



24 October 2012

### DESAL PIPE LAYING COMPLETE

Installation of the 84km transfer pipeline for Victoria's new desalination plant has been successfully completed.

Thiess Degrémont Nacap crews installed the final length of pipe at the entry to the desalination plant site today.

The 1.93m diameter S-bend pipe, measuring 8.9 metres long and weighing almost 16 tonnes, was the last of 6787 pipe lengths which will transport water from the desalination plant to Melbourne and regional water networks.

Since construction of the pipeline began in February 2010:

- A construction team of 957 people have worked more than 1.9 million man hours on the pipeline, with no serious injuries;
- 6,787 individual lengths of pipe have been installed, weighing a total of 91,000 tonnes;
- 44 road crossings have been completed, including major crossings of the Bass Highway and two crossings of the South Gippsland Highway;
- 21 waterway crossings have been completed, including the Powlett, Bass and Lang Lang Rivers.

Project Manager for Pipeline & Power, Graeme Tait, said it was a great milestone for the pipeline construction crew.

"From an engineering perspective, this is a great achievement and a significant accomplishment for everyone that has played a role in getting this job done," he said.

"We've faced some significant challenges along the way but thanks to the support and co-operation of landowners, local Councils, road, rail and waterway authorities, AquaSure, DSE and many others throughout the course of the project, we have successfully completed the job."

Pipeline crews will spend the coming weeks completing minor connection works and hydrotesting of the pipeline, before focus turns to property reinstatement and permanent road reinstatement.

The pipeline will be capable of transporting 200GL of water per year. Seven water delivery points will supply desalinated water, or when the plant is not running, rainwater from Cardinia Reservoir to Melbourne, South Gippsland and Western Port towns.

- ENDS -

## **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 Nacap**

Thiess Degrémont Nacap is the pipeline construction contractor for the Victorian Desalination Project. Thiess Degrémont Nacap is a joint venture between three companies - **Thiess**, one of Australia's largest and most trusted construction and services companies, **Degrémont**, a world leader in reverse-osmosis desalination technology and **Nacap Australia**, a leading pipeline construction company.