

Branch Out

SHARING TASMANIA'S IRRIGATION STORIES

Message from the CEO

By Andrew Kneebone

It has been a frantic and exciting start to 2022 for Tasmanian Irrigation as hot, dry conditions prevailed in many areas of the State increasing demand for irrigation water, our Tranche Three build program intensified and work continued on our annual Corporate Plan.

As a State-Owned Company, Tasmanian Irrigation is required to draft a Corporate Plan each year detailing strategic priorities, any changes in the business operating environment and budget forecasts for the upcoming four years.

Tasmanian Irrigation has identified four key priorities for this Corporate Planning period:

1. Ongoing focus on efficiently delivering water to our customers and continuing to refine and develop our asset maintenance and renewal programs;
2. Delivery of the Tranche Three program of new irrigation projects;

3. Refocus Tasmanian Irrigation to become a client of choice for construction contractors through improved engagement, communication and risk sharing models; and

4. Further enhance and expand the Company's focus on environmental management and development of a sustainability program.

Forecasting costs, particularly for our new projects, is increasingly a challenge given both the much-welcomed increase in demand for Tasmanian Irrigation water on new projects as part of Tranche Three, and also the very busy construction market.

Developing robust project capital estimates is essential to establishing the water entitlement pricing, but also to advise State and Commonwealth Governments on their funding requirement. We are currently forecasting project costs for up to five years ahead of when the projects will be built.

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Message from the CEO continued...

With the vast number of infrastructure projects scheduled around Tasmania over the coming years, it is imperative that Tasmanian Irrigation overhauls its project delivery framework.

This includes a new approach to partnerships, flexibility, design, risk sharing, safety, operability, efficiency, technology, governance, quality, communication and engagement.

We are the first to admit that we haven't always got it right in the past, especially with regard to sharing risk.

But we have spent considerable time in the past 12 months talking to contractors to better understand how we can improve, and are now in the process of implementing these changes.

This however is an ongoing process and TI needs to be very attuned to the changing construction market.

We need a constructive partnership with contractors to ensure that the benefits that the irrigation schemes are designed to deliver are achieved in an appropriate timeframe and at a reasonable cost.

We take very seriously our responsibility to spend public money for the greater good of Tasmania, so our processes across the full dimension of operations – from developing tender packages of work to understanding who is best to manage certain construction related risk. We are committed to refining and enhancing our model on an ongoing basis.

TI has and continues to be committed to environmental management best practice. We are now looking to expand that and develop a broader sustainability program across our whole business of water delivery and capital works.

Sustainability from an environmental, financial, resourcing, energy and waste management perspective is important to the long-term viability of Tasmanian Irrigation and is the key to us achieving our strategic goal of delivering water at the lowest overall sustainable cost.

"I sincerely thank all irrigators for their cooperation over the summer months as demand for irrigation water peaked after Christmas and in to the first months of 2022. Tasmania has recorded the driest summer on record for 40 years."

Tasmanian Irrigation is looking forward to an extensive program of asset renewal work and repairs and maintenance being rolled out across the existing schemes this off-season, as well as solar installations being fitted to a number of pumps stations.

We are also continuing to progress our Tranche Three projects and are pleased that the Tasmanian Irrigation Board last week signed off on the Preferred Option Design for the Tamar Irrigation Scheme. The design detail will be shared shortly with irrigators at community meetings.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Branch Out and please contact Tasmanian Irrigation if you require any additional information about the exciting year ahead for irrigation in this State.

Best wishes,

Andrew



Message from the Minister

Hon. Guy Barnett, Primary Industries and Water

One of our key learnings from the global pandemic is that to prosper moving forward, we have to evolve, be flexible and adapt.

The days of business as usual are gone.

Tasmania need to stand out, have a point of difference, clearly articulate our stories and better engage our workforce and stakeholders.

I sincerely congratulate Tasmanian Irrigation for being on the front foot in recognising, managing and mitigating existing and new challenges for the business.

As a major contributor to irrigation infrastructure in Tasmania, the Gutwein Liberal Government is committed to delivering more irrigation

projects across the state.

Tasmania has commissioned more major irrigation schemes in recent years than any other State and we are supporting our farmers to increase the area planted to high-value crops, increase rotations, boost yields, and diversify into new agricultural enterprises like berries and leafy greens.

