



Media Release

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For immediate release

Edgeworth Wastewater Treatment Works – saving drinking water through recycling

Construction is now complete on the \$3.5 million upgrade of the Edgeworth Wastewater Treatment works, which will cater for population growth and deliver higher quality recycled water to commercial customers.

Hunter Water General Manager Infrastructure Delivery Chris Turnbull said that as part of the upgrade, a new UV disinfection system has been installed which will enable the plant to produce high quality recycled water for use in both the plant's operations and supply to commercial customers.

"UV disinfection is a technology which mimics the natural process of disinfection by sunlight, but at a more concentrated level. Using this technology, this latest upgrade will enable the plant to provide improved quality treated wastewater for our commercial recycled water customers, reducing demand on drinking water supply by up to 800 million litres per year," Mr Turnbull said.

"The upgrade will also expand the capacity of the plant and improve its performance, catering for future population growth in the area."

Work undertaken as part of the recent upgrade to the plant included the installation of a disinfection system, a recycled water pump station, a refurbished storage tank, a new switch room and additional pipelines for recycled water transportation.

"The upgrade is the final of three scheduled for the plant and follows a recent upgrade to the local wastewater system, completed in March, which involved constructing approximately 1km of new sewer main."

Commissioning of the UV disinfection system is expected to be completed over the coming weeks.

"Upgrades such as these demonstrate the Hunter Water's long-term planning and investment in water and wastewater infrastructure in the lower Hunter," Mr Turnbull said.

This project comes as part of Hunter Water's unprecedented \$700 million capital works program of new infrastructure projects including pipes, mains, pumping stations, reservoirs, treatment plants, sewers and water recycling facilities.

The Edgeworth Wastewater Treatment Works services the areas of Charlestown, Hillsborough, Cardiff, Boolaroo, Speers Point, Glendale, Edgeworth, Barnsley and Killingworth.

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