

recycledwater news

Spring 2009

WESTERN
WATER



Melton's Class A plant officially opened

Western Water's new \$7.5 million Class A Recycled Water Plant at Melton was officially opened by Don Nardella MP, Member for Melton, on Friday, 10 July.

The project was jointly funded with \$3.5 million from the Victorian Government's Water Recycling Fund, and the balance contributed equally by the Eynesbury Development Joint Venture group and Western Water.

"Our Class A plant is able to provide five million litres of recycled water daily to Eynesbury and Toolern for use in toilet flushing, residential garden watering, recreational irrigation and fire fighting, reducing the use of household drinking water by half," said Western Water Chairman, Terry Larkins.

"This project is a model for water sensitive urban design.

"To accommodate population growth, the plant has a modular design so that it can be easily expanded to deliver up to 15 million litres daily, with potential drinking water savings estimated at more than 4,200 million litres annually. The launch of the Class A Plant signifies a new era in water supply security for Western Water."

The technologically advanced plant features a five barrier treatment process, including microfiltration where the water passes through tubes 1000 times smaller than a human hair; and disinfection of the water with ultraviolet (UV) light 1000 times more intense than the UV in sunlight.

The contractor delivering the plant - Water Infrastructure Group (WIG) - will operate the plant for the next 3 years.



(L to R) John Wilkinson, Managing Director Western Water, Don Nardella, Member for Melton and Terry Larkins, Chairman Western Water examine Class A recycled water produced at the newly opened plant at Melton. Behind them is a bank of microfiltration tubes.

Award for Sustainable Water Management

For the provision of Class A recycled water to Eynesbury, Western Water and Water Infrastructure Group received the United Nations Environmental Award for Excellence in Sustainable Water Management and was a finalist for both the Premier's Sustainability Award and a savewater!™ Award.

"Recognition by these organisations acknowledges the commitment of Western Water's Board and Staff to our Vision to be a leading service provider working with our community towards a sustainable future," said John Wilkinson, Managing Director Western Water.

"With the drying out of the south-east of Australia comes a particular challenge for new residential developments, and [the Eynesbury] project provides an excellent model for similar developments being planned right now," said Patricia Collett, Executive Director of the United Nations Association of Victoria.

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To receive recycled water news by email, please visit:
www.westernwater.com.au




recycledwater
bringing the region to life

Another Great Year

During 2008/09 Western Water achieved; 2000ML of drinking water saved through the substitution of recycled water, continued success in our goal to reach zero net carbon emissions by 2017/18 and 121% biosolids reuse by utilising previously stockpiled supplies.

Tabcorp Park off to Class A racing start

On 5 July, Tabcorp Park - the new \$45 million headquarters of Harness Racing Victoria (HRV) near Melton - was officially opened by Premier John Brumby and Racing Minister Rob Hulls.

Tabcorp Park is serviced by a \$2.8 million 7km Class A recycled water pipeline that will also service the new Toolern precinct. Recycled water is used at Tabcorp Park for toilet flushing, landscaping and dust suppression during race meetings to optimise track conditions.

Funding partners in the pipeline project were Western Water, the State Government, Melton Council and HRV.

"Using recycled water for appropriate purposes will conserve more than 18 million litres of precious drinking water each year at Tabcorp Park alone," said Western Water Managing Director John Wilkinson.

Melton Shire Council Chief Executive Officer Neville Smith said Tabcorp Park was the cornerstone of major development in the Toolern area, which would provide future employment for the Shire's residents.

HRV CEO John Anderson said his organisation was very grateful for the partnership established with Western Water. "The quality and safety of harness racing tracks relies heavily on a substantial supply of water and in this current environment we welcome the opportunity to utilise recycled water for this purpose," Mr Anderson said.



(L to R) Terry Larkins, Chairman Western Water; John Wilkinson, Managing Director Western Water; Cr Jack Olgivie, Mayor of Hume; Justin Madden, Minister for Planning; Joanne Duncan, Member for Macedon; Cr Renata Cugliari, Mayor of Melton; and Don Nardella, Member for Melton at Tabcorp Park for the launch of Western Water's Corporate Plan on 5 August.

Western Water's Corporate Plan 2009/10

Western Water launched its 2009/10 Corporate Plan at Tabcorp Park on 5 August. Around one hundred community, regional business and council leaders gathered for the launch as the keynote speaker, the Hon. Justin Madden MP, Minister for Planning, addressed growth plans for the outer western suburbs.

Western Water Chairman Terry Larkins informed the audience that smart water technology and infrastructure, greater substitution of potable water with recycled water and better conservation practices in homes and business; backed by a flexible statewide water supply grid; will ensure Melbourne's west grows sustainably.

The benefits of biosolids

In July, Western Water and AgriWest hosted a seminar about the benefits of using biosolids - a nutrient-rich, organic, alternative fertiliser produced in the process of recycling water from sewage.

The 40 attendees included representatives from other water corporations, agricultural groups, councils and universities, as well as land owners. Some travelled to the venue - Eynesbury Homestead - from as far as East Gippsland.

Presenters included Dr Daryl Stevens, Arris Principal Scientist; Stephen Laird, Epsom Environmental; and Western Water's Manager Renewable Resources, Stephanie Gillespie and Senior Environmental Engineer, William Rajendram.

The half-day seminar covered:

- Current practice in biosolids management from regional and national perspectives;
- EPA and water corporation requirements to ensure health protection of humans, stock and the environment; and
- Recent and planned research relating to biosolids.

"The seminar concluded with a very positive and informative discussion," said Ms Gillespie. "The feedback received from participants will guide Western Water's planning in relation to biosolids supply."

Western Water welcomes expressions of interest for biosolids use. For more information, please contact Sarah in the Renewable Resources team on:

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