The proposed South East Integration Project, estimated at more than \$400+ million, will be the largest irrigation project in Tasmania's history, expected to deliver more than 40,000 megalitres annually, supporting a further \$150 million in on-farm investment, with the potential to create more than 2,000 local jobs.

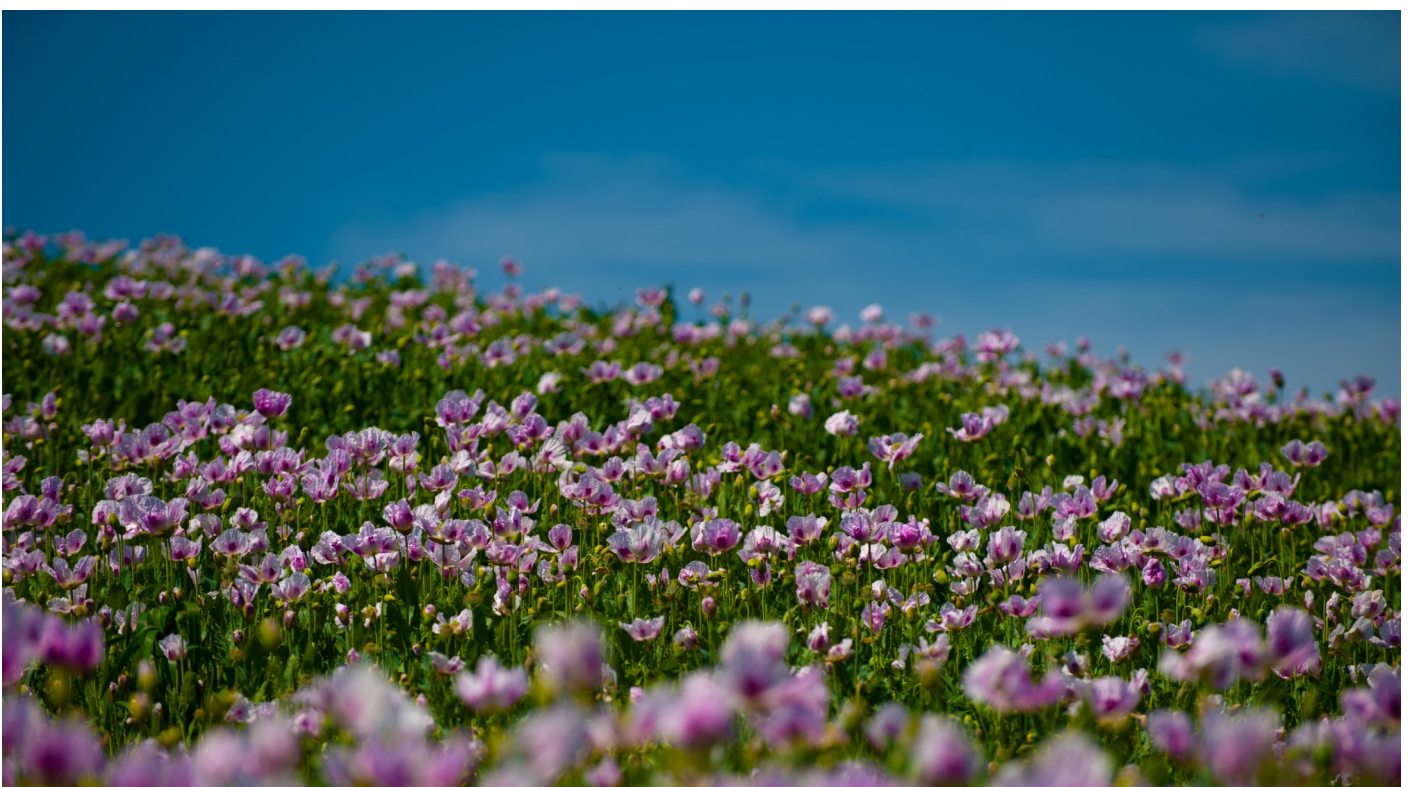
The Tasmanian Government is also working with the



Australian Government to progress the development of a business case for an estimated \$300+ million Southern Midlands Irrigation scheme, which will deliver a similar economic benefit to the heart of Tasmania.

