

VICTORIAN DESALINATION PROJECT

MEDIA RELEASE



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DESAL POWER CABLE LIVE

Energisation of the desalination plant's 87km underground power cable has been successfully completed, and power from Melbourne's grid is now flowing to the plant site.

Construction crews connected the first of the 29 buildings on the plant site to grid power over the weekend, and will progressively energise more buildings over the coming months.

Serena Middleton, spokesperson for Thiess Degrémont, said energisation was the final step in power cable construction.

"Building and energising the longest 220kV HVAC underground power cable in the world to the satisfaction of stakeholders and safety regulators is a major achievement for the construction team," she said.

"It's also important because it means that another part of the commissioning jigsaw is now in place.

"As more and more parts of the site are connected to grid power, we will be able to start commissioning the many high-pressure pumps in place throughout the plant."

With the underground power cable now 'live,' Ms Middleton stressed the importance of landowners and members of the community calling Dial Before You Dig on 1100 before undertaking any work in the area.

The underground power cable is now being operated by SP AusNet.

All of the power used for operation of the plant and pipeline will be offset by renewable energy certificates. This ensures that green energy is fed into the grid to offset the energy used by the project for operation, effectively making its electrical operation carbon neutral.

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Media enquiries

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About AquaSure

AquaSure has been contracted by the Victorian Government to deliver the \$3.5 billion Victorian Desalination Project. AquaSure brings together leaders in the fields of infrastructure design, construction, and finance.

About Thiess Degrémont

Thiess Degrémont is AquaSure's design and construct contractor, responsible for delivering Australia's largest desalination plant. Thiess Degrémont is a joint venture between Thiess, one of Australia's largest and most trusted construction and services companies, and Degrémont, world water treatment specialist and a key player in sustainable water development.