

# Southern Seawater Desalination Project | UPDATE 17

## Federal environmental approval granted

Last week, Federal Environment Minister Peter Garrett gave approval for the development of the Southern Seawater Desalination Project to proceed.

The approval came with strict conditions relating to the construction and operation of the plant, and the Corporation will adhere to all of these.

Coupled with the recently awarded state environmental approvals, it signals that all environmental regulators are confident that any potential impacts can be mitigated and managed.



*First action on site – a drilling rig being prepared to enable initial soil testing to begin*

## Work set to begin

The Water Corporation will now formalise contract arrangements with the preferred tenderer, the Southern SeaWater Alliance.

On site geotechnical investigations are currently under way and construction work is expected to begin within weeks. Work on a pipeline to Harvey, which will link the plant to the Integrated Scheme will also begin shortly.

Construction will continue for two years with the workforce likely to peak at about 500. We are committed to a buying local policy whenever possible. The flow-on benefits of this will be evident in the near future.

## Take Care

Over the coming weeks fencing will be constructed around the work site boundary for public safety and security reasons. We advise local residents and, in particular, trail bike riders that public access will now be prevented onto the Water Corporation land. Please take care when using the area as previous access may now be closed. Very shortly, signage will be placed along known tracks and pathways near the site,

We thank all community members who have helped shape the project as it has progressed, particularly residents of Binningup and Myalup. Your input helped us develop a plan that minimises community and environmental impacts. However, we recognise that there will still be some impact to local communities during the construction phase, and look forward to continuing to work with you to minimise wherever possible these impacts.

**If you are interested in viewing a copy please contact the Water Corporation on 1800 810 075 or [desalination@watercorporation.com.au](mailto:desalination@watercorporation.com.au) or view online at [www.watercorporation.com.au/D/desal2\\_reports.cfm](http://www.watercorporation.com.au/D/desal2_reports.cfm)**