This will also play a major role in ensuring the Tasmanian Government reaches its ambitious target of increasing the farmgate value of Tasmania's agricultural sector to \$10 billion a year by 2050.

Never before has collaboration across all of industry – from contractors to farmers to government to Tasmanian Irrigation – been so important.



Robin Dornauf — Hillwood Berries

Robin Dornauf has much to be proud of.

Robin, his wife Karen and two sons Simon and Marcus have spent the past 11 years transforming Hillwood Berries in the Tamar Valley.

When they purchased the property, there were 100,000 strawberry plants in an area of two hectares.

Now, there are more than two million strawberries across 20 hectares, as well as 16 hectares of raspberries, five hectares of blackberries and 2.5 hectares of blueberries.

And last year, they purchased a 20-hectare farm at Bundaberg in Queensland. Almost five hectares is now in production and a further 15 hectares will soon be planted.

With an annual wage bill of \$15 million to employ more than 400 seasonal workers and 60 permanent staff, Hillwood Berries is at the forefront of workplace excellence and efficiencies.

But is the Dornauf family now likely to relax and enjoy the current scale of business they have achieved? Not likely!

They have applied for a further 1,000 megalitres of water from the Tamar Irrigation Scheme, one of Tasmanian Irrigation's Tranche Three projects, so they can again double the area planted to berries on their Hillwood farm.

"The security associated with Tasmanian Irrigation water gives us the confidence to keep expanding, employ more people and ensure we meet market expectations with high-quality Tasmanian berries," Robin said.

"There is no doubt that the whole Tamar Valley will benefit from this irrigation water."

Robin is one of the volunteer Irrigator Representative Committee members for the 24,500 megalitre Tamar Irrigation Scheme.

He has played a leading role in working with Tasmanian Irrigation to ensure Tamar is one of the priority phase one projects under Tranche Three.

Robin expects the Tamar Valley's proximity to markets, micro climates, quality soils and the high-surety irrigation water will attract new high-value horticultural and agricultural enterprises to the region.

"We currently only have 52 hectares of fruit but need 400 megalitres of water, so to meet our expansion plans, we didn't hesitate to put in an Expression of Interest for 1,000 megalitres from Tasmanian Irrigation.

"This will be a fully piped scheme so if the project is fully subscribed, there may not be a chance to purchase additional water.



"It's great that word has got out from other Tasmanian Irrigation schemes regarding the value of this water as the level of interest in the Tamar Scheme continues to grow.

"People recognise the value this water adds to their property in its own right, let alone the production increases that can be achieved."

All Hillwood Berries are grown under polytunnels and almost all are grown using hydroponic principles. The berry genetics are bred by Driscolls, one of the world's largest berry companies.

Many in the Tamar Valley are predicting that apple and cherry production could again return to levels seen more than two decades ago, and further area will be planted to berries.

This brings additional jobs, families, investment and opportunity to the region, even more footy players for the Hillwood Football Club, which is also proudly sponsored by Hillwood Berries!

As part of the Dornaufs' commitment to their workforce, they have invested in accommodation to sleep 500 workers.

They have more than 400 employees from Tonga, Timor and Samoa picking in both Tasmania and Queensland.

"These workers are incredible," Robin said. "Some have worked with us for five or six years, they work twice as hard as most backpackers and are so positive and productive.

"They work so hard to be able to send money back to their families in the Pacific Islands to build a house, buy a car or send their children to university.

"We also work with local refugee communities to employ a crew of New Australians who have immigrated from Afghanistan, Nepal and Bhutan.



"They are motivated, reliable and learning new skills in our plant husbandry and harvest teams."

So, with a highly-skilled and reliable workforce, contracts locked in for their berries, his children working in the business with him and new irrigation water set to flow to his farm, what more could Robin ask for?

"Well," he laughed. "We do have a competitive advantage and we are very fortunate to be able to continue to expand due to this new water, so we are very thankful.

"We are very excited about the future of farming in the Tamar Valley and in Tasmania."

Tamar Irrigation Scheme Snapshot

Size	24,500 megalitres
Pipeline	240kms
Dams	Zero
Pump stations	Five
Estimated first water delivery	2025

Water Delivery

By David Skipper



Tasmanian Irrigation's Water Delivery Team is responsible for the operation of 18 irrigation schemes around Tasmania, and the delivery of irrigation water in an efficient, economically viable and environmentally sustainable manner to more than 1,000 irrigators.

