



Western Sydney Borefields

Client WaterNSW
Date 2019 - current

Description

Due to the severity of the current drought, the Leonay and Wallacia Borefields, previously investigated in 2006-2008, have remained a potential option for severe drought response. WaterNSW is developing a Strategic Business Case to seek approval and funding to proceed with the projects.



WaterNSW has engaged a delivery partner to support the delivery of the strategic business case and select a preferred option for the construction of two borefield areas (i) Leonay-Emu Plains-Emu Heights, and (ii) Wallacia-Greendale. Water from these sites would be transferred through the Warragamba pipeline to Prospect. Extracting water from the Western Sydney Borefields would allow an estimated 60 megalitres per day (ML/day) to be transferred into the Sydney supply network. The number and location of boreholes will be determined after further geological and environmental investigations. Expectations are that the borefields could operate continuously for two to three years if severe drought conditions continued, followed by a longer period of recovery.

Comacon consultants have been engaged to provide detailed consultation with key stakeholders and the community as part of the assessment of the proposal and delivery of the projects.

Approach

Comacon's consultants worked closely with the WaterNSW project team to develop and implement the community engagement plan ensuring the landowners and residents around the prospective bore drilling sites were aware of the investigations and construction works planned and through initial stages.

Due to recent rainfall events in February 2020 and the resulting increase in storage levels of Warragamba Dam, the investigation phase of the project was put on hold.

Further drilling and site investigations together with thorough environmental investigations will be undertaken at Leonay-Emu Plains-Emu Heights and Wallacia-Greendale to assess environmental impacts of the proposal before any further work will be undertaken.

Contact

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