



HUNTER WATER CORPORATION

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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For immediate release

### **Work to start on \$3.7M odour control project at Burwood Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant**

Work will start next week on a \$3.7 million project to upgrade the odour control capacity of Hunter Water's Burwood Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Hunter Water managing director Kevin Young said that a new biofilter is being installed to treat odorous air from the primary pumping station and the house where sewage is initially screened. These areas account for 95% of odours generated by the plant.

Thomas and Coffey were awarded the contract last month and have been undertaking preparatory site works.

The biofilter comprises a bed of specially designed organic matter including shredded wood, bark chips, and either compost or peat to treat the odorous air. It will be located at the northern end of the site and is 20 m by 30 m in size.

"While our Burwood Beach plant typically performs well in terms of odours this project will ensure it continues to comply with Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) Odour Guidelines," Mr Young said.

Work is expected to be completed by the end of August 2009.

Mr Young said that the upgrade was the first stage of a major upgrade of the plant. The next stage is a \$35 million major upgrade to ensure the plant can cater for population growth and operate reliably and sustainably in the future. Work on that stage is still being planned and is expected to commence in mid 2009.

The entire upgrade is being carried out in consultation with the local community. An independently chaired Community Reference Group has been meeting with Hunter Water to discuss the project since July 2007.

#### **Media information:**

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