Tasmanian Irrigation employs 14 skilled and dedicated Scheme Operators to manage and administer each scheme.

The team also manages a range of inherited infrastructure, including Lake Leake, Rileys Creek Dam, Togari Water Scheme and the Montagu and Welcome River Improvement Schemes.

Regular routine maintenance, compliance and ensuring the schemes are delivering water at the most efficient curve is paramount to a successful scheme and ensuring water costs to irrigators are controlled and appropriate.

For more information about Water Delivery, please contact Tasmanian Irrigation on (03) 6398-8433 or

watertrading@tasmanianirrigation.com.

The 2021/22 irrigation season started off very softly in terms of delivery, but as the season dried off, deliveries quickly ramped up.

In December 2021, Tasmanian Irrigation was down more than 40 per cent compared to budget for water volume delivered. However, by end of January 2022, we were down 27 per cent. Now, we are tracking for these water volume delivery budgets to be exceeded.

February is often a significant water use period, as irrigators have completed their respective harvests and then launched into their winter cropping program where they will plant crop and provide an early water in order to establish the crops before the onset of the cooler months heading into winter.

If it continues to be dry in the potato growing regions, we may also see irrigators take water throughout March to complete a final potato water, which also assists in the harvesting of the product. As some crops were late planted in 2021, this will also help to get these crops to market. The potato processing companies have also recently expanded in size and capabilities, allowing for bigger areas to be cropped and potatoes from more regions to be processed.

Our Scheme Operators have been very busy and working hard to deliver water to all irrigators the past few months. We have had very few breakdowns across the schemes this summer and very few outages on any scheme lasting more than six hours in duration. COVID has caused some minor disruptions, but overall, we

have seen little impact to our operations during the season. Having good experienced and loyal scheme operators, many who have been with our organisation for a long period of time, certainly helps in running an efficient scheme.

They know the quirks of the schemes and pump stations, and have great knowledge of their local area. They also involve themselves with the irrigators, forming a close working bond to deliver water to you when they need it.

All Tasmanian Irrigation dams are still at very good levels. Our susceptible dams on the East coast and through the South East irrigation areas have all held up well and we have been harvesting water at every opportunity that is presented. TasWater supplies into the South East this season have been well managed by our Scheme Operators and well supported by the TasWater staff at Bryn-Estyn.

Our new interconnect pipeline between South East Stages Two and Three has worked well this year, balancing supplies into both dams and the respective schemes.

We have another big year of asset renewal work and general maintenance planned across all schemes in the off season (see following page). Much of the initial work was completed last year and we now see a continuation of the program. This has all been meticulously planned by our Technical Services team...

Asset Renewal

By Hayden Thorp

Asset Renewal Program FY22

The FY22 asset renewal program contains a broad range of critical infrastructure upgrades and replacements to ensure the reliable delivery of water to our end customers.

Before discussing the forward program for FY22, it is useful to reflect on the current FY21 asset renewal program, which includes over 130 individual projects with a total value of \$1.25 million.

At the end of January 2022 the FY21 program was over 60 per cent complete, with expenditure in excess of \$550,000. The remaining works are well on track to be completed by 30 June 2022.

Works to date have included pumping, electrical and civil infrastructure refurbishment, dam management improvements, critical spare equipment purchases and safety related upgrades.

A comprehensive list of projects has been developed for FY22. Similar to the FY21 program, the FY22 works have been developed by considering asset specific information such as age, condition, risk and other external factors that require us to upgrade our infrastructure, such as the termination of the 3G network in 2024.

Key projects within the FY22 renewal program include:

- 3G network obsolescence infrastructure upgrades;

- Critical pump refurbishments;
- Purchase of critical electrical spares to replace ageing equipment;
- Control system improvements for improved scheme operational reliability; and
- Riley's Creek Dam electrical and valve infrastructure upgrades.

The FY22 program includes over 120 projects with a total value of \$2.1 million.

All projects have been assessed in accordance with Tasmanian Irrigation's strategic asset management plan using a risk based decision making process.

This ensures the most critical requirements are being addressed in a timely manner across our extensive infrastructure network whilst seeking the most economical outcome for our end customers.

