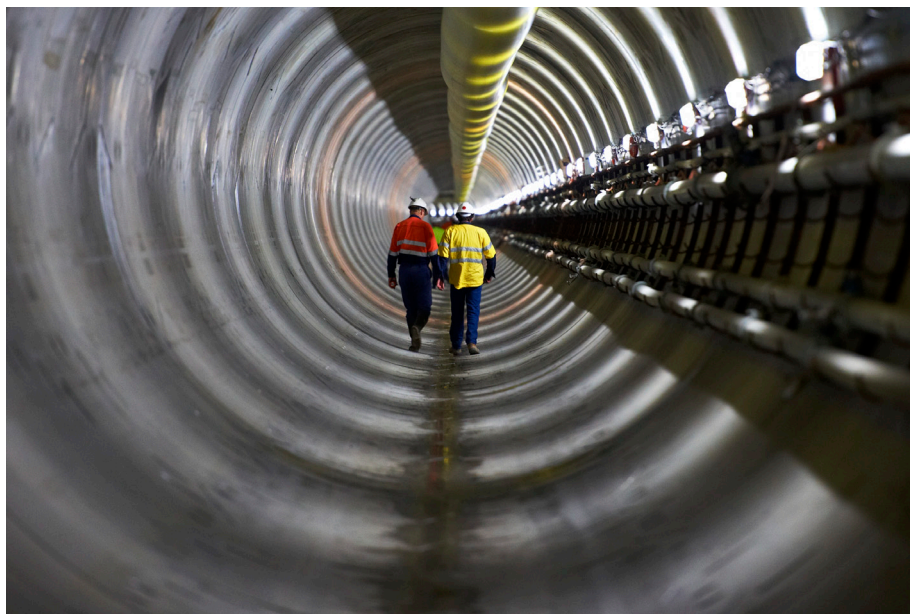


Works update for desalination



Sixty-two kilometres of pipe has now been laid

Out on the construction site, marine works are now complete and the jack-up barge has departed the area permanently.

Boring of both the intake and outlet tunnels has been completed and the tunnelling team is now preparing to connect the tunnels to the marine risers.

On the reverse osmosis building, the green roof is taking shape, with layers of mulch and scoria now being spread. Work has also commenced on the new coastal park, with around 80 hectares of controlled burn-off

recently completed to prepare for the site for planting activities in the coming months.

On the pipeline and power alignment, around 62 kilometres of pipe has been laid and 36 of 39 road crossings are now complete.

There is now a total of 2424 people at work on the desalination plant site. This number will continue to increase over the coming months, with additional steel fixers, concreters, carpenters and electricians set to join the project.

Property and website news

Overall, activity has picked up slightly on the November/December period last year. A further 46 properties were let during the January/February period, bringing the total to 463. An additional twenty-two new properties were listed during this time.

Website traffic was fairly evenly spread across January and February with an average of 882 page views per month. This is an increase on activity from late last year where there were only 1,288 page views in November/December. The majority of website traffic originated from Melbourne, Traralgon and Brisbane, with fewer visits from Adelaide, Sydney, Cranbourne.

Of the 121 properties currently available, 53 (44 per cent) are listed at between \$400 and \$500 per week; 47 (39 per cent) at less than \$400 per week and 21 (17 per cent) at \$500 or more per week. There was a very slight decrease in rental prices for properties let during the period with a weekly average of \$428 across the period.

Feedback ...

The 'Accord News' is a bi-monthly e-bulletin. The deadline for the next edition is 3 May, 2011. Contributions by Accord members are welcome. Contact Community Strengthening on 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or housing@basscoast.vic.gov.au