

# AN UPDATE FROM AQUASURE

I was pleased to read Bass Coast Shire Council's recent report that it has been the second busiest holiday season on record.

Our Community Information Centre recorded one of its busiest periods too, with many visitors to the area keen to better understand the project and the design for Victoria's new desalination plant.

On that note, we are very excited to announce that our new Community Information Centre in Wonthaggi will be open this weekend at shop 2, 33-35 Murray Street – next to Connells Bakery.

The new centre features improved access and an enhanced setting for information and education about the project. We have expanded our information displays and new facilities will allow us to even better accommodate the many community and interest groups seeking presentations about the project.

The new centre will also feature additional information on the concept design for the project and I welcome you to come and take a look.

On the construction front, we now have less than two years to deliver the Victorian Desalination Project, so we've wasted no time in getting back to work.

Out on the plant site, work has started on foundations for the 200 x 200 metre reverse osmosis building. Piling work is underway for the pretreatment area, footings are being poured and structural steel will commence soon.

On the pipe and power alignment, clear and grade works and fencing of the temporary easement is continuing. Pipes are now being delivered and placed on the easement, ready for installation.

On the recruitment front, Thies Degrémont signed an enterprise bargaining agreement (EBA) for the project just before Christmas. The agreement reached balances excellent working conditions for staff with a reasonable and flexible approach to allow the project to be delivered on time, and means that our recruitment program is now underway as scheduled.

Thies Degrémont is also active in supporting the implementation of the Housing Accord, with a new Accommodation Manager now on board to help staff find suitable accommodation that will protect the existing pool of long-term rental properties and ensure that seasonal tourist accommodation remains available to drive the local tourism economy.

There is no doubt we have a challenging program ahead of us this year, but our team is absolutely committed to delivering desalinated water by the end of 2011 and also to keeping you informed about the project as it progresses.

On that front, we've now been writing this column twice a month for six months and I'd like to know what you think. Is it interesting? Would you like more, or less? Drop me an email at [contactus@aquasure.com.au](mailto:contactus@aquasure.com.au), I'd be keen to hear your thoughts.

Regards



**Chris Herbert** CEO, AquaSure

## **QUESTION:**

How will the plant be powered?

## **ANSWER:**

When operating at capacity, the plant and booster pump station will use around 90 megawatts of power. This will be 100% offset by renewable energy, including green energy from a new wind farm being constructed in western Victoria.

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FOR SURE.**

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