

VICTORIAN DESALINATION PROJECT

MEDIA RELEASE



For immediate release

THIESS DEGRÉMONT PRODUCES FIRST REVERSE OSMOSIS WATER

05 July 2012

In a significant milestone, Thies Degrémont has produced the first reverse osmosis (RO) water from the Victorian Desalination Plant near Wonthaggi.

This RO or desalinated water was produced on Saturday 30 June 2012 from the reverse osmosis process.

The plant's first potable water is expected to be produced later this month as part of the commissioning process when the section of the plant that remineralises the RO water comes online.

"The commissioning process ensures the plant produces high quality drinking water," said Omar Shahin, the commissioning director for Thies Degrémont.

Seawater flows into the plant via the 1.2km underground intake tunnel and is filtered prior to the reverse osmosis process where ultrafine RO membranes separate salt from seawater.

Approximately 25% of the 55,482 RO membranes are now loaded and are progressively being tested and commissioned.

The Victorian Desalination Plant's water quality specifications are very high to complement Melbourne's current supplies.

The quantity of production will progressively increase during commissioning over the next five to six months and be fully operational before the end of the year. Reliability testing is expected to be finalised in February 2013.

During commissioning, once testing proves the water quality meets Australian Drinking Water Guidelines and contract requirements, water will gradually enter the water supply network via Cardinia Reservoir.

- ENDS -

Available for interview:

- Omar Shahin – Commissioning Director, Thiess Degrémont
- 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@thiessdegrement.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.