To complement the asset renewal program, Tasmanian Irrigation has commenced the introduction of revised irrigation scheme maintenance plans to help preserve and prolong the life of the existing assets, thereby minimising ongoing asset renewal requirements as much as possible.

The maintenance plans include proactive monitoring of equipment to ensure minor issues can be detected and addressed before they create larger, more expensive asset

renewal issues and preventative activities aimed at asset life maximisation.

The ongoing efficient and economical management of our assets is at the forefront of all maintenance plan activity development.

Solar Installations at Pump Stations

A key component of the Tasmanian Government's Energy on Farms project is the installation of local solar farms at selected pump stations to off-set the consumption of electricity and reduce the overall cost of water to irrigators.

Tasmanian Irrigation is progressing this exciting project with a local solar contractor currently undertaking site based assessments and concept design works to produce a finalised list of suitable installation sites.

The site assessment and concept level works are expected to be completed in early March.

Follow on works, including stakeholder engagement, planning and detailed design are expected to commence from April 2022.



Drought Resilience — Tasmania

A new Hub focused on building the capabilities of farmers and rural communities to better prepare for drought has just been launched in Tasmania.

Tasmanian Irrigation is a proud member of the Adoption and Innovation Hub for Drought Resilience — Tasmania, which aims to build valuable relationships, access critical information and participate in knowledge-building activities to drive more innovation in farming businesses.

The Tasmanian Hub is one of eight located in key agricultural and climatic zones around Australia and is funded under the Federal Government's \$5 billion Future Drought Fund.

Operations will be based in Launceston and Hobart at the campuses of the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture at the University of Tasmania.

Tasmanian Irrigation Chief Executive Officer Andrew Kneebone is one of the Hub Steering Committee Members and said the initiative is focused on making a real difference to the lives of primary producers and their communities.

"There is no doubt that we need to build the drought capabilities of farmers and rural communities to better prepare, adapt and recover," Mr Kneebone said. "This proactive initiative will bring together a wide range of stakeholders, including farmers, researchers, industry, natural

resource managers and traditional owners, to co-design relevant and innovative solutions.

"One of the tasks our Hub has been assigned is to look at competing demands for water in Tasmania and how this intensifies during droughts, so we can empower farmers, water managers and other service providers to adopt new technology and practices to build drought resilience.

"Tasmanian Irrigation is pleased to be taking an active role in the Hub, along with many other partners, so we can share the wealth of knowledge we have accumulated over the past 14 years, as well as continue to learn about how we can best assist and work with farmers during fluctuating seasonal conditions."

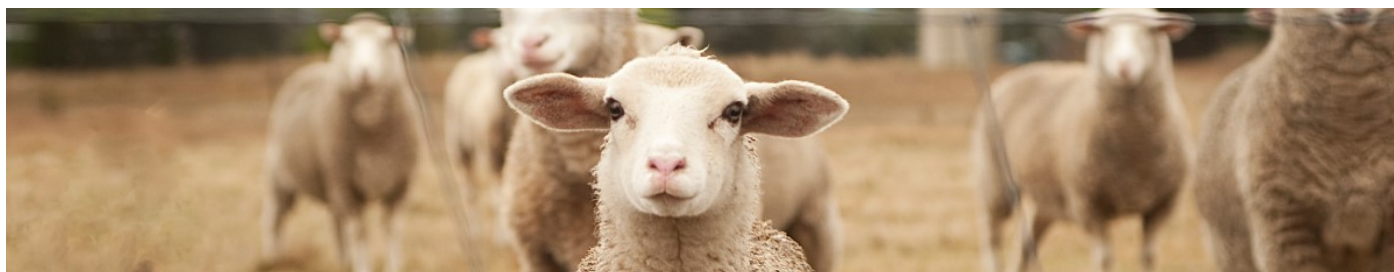
The key industry involved include dairy, livestock, wool, vegetables, fruit, agro-forestry and various field crops.

The Hub is calling on farmers and industry representatives to complete a quick 10-minute survey to define the key issues related to managing or responding to dry seasonal conditions in Tasmania.

Results of the survey will help inform some of the Hub programs and activities.

The survey is open until Friday 11 March and can be found here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R7FZTQH>



PRODUCER PERSPECTIVES SURVEY

The Adoption and Innovation Hub for Drought Resilience – Tasmania is seeking input from farmers and people in the agricultural services sector to help define key issues related to dry seasonal conditions. This activity received funding from the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund.

