

Media Release

The Hon Lisa Neville MP

Minister for Environment, Climate Change & Water



Monday, 14 December, 2015

EMPLOYEES COME TOGETHER AT SOUTH EAST WATER'S NEW FRANKSTON OFFICE

Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water Lisa Neville today officially opened South East Water's new state of the art headquarters in Frankston.

Ms Neville and Member for Frankston Paul Edbrooke were joined by members of the South East Water Board, including the recently appointed Chair, Lucia Cade.

The new building and relocation of operations to Frankston will result in a reduction in costs for South East Water, a better service for customers, environmental benefits and an on-going boost for the local economy.

The new building features:

- technologies to provide a more efficient and better service with less disruptions for customers,
- reduced operating costs, including through consolidation offices;
- leading environmental features; and
- a substantial boost to the local economy, including through procurement of local services and products, estimated at up to \$132 million per year.

By bringing together more than 700 employees in the central Frankston location, local businesses are already experiencing a boost in trade and South East Water's on-going procurement of good and services is expected to provide vital job and business opportunities in the region.

Environmental features of the new building include rainwater capture and storage for toilet flushing and garden irrigation and LED lighting systems.

The building also features new technologies to improve customer service through better communication systems – including a new text message capability for use when there are unplanned disruptions to supply.

A central part of South East Water's relocation strategy is the establishment of strong relationships with local communities and businesses – including a new Shared Value program in which employees team with local community organisations, schools and business to drive improved education, recreation and skills development outcomes in the area.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water Lisa Neville

"This is an exciting new era for South East Water with a new headquarters and Board in place to meet the challenges of the future such as climate change and population growth."

"I want to see our water corporations play a leading role in their communities and it's great to see South East Water embracing that through new customer service and community participation initiatives."

Quotes attributable to Member for Frankston Paul Edbrooke

"The relocation of South East Water's headquarters is providing a great boost for the Frankston community, economy and jobs and I welcome the water corporation's commitment to our area through their participation in community programs and local economic investment."

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