



Media Release

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For immediate release

Improved sewer scheme closer for Clarence Town residents

Residents of Clarence Town will welcome Hunter Water's call for tenders of the new wastewater treatment plant as it brings their new improved sewerage system another step closer.

Hunter Water is calling for tenders for the construction of the Clarence Town Wastewater Treatment Works, the second stage of the new system which will improve people's health and the environment by allowing residents to replace on-site wastewater disposal systems.

The first stage of construction is already underway, undertaken by JOSA Constructions Pty Ltd and is progressing well despite significant inclement weather last year.

Hunter Water's Manager Treatment Delivery, Darren Cleary, said the \$11 million sewerage scheme would service the existing concentration of over 420 properties in the urban settlement at Clarence Town.

"Hunter Water is excited to deliver this service to the people of Clarence Town, which has been in the works since we became responsible for the operation of the water and sewer services for Dungog Shire in 2008."

"We're tracking well, with work on the rising mains near completion, and almost half of the gravity sewer mains constructed. The wastewater treatment plant will be a significant step forward for the project," Mr Cleary said.

The Clarence Town Wastewater Treatment Works will be located off Woerdens Road and consist of a series of ponds for the treatment of wastewater. Mr Cleary said the plant would feature significant recycling capability.

"In dry weather, treated effluent will be reused onsite for irrigation of pasture. The plant will only discharge to Wallaroo Creek in significant prolonged wet weather events when creek flows are high."

Mr Cleary said that discharges to the creek would be undertaken in accordance with the Environment Protection Licence for the facility.

It is expected that private residences will be permitted to connect to the system by early 2011, when the construction of the sewage reticulation, wastewater treatment plant and reuse system are completed.

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More information: Elisha Yorke, Hunter Water on 02 4979 5924 or 0427 547 498