The project

Q. Why does the Boneo WRP need to be upgraded?
A. In 2015, South East Water completed the Peninsula ECO project to allow more than 16,000 properties between Rye and Portsea to connect to the sewerage network. As a result of the number of properties connecting to sewer in these areas, the Boneo WRP is nearing its capacity.

Q. What will the upgrade consist of?
A. This is a major upgrade of the Boneo WRP and consists of a range of infrastructure being installed, including a biogas treatment and co-generation facility, a dewatering building, several anaerobic digesters, settling and mixing tanks as well as a new administration building. Further details of all the components of the upgrade can be viewed in the attached map.

Q. How will the upgraded water recycling plant impact the community?
A. Visual amenity
Residents will notice some new above ground infrastructure as a result of the upgrade to the WRP.

Several new buildings, housing various infrastructure components of the upgrade, will range up to 11 metres in height. A range of other equipment will be installed and may be noticeable to some neighbours.

South East Water has undertaken additional planting at the water recycling plant to minimise the amount of infrastructure visible to the local community.

Upon completion of the upgrade, South East Water will re-evaluate the impact of the visual amenity of the WRP on neighbours and may undertake further planting if required.

Noise
The upgraded WRP will be designed to meet the noise level limits set by the Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA). No noticeable increase in noise will be evident once construction is completed.

Odour
The upgrade will include new odour control equipment designed to meet odour limits set by the EPA. It is not anticipated that any noticeable odour will be detected from the upgraded WRP.
Q. Who has been appointed to undertake the works?
A. John Holland Suez Beca Joint Venture (JHSB) signed a contract with South East Water in September 2018 to design and construct the upgrade to the Boneo WRP. They will also continue to operate and maintain it for ten years, with the potential for a five year extension.

Q. When will the upgrade start and finish?
A. It is anticipated that construction on the upgrade will commence in February 2019 and last until mid-2020, with the plant fully operational by December 2020.

Q. Where will the upgrade take place?
A. The upgrade to the plant will be completed within the existing site at Limestone Road. The attached map shows the location of where new infrastructure is being installed.

Q. How safe is the new infrastructure?
A. South East Water has to comply with regulations from the EPA, the Department of Health and other government agencies to ensure that all of its assets and infrastructure meet legal and statutory requirements in regards to public safety and to ensure the health and wellbeing of operators and maintenance staff.

Q. What will be the impacts to the local community during construction?
A. During construction you may notice:
- An increase in truck movements in the area.
- Periods of noise when heavy machinery is being used, including reversing beepers.
- Traffic management including speed restrictions along Limestone Road and Boneo Road.

South East Water and JHSB will work with the community and stakeholders to minimise construction, social and environmental impacts.

Q. Will the environment be affected by this upgrade?
A. An Environmental Impact Assessment has been undertaken for this project. All areas of high environmental importance or sensitivity within the project area have been taken into consideration. Various options have been looked at during the design of this project.

A comprehensive Environmental Management Plan (EMP) will be created and implemented prior to construction commencing on this project. Regular environmental monitoring and auditing will ensure the EMP is being adhered to. This will include methods to minimise the amount of vegetation removal to protect the local flora and fauna.

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Contact us

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