

VICTORIAN DESALINATION PROJECT

MEDIA RELEASE



For immediate release

DRINKING WATER FROM THE DESALINATION PLANT FLOWING TO CARDINIA

26 September 2012

Drinking water from the Victorian Desalination Plant has now started to flow from the Wonthaggi plant into the 84km underground pipeline and into Cardinia Reservoir.

“This is a significant milestone for the project and confirms that the plant is now producing high quality water at the first third of its production capacity,” said Chris Herbert, CEO, AquaSure.

“The amount of water produced will increase as commissioning continues and as full production capacity is achieved in coming months,” he said.

Drinking water must meet the high quality specifications of Australian Drinking Water Guidelines and contract requirements when it leaves the plant.

“The commissioning process ensures that the high quality drinking water produced by the plant will meet these specifications,” explained the plant director for Degremont Thiess Services, Mike Jury.

Capable of carrying up to 150 billion litres of water annually if required, the underground pipeline will connect regional communities to drinking water from Cardinia Reservoir or the desalination plant via delivery points along the pipeline, as and when required.

The desalination pipeline is two-way so areas in South Gippsland and Western Port can also access the Melbourne supply system water from Cardinia Reservoir if and when required.

The water transfer pipeline and associated infrastructure were constructed as part of the Victorian Desalination Project. The pipeline delivery points will be closed during commissioning and will operate as required following completion of commissioning.

The Plant is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

The Victorian Desalination Plant is a State asset for the long term. It will produce high quality water to meet the needs of the people of Victoria whenever required, a resource that will be valued in times of future drought.

- ENDS -

Available for interview:

- Mike Jury – Plant Director, Degrémont Thiess Services

For further details, to arrange an interview or request high resolution images, please contact:

Karen Lee

Community Relations Manager

Thiess Degrémont

T: 03 9516 2043

M: 0439 738 824

E: klee@thiessdegremont.com.au

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.

www.aquasure.com.au

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.