

LOWER FITZROY RIVER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

SUMMER 2011

Dear Valued Stakeholder,

LOWER FITZROY RIVER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT UPDATE

The Project Team would like to thank you for your continued interest in the Lower Fitzroy River Infrastructure Project (LFRIP). In recent months, a number of important project activities and milestones have occurred.

Project Approvals Status

As detailed in the Summer 2010 Update, the Project will require approval from both the Commonwealth and State Governments before it can proceed. Assessment will be undertaken in parallel in order to satisfy both Commonwealth and State requirements. On 7 January 2010, the Project was determined to be a 'Controlled Action' by the Commonwealth Environment Minister, under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cwth) (EPBC Act) (EPBC Referral 2009/5173).

An Initial Advice Statement was submitted to the Queensland Department of Infrastructure and Planning (now the Department of Local Government and Planning) in November 2010, seeking declaration as a 'Significant Project' under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971 (Qld)* (SDPWO Act).

Subsequently the Coordinator General has declared the Project a Significant Project under Section 26 of the SDPWO Act. Following this decision, a notice was placed in the Queensland Government Gazette on the 6 May 2011, formally notifying the public of the declaration.

This declaration initiates the statutory environmental impact assessment procedure of Part 4 of the SDPWO Act, requiring preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project. The Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (DEEDI), on behalf of the Coordinator General, has developed Draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the EIS.

Environmental Impact Statement Terms of Reference

The Draft ToR have been publically displayed (comment period closed 16 December 2011). The public and State Government Agencies were invited to comment on the Draft ToR to assist the Coordinator General with shaping the scope of investigations and assessments required to determine potential environmental, social, economic and cultural impacts of the Project.

During the comment period State Government Agency briefings were held in Brisbane and Rockhampton.

It is expected that the Draft ToR will be finalised in the first quarter of 2012. The Final ToR will set out the requirements, both general and specific, that the Proponents, the Gladstone Area Water Board and SunWater Limited, must address in preparing the EIS to meet the requirements under Section 29 of the SDPWO Act.

Further information is available via the Coordinator General website: <http://www.deedi.qld.gov.au/cg/lower-fitzroy-river-infrastructure-project.html>.



LOWER FITZROY RIVER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

Project Contact Details

For more information or if you no longer wish to receive updates on the LFRIP, please contact the Project Team:

Freecall: 1800 423 213

Email: fitzroyweirs@ghd.com.au

Write to: Reply Paid 668, Brisbane QLD 4001

The Project Team will be unavailable from Friday 23 December 2011 to Monday 9 January 2012 and will respond to voice messages and emails on their return.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you a safe and happy festive season. We look forward to working with you in 2012.

Yours faithfully



Mr Murray Wilson

Principal Project Manager