

Project update

Pakenham Regional Recycled Water Scheme

March 2021

South East Water is working in partnership with Southern Rural Water to plan and deliver the Pakenham Regional Recycled Water Scheme, which will provide Class A recycled water to eligible customers in the Pakenham South and Cora Lynn region.

The Pakenham South and Cora Lynn region is recognised as an important agricultural area in Melbourne's South East and like the rest of Australia it is experiencing the effects of climate change through increasing temperatures and drier conditions.

Supplying recycled water to customers in this region will help the agricultural sector adapt to climate change by providing an alternative source of water to support current and future water demand in the region.

The project is currently in the planning stage with a business case to be finalised in 2021. See the map below for the investigation area.

Benefits

The benefits of the project include:

- Feeding Melbourne and the South East's growing population, while creating local jobs through the sustainable expansion of agricultural production.
- Supporting local food production and creating local jobs by making more water available for the agricultural industry.
- Reducing the reliance on surface water and groundwater for irrigation, which are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.
- Reducing the amount of treated wastewater going out to sea.





Timing

The project is currently in the planning stage with site investigations to be carried out over the next six months to understand what will be involved in the construction of the scheme.

We will also start engaging with potential customers to understand the demand for recycled water in the area and the price customers are willing to pay for this service.

Once we complete our investigations, we will identify a price point that customers will need to pay for the service and invite them to sign-up to the scheme. We will need a minimum number of customers signed up to the scheme in order to proceed with the next stage of planning for the project.



Register your interest in recycled water today

We are targeting landholders, farmers and businesses in the Cora Lynn and Pakenham South areas who are located within, or in close proximity to the investigation area and meet some or all the following requirements:

- Use large volumes of water for irrigation or commercial purposes.

- Grow multiple crops and irrigate for long periods across the year
- Have existing capacity in onsite storage to hold recycled water or would consider constructing additional suitable storage.

We encourage anyone who meets some or all of the criteria listed above to register their interest in being supplied with recycled water. You can register your interest by contacting Guy Frodsham on 0428 597 581 or visiting our website <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PakenhamRegionalRWScheme>



What is Class A recycled water?

Class A recycled water is wastewater from bathrooms, laundries and kitchens that has been treated to a standard that is suitable and safe for its intended use. Class A recycled water is the highest quality of recycled water, meaning it can be used for a range of uses including watering food crops that are consumed raw, like carrots and cabbage.

For more information about recycled water and its uses go to <https://southeastwater.com.au/residential/learn-about-water/where-does-my-water-come-from/recycled-water/>

For further information about this project:

Visit: www.southeastwater.com.au

Guy Frodsham

Call: 0428 597 587

Email: guy.frodsham@sew.com.au

Visit: www.srw.com.au

Mathew Grivas

Call: 0427 317 436

Email: mathewg@srw.com.au

South East Water 

 **Southern Rural Water**

