



MEDIA RELEASE

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NEXT STAGE OF WILLIAMTOWN RETICULATION PROJECT BEGINS

Construction is underway on the next stage of the Williamtown water supply project to deliver safe drinking water to residents in the Williamtown Management Area.

This Australian Government-funded project was announced by the NSW Government in December 2015.

In November 2017 the project was expanded to include approximately 160 additional properties in the revised management areas, bringing the total number of properties anticipated for connection to 350.

Hunter Water has since been planning and gaining the necessary approvals for Stage 2 construction works at Salt Ash and Fullerton Cove, as well as connecting properties that are able to receive water via existing infrastructure.

Hunter Water Managing Director Jim Bentley said delivering the water supply infrastructure was a priority for Hunter Water.

“We’re committed to providing residents in the Williamtown community with safe and reliable drinking water, as soon as possible.

“Hunter Water completed the first stage on time and we’re now pressing ahead with Stage 2. This will involve installing just over 5 kilometres of new water mains across 8 streets in Salt Ash and Fullerton Cove to supply properties with town water.

“At the same time, we have been engaging with property owners to project manage the upfront installation of the domestic plumbing works required to connect properties to the new system. This means many customers will be able to access high quality drinking water as soon as the new infrastructure is installed.”

Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter Scot MacDonald welcomed the project milestone.

“Hunter Water has made great progress with this project and I’m very pleased to see construction start on the next stage of infrastructure to ensure residents in the Williamtown Management Area have access to clean and safe drinking water.

“The community has experienced significant hardship as a result of the contamination, with many residents relying on bottled water for a range of uses. The NSW Government wants to ensure they are supported while connections to the reticulated system are completed.

“In December last year, we announced an interim water program to supply bulk water to top up existing rain water tanks. So far almost 200 deliveries have been made, supplying residents with almost 3 million litres of water.

“We know this doesn’t solve all of the problems, but we hope it provides some reassurance to residents that their domestic water supply is safe and reliable,” said Mr MacDonald.

Key Facts - Williamtown Water Supply Project

- Stage 1 involved installing 9.2 kilometres of pipes at a cost of \$3.36-million, funded by the Australian Government.
- Stage 1 was completed in July 2017.
- Stage 2 includes 5.1 kilometres of new water mains at a cost of \$1.5-million, funded by the Australian Government.
- Construction of the new infrastructure is due for completion in December 2018, with plumbing connections completed by the end of March 2019.
- 350 properties in total are expected to be eligible for connection.
- Hunter Water is managing two companies contracted by the Department of Defence to make individual plumbing connections.

Williamtown Water Connection Status

(n =350 properties)

