

MID 2030 – what's happening for the next 6 years

- **\$30 million leading works from 2012 to 2018**
- **Business case ready to submit to government for phase 1 (\$140 million in 2011 dollars)**

The outdated supply system in the Macalister Irrigation District loses a massive amount of water during delivery, and provides poor service to most customers - inhibiting on-farm productivity.

In 2007 Southern Rural Water (SRW) finalised the MID2030 strategy - an infrastructure improvement strategy to transform the efficiency, service levels and environmental impact of the Macalister Irrigation District.

Phase 1 business case

During 2011, in close consultation with customers and relevant agencies, we developed a business case for phase 1 of these works. This \$140 million program (2011 dollars) included:

- piping the Tinamba supply zone
- further automation of channel regulating structures in the Eastern and Nambrok-Denison supply zones
- constructing a balancing storage in the west of the district
- undertaking a study on the best way to modernise the Newry supply system
- some outlet modernisation and rationalisation, and
- establishing at least one end-of-drain wetland

These works will:

- fully automate 40% of the district
- provide service benefits to 85% of the district
- save 28 GL of water

Southern Rural Water has proposed that the phase 1 works be co-funded by government (50%) and irrigators (50%), with irrigators retaining water savings for productive use. This will increase the average water price from an expected \$80 per ML to \$108 per ML.

The expected regional economic growth from the Phase 1 investment is approximately \$86 million per annum.

While government was not in a position to consider this investment for the 2012/13 year, SRW plans to make a bid to a future budget process.

SRW and our customer base are passionately committed to realising the potential of the Macalister Irrigation District and increasing the regional economic output from the district.

Leading works

In the meantime, we have proposed a program of leading works, representing \$30 million of expenditure over the next six years, which can deliver significant water savings and service improvement with an acceptable pricing impact.

Work started on this program in the 2011/12 financial year, and will continue until at least the end of Water Plan 3 in 2018. The main works planned are:

- upgrading manual regulators to automate main channels
- constructing a balancing storage, and
- a rationalisation program

The estimated cost, water savings, project delivery and water savings availability are:

Proposed Works	Estimated cost \$Millions	Water savings ML	Project delivery	Water savings available
Nambrok-Denison Phase ¹ Regulator Upgrade	2.40	820	end 2012	mid 2013
Nambrok-Denison Phase ² Regulator Upgrade	5.50	1200	end 2017	mid 2018
Eastern Phase 1 Regulator Upgrade	3.00	980	end 2012	mid 2013
Eastern Phase 2 Regulator Upgrade	3.20	690	end 2017	mid 2018
Heyfield Regulator Upgrade	2.30	1200	end 2013	mid 2014
Southern-Cowwarr Balancing Storage Design ¹	0.80	-	mid 2013	-
Southern-Cowwarr Balancing Storage Construction	8.10	3000	end 2016	mid 2018
Southern-Tinamba Outlet Rationalisation Investigation ¹	0.30	-	end 2015	-
Southern-Tinamba Prototype Outlet Investigation ¹	0.30	-	end 2015	-
Rationalisation Program Stage 1 and 2 ²	4.97	400 - 1200	mid 2018	mid 2019
	30.87	8290 - 9090		

¹ These projects provide valuable information for the development of business cases but do not create water savings

² Rationalisation Program water savings are very dependent customer uptake of the program. Proposals presented will be assessed on an individual basis.

More information

For more information on MID 2030 or Southern Rural Water's Water Plan 3, please contact us on **1300 139 510** or visit **www.srw.com.au**.