Safe Farming Tasmania

Many Tasmanian farmers are unaware that they can access a free service to obtain practical tools and support to improve health and safety in their business.

Safe Farming Tasmania — a joint initiative of WorkSafe Tasmania and the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania — aims to reduce farm-work related death, injury and disease by raising awareness of farm safety issues and working with industry stakeholders to provide training and education on farm safety issues.

Senior WHS consultants Phill John and Stuart Beams regularly visit farms to ensure all policies and procedures are compliant, and to provide advice on how to embed best practice safety culture into every-day operations.

They also engage with farm workers and facilitate sessions on safety topics specific to

individual farms, as well as provide practical resources, such as induction checklists, hazard checklists, safe work procedures and safety awareness videos.

Safe Farming Tasmania recently collaborated with Primary Employers Tasmania to run a series of shearing shed safety sessions around the State, which were very well attended.

Stuart said they have been overwhelmed by the number of farmers applying for safety rebates following these workshops.

"We are here to help farmers with all safety matters, so it's just a matter of giving us a call so we can work together to reduce the number of injuries and fatalities, as well as improve mental health and wellbeing," Stuart said.

For more information, please contact Stuart Beams on 0400 140 146 or email stuart.beams@justice.tas.gov.au



A Farmers' Perspective

Cressy farmers Sarah and Lauchie Cole are committed to improving the safety and the wellbeing of their employees.

That's why they proactively engaged with Phill and Stu from Safe Farming Tasmania to ensure their policies and procedures are up to date and their practices comply with the latest legislative requirements.

Sarah said having the Safe Farming team tour their property to identify possible safety improvements was invaluable.

"It's important that Tasmanian farmers understand that this is a free service, it is confidential and that Phill and Stu are not acting as inspectors looking to fine farmers," she said.

"They are here to help us identify and mitigate risks, and ensure us, our family and employees can manage and work in our business safely."

Sarah and Lauchie encouraged other farmers to reach out to Safe Farming Tasmania.

"It's a small investment of time for a huge return that can prevent accidents and save lives," Lauchie said.

"We are very thankful that the Tasmanian Government offers this much-needed service for farmers."

Program Development and Delivery

By Eric Shegog



Tasmanian Irrigation's Program Development and Delivery Team is proud to deliver irrigation projects from concept to water delivery, ensuring schemes are designed to be in operation for the next generation of farmers and beyond.

There are a number of important steps incorporated into developing a new irrigation scheme, including:

- Community consultation;
- Expressions of interest;
- Launch of preferred design option;
- Water sales;
- Contracts with landowners;
- Final design;
- Business case;
- Permits and approvals;
- Construction; and
- Commissioning.

Along the way, risks are continually evaluated as the design progresses in terms of environment, social acceptability, cost and economic outcomes.

As these schemes rely on a unique public / private partnership and funding model, all stakeholders are engaged and consulted to ensure key needs are met.

All Tasmanian Irrigation schemes are designed to last at least 100 years and deliver water at an annual average reliability of more than 95 per cent.

Tasmanian Irrigation is set to double its capacity to deliver high-surety irrigation water to Tasmanian farmers as part of the Tranche Three program of works.

An additional 133,000 megalitres of irrigation water will be available as part of the first five of 10 projects planned around the State.

The Tasmanian Government has already committed \$108.7 million and the Australian Government \$104.7 million to Tranche Three, which will be combined with a substantial contribution from landowners, to design, construct and manage the new irrigation schemes.

These projects are the Don Irrigation Scheme, Sassafras Wesley Vale Irrigation Scheme Augmentation, Northern Midlands Irrigation Scheme, Tamar Irrigation Scheme and the South East Interim Solution and South East Integration Project. Planning on a further five projects has already commenced.

Unprecedented demand had been recorded across the new projects as farmers continue to realise the benefits of reliable and cost-effective irrigation water.

By 2050, Tasmanian Irrigation will manage a portfolio of irrigation infrastructure valued at more than \$680 million, capable of delivering 168,998 megalitres of water via 1,451 kilometres of pipeline, 55 pump stations, 24 dams and three power stations.

