

From the Project Manager

The Lower Fitzroy River Infrastructure Project Team would like to thank you for your continued interest and wish to provide you with an update on the Project.

Planning for the Project is continuing and builds on the provisions of the Central Queensland Regional Water Supply Strategy and the Queensland Government's Statewide Water Grid's Program of Works for regional infrastructure projects.

Effective planning is important for providing certainty for communities by giving them resource security. It also ensures proper strategies are in place for dealing with future changes in the availability of water.

The Project aims to obtain environmental approvals and develop designs in support of a Business Case for water supply infrastructure that will provide security of supply, deliver guaranteed levels of service, and respond to drought triggers and/or increased consumer demand.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you a safe and happy festive season. We look forward to continue working with you in 2011.

Yours faithfully



Mr Murray Wilson
Principal Project Manager

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Indigenous Cultural Heritage

In accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 (Qld)* and to assist in protecting Aboriginal cultural heritage in the proposed Project area, Cultural Heritage Management Plans (CHMPs) have now been submitted to the Cultural Heritage Coordination Unit at the Department of Environment and Resource Management. These Plans have been developed in conjunction with the Gangulu People, the Jetimarala People, the Kangoulu and Ghungalu People, and the Darumbul People.

The Project Team thanks parties for their assistance and cooperation in developing plans that provide effective systems for protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage.



Contact the Project Team

Phone: 1800 423 213*
Email: fitzroyweirs@ghd.com.au
Write to: Reply Paid 668, Brisbane QLD 4001
Visit: www.fitzroyweirs.com.au

*Free call from fixed lines in Australia, charges apply for mobile phones.

Environmental Impact Statement

Commonwealth Government pathway

The proposed Project requires assessment under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)* regarding matters of National Environmental Significance, specifically: World heritage properties; National Heritage places; Listed threatened species and communities and Listed migratory species.

In June 2010 the Commonwealth's Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (DSEWPC)¹ issued Guidelines for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that is currently being prepared.

¹ Formerly the Commonwealth Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts or DEWHA.

State Government pathway

At the state level, the Project Team has submitted an Initial Advice Statement (IAS) to the Department of Infrastructure and Planning seeking declaration as a 'Significant Project' under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971 (Old)*.

If the Project is successful in obtaining this declaration, Terms of Reference (ToR) will be developed and an EIS prepared in accordance with these.

The Project Team will be away during the period Friday 24 December 2010 to Monday 11 January 2011 and will respond to voice messages and emails on their return.



 Indicates opportunity for community input