



Gladstone Area Water Board

ABN: 88 409 667 181
Service Provider: 200

PO Box 466
GLADSTONE Q 4680

2nd Floor
147 Goondoon Street
GLADSTONE Q 4680

Tel: (07) 4976 3000
Fax: (07) 4972 5632

Email:
gawb@gawb.qld.gov.au
Web:
www.gawb.qld.gov.au



MEDIA RELEASE

3 November 2008

PIPELINE EIS NEXT STEP IN SECURING WATER FOR GLADSTONE REGION

The Gladstone Area Water Board (GAWB) has taken the next step in its planning for the future water needs of the Gladstone region by preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Gladstone-Fitzroy Pipeline.

GAWB is carrying out preparations for the pipeline now, including seeking appropriate environmental approvals, to ensure that the pipeline and its associated infrastructure, should government approve its construction, can be constructed within two years as soon as increased demand or low dam levels trigger the need.

GAWB Chief Executive Officer Mr Jim Grayson said the Queensland Coordinator-General released the EIS to the community so their comments can be taken into consideration during his assessment of the EIS.

"I encourage the community to view the EIS and submit their comments to the Coordinator-General," Mr Grayson said.

"The EIS is available online, by requesting a CD copy from the project team or visiting one of 20 locations in the region to view a printed copy of the report.

"GAWB will also hold a number of information sessions in Rockhampton, Alton Downs, Bajool, Raglan, Mt Larcom and Gladstone in the coming weeks where you can view the EIS and talk to the project team about the report's findings.

"We have also prepared a summary of the major findings from the EIS, which will give you a snapshot of the EIS findings, available by request from the project team."

The EIS assesses the environmental, social and economic impacts of the project and proposes mitigation measures to manage these impacts where relevant.

"Should the triggers arise for construction of the pipeline to occur, the project will have a beneficial impact on the regional, State and National economies, contributing \$113.7 million, \$731.8 million and \$900.1 million respectively to each," Mr Grayson said.

"The project will also have an ongoing beneficial economic impact estimated at around \$17.8 million each year, gained through the provision of goods and services for the operation of the pipeline and its associated infrastructure.

"In terms of employment, the project will create around 200 jobs during construction and around 10 jobs once operational, and will indirectly contribute to the creation of around 300 additional Queensland jobs.

"The majority of the adverse impacts associated with the project are minor and mostly related to the construction and commissioning of the pipeline and its related infrastructure.

"We are confident that we can manage project impacts effectively through the various mitigation strategies outlined in the EIS."

Once constructed, the Gladstone – Fitzroy Pipeline will be capable of transferring around 30,000ML of water per annum from the Fitzroy River to GAWB's raw water supply network, providing a second water source for the Gladstone region.

"We are carrying out preparations for the pipeline so that GAWB can secure additional water in a suitable timeframe when it is required," Mr Grayson said.

“This preparation includes designing the pipeline, gaining the relevant environmental and other approvals and negotiating with landowners to acquire land required for the project.

“GAWB acknowledges the support to the project from the Australian Government and its Water for the Future, National Water Security Plan for Cities and Towns, which gives due recognition to the project as an investment towards nation building and the key role that Gladstone plays in the local, State and National economies.

“By preparing for the project now we are putting GAWB in a position where we can efficiently respond to a drought situation or to large incremental increases in the demand for water from industry.”

The Gladstone – Fitzroy Pipeline is a key outcome from the 2006 Central Queensland Regional Water Supply Strategy, a strategy developed by the State Government with co-operation from local councils, regional water supply bodies and other local stakeholders.

All submissions received during the public comment period will be collated by the Coordinator-General and where additional information is required to address the submissions, a supplementary report to the EIS will be prepared by GAWB.

For more information about the Gladstone-Fitzroy Pipeline project or the EIS, please contact 1800 771 185.

-Ends-

For more information contact

Jim Grayson
CEO, Gladstone Area Water Board
p: 4976 3000

Marissa Brazier
Gladstone-Fitzroy Pipeline project team
p: 1800 771 185

Notes to the Editor

1. The EIS is on public display in 20 locations until 15 December 2008. It is also available on the Gladstone-Fitzroy Pipeline project website, www.gladstone-fitzroypipeline.com.au.
2. Free EIS CD-Roms can be requested from GAWB by calling 1800 771 185 or emailing info@gladstone-fitzroypipeline.com.au.
3. Hardcopies of the EIS can be viewed at the following locations during business hours in the public comment period:
 - Bajool Community Postal Agency - 60 High Street, Bajool
 - Capricornia Electorate Office - 145 - 149 East Street, Rockhampton
 - Fitzroy Electorate Office - Suite 3, Gracemere Plaza, Russell Street, Gracemere
 - Flynn Electorate Office (Gladstone) - Suite 3, 120 Goondoon Street, Gladstone
 - GAWB Head Office - 147 Goondoon Street, Gladstone
 - Gladstone City Library - 39 Goondoon Street, Gladstone
 - Gladstone Electorate Office - 2/191 Philip Street, Gladstone
 - Gladstone Regional Council (Calliope Office) - 5 Don Cameron Drive, Calliope
 - Gladstone Regional Council (Gladstone Office) - 101 Goondoon Street, Gladstone
 - Marmor Community Postal Agency - Bruce Highway, Marmor
 - Mt Larcom Library - Raglan Street, Mount Larcom
 - Raglan Tavern - Bruce Highway, Raglan
 - Rockhampton Electoral Office - Shop 3, 7 Denham Street, Rockhampton
 - Rockhampton Northside Library - 154 Berserker Street, Rockhampton
 - Rockhampton Regional Council (Gracemere Office) - 1 Ranger Street, Gracemere
 - Rockhampton Regional Council (Rockhampton Office) - 232 Bolsover Street,

Rockhampton

- Rockhampton Southside Library - Cnr William and Alma Streets, Rockhampton
- State Library of Queensland - Cultural Centre, Stanley Place, South Bank, Brisbane
- Wandal Post Office - Shop 4, 10 Wandal Road, Rockhampton
- Yarwun Post Office - 40 Butler Street, Yarwun

4. Hardcopies of the EIS are also available for purchase from GAWB.
5. GAWB is holding a number of 'drop-in' community information sessions in the local region in the coming weeks:

Thursday 6 November, 4-8pm

- Raglan Target Sports Club House, Hourigan Creek Rd, Raglan

Friday 7 November, 4-8pm

- Alton Downs Hall, Ridgeland Road, Alton Downs

Saturday 8 November, 10-2pm

- Rockhampton Walter Reid Cultural Centre - Corner Derby & East Streets
Rockhampton

Thursday 13 November, 4-8pm

- Mt Larcom Hall - QCWA Hall, King George St, Mount Larcom

Friday 14 November, 4-8pm

- Bajool Community Hall, High Street, Bajool

Saturday 15 November, 10-2pm

- Gladstone Entertainment Centre, Goondoon Street, Gladstone

Community members are invited to attend a session at their convenience to view the EIS and ask questions about the report's findings.

6. Members of the community are invited to review the EIS and to submit formal comments on any matter discussed in the document. Submissions are to be made in writing to Queensland's Coordinator-General by:

Post:

Queensland Coordinator-General
C/- The Project Manager
Gladstone-Fitzroy Pipeline Project
Department of Infrastructure and Planning
PO Box 15009
City East Q 4002

Email: gfp@dip.qld.gov.au

Fax: 07 3225 8282

Phone: 07 3404 3639