitres of drinking water, every year through residential and commercial retrofits, leak detection and repair and community education and awareness initiatives – enough water to fill Subiaco Oval twice".

"This program of work has already commenced and will continue for the next two years", says Mrs Chapman.

The Water Corporation has been planning for future water sources and one option we are investigating is the feasibility of a seawater desalination plant to be located on the Burrup Peninsula to supplement the West Pilbara water supply scheme.

On 27 July 2010, Water Minister Graham Jacobs and Regional Development Minister Brendon Grylls announced an Expression of Interest (EOI) process to identify all other viable water source options for the West Pilbara water supply scheme. The Water Corporation is running this process, in conjunction with the Department of Treasury and Finance. →

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Submissions are invited from interested parties until 24 August 2010. More information is available at [http://www.watercorporation.com.au/W/west\\_pilbara\\_source.cfm](http://www.watercorporation.com.au/W/west_pilbara_source.cfm)

A report identifying all viable water sources, including those identified through the EOI, will be submitted to State Government to allow a fully informed decision to be made regarding source augmentation.

The Water Corporation is working collaboratively with developers, industry and other customers to understand their water needs and address all issues, in parallel with sourcing new supplies. ■



## Sprinkler ban proving imperative during drier than average Winter

The billions of litres of water Perth and South West customers and communities are saving during the current winter sprinkler ban will become even more important this summer given the drier than average winter to date.

The winter sprinkler ban, which began on 1 June and will end on 31 August, was announced by Water Minister Graham Jacobs earlier this year following the successful trial ban that saved around 5 billion litres of water last winter.

Although July was a wetter month than June, rainfall to date this year is still well below average. Water Corporation's Water Efficiency Manager Ben Jarvis urged people to abide by the sprinkler ban and save water while we can.

"Although we had the second driest June on record with only 48.6mm of rain, this is more than enough to keep gardens alive. During the colder months our plants are more dormant and we have the added advantage of morning dew", Mr Jarvis said.

Over 2300 warnings were issued during the first two months of the ban. "We can assume the increase in breaches is directly related to the dry start we had to winter and the fact that householders think their garden needs extra water," said Mr Jarvis.

With the recent rains there has been a ban breaches and Mr Jarvis said the overwhelming majority of householders have switched off their reticulation systems for the winter.

With rainfall to date this winter well below average and the possibility of a long hot summer on its way, the winter sprinkler ban and the two-days-a-week sprinkler rosters will help the Water Corporation meet our summer demands. ■



*Waterwise plants will flourish on minimal watering, even in summer.*