The following summarises the current Tranche Three projects under development, noting all numbers and dates are estimates and are subject to change as each project progresses through planning, design finalisation and the commencement of construction:

Don Irrigation Scheme

Area serviced: Don, Lillico, Forth, Forthside, Melrose, Lower Barrington, Barrington, Sheffield and West Kentish

Principal primary production: Vegetables, berries, other crops and dairy.

Capacity: 4,750 ML

Estimated construction start date: Early 2022

Estimated water delivery commencement: Mid 2023

Pipeline: 67 kms

Dams: Zero

Pump stations: Three



The Don Irrigation Scheme is currently in the tendering phase and preferred tenderers for each construction component are being selected. Construction is expected to commence early this year and be completed in mid 2023.

Northern Midlands Irrigation Scheme

Area serviced: Macquarie, Barton, Conara, Campbell Town, Ross and the Lower Isis Valley areas

Principal primary production: Livestock, broadacre cropping, wool, cherries

Capacity: Approximately 25,500 ML

Total forecast cost: Under review

Estimated construction start date: To be confirmed

Estimated water delivery commencement: To be confirmed

Pipeline: 157 kms

Dams: One

Pump stations: Three

This project is currently in the detailed design phase. The 85 per cent design submission has been received and reviewed, the draft Natural Values Report has been completed, land valuations have commenced, geotechnical investigations have been completed at Valleyfield Header Tank following the conclusion of the eagle restrain period, and procurement planning is underway.

Sassafras Wesley Vale Irrigation Scheme Augmentation

Area serviced: Sassafras, Harford, Thirlstane, Moriarty, Wesley Vale, Northdown, Pardoe and East Devonport

Principal primary production: Vegetables, berries, grapes, livestock finishing, other crops and dairy

Capacity: 13,686 ML

Total forecast cost: Under review

Estimated construction start date: October 2023

Estimated water delivery commencement: November 2025

Pipeline: 95 kms

Dams: Zero

Pump stations: Five

The Sassafras Wesley Vale Irrigation Scheme commenced operations in November 2012, delivering 5,660 ML to landowners in this highly-productive region. A survey in 2019 resulted in 60 irrigators expressing interest for additional water.

Subsequently, this augmentation will deliver an additional 8,026 ML of irrigation water to existing and new irrigators.

The project is currently in the feasibility stage and the preferred option public consultation period concluded in early January 2022.

The team is aiming to launch Water Sales in Spring 2022,

subject to Tasmanian Irrigation Board approval.

The Business Case will then be finalised for the Tasmanian Government, with a view to commencing construction in late 2023.

Tamar Irrigation Scheme

Area serviced: Beaconsfield, Selbourne, Westwood, Hillwood, Lilydale, Pipers Brook and Pipers River area

Principal primary production: Berries, vineyards, orchards, pasture, cereal crops, nurseries, flowers, vegetable crops and dairy

Capacity: 24,500 ML

Total forecast cost: \$288 million

Estimated construction start date: July 2023

Estimated water delivery commencement: 2025

Pipeline: 240 kms

Dams: Zero

Pump stations: Five

The Tamar Scheme is currently in the pre-feasibility phase and the engineering design has been adjusted to include all the EOIs and future growth.

The Preferred Option Design has been reviewed and approved by the Tasmanian Irrigation Board to progress to the public consultation and immediately followed by Water Sales.

Construction is forecast to commence in 2025/26.

South East Integration Project

Area serviced: Richmond, Dulcote, Cambridge, Colebrook, Campania, Tea Tree, Orielton, Pawleena, Penna, Sorell, Forcett, Elderslie and Broadmarsh

Principal primary

production: Cherries, apples, salad vegetables, wine grapes, stone fruit, lucerne, walnuts and olives

Capacity: 42,000 ML

Total forecast cost: \$400m+

Estimated construction start date: To be confirmed

Estimated water delivery commencement: Late 2026

Pipeline: Approx. 200 kms

Dams: Under review

Pump stations: Five

The South East Integration Project aims to integrate the existing South East Stages One, Two and Three Schemes, secure a reliable raw water source for this area and expand the irrigation district, which is considered to be one of the driest in Tasmania.

The existing schemes lack capacity to cater for continued growth and are hampered by ongoing water availability issues and increased costs for the current treated, potable water supply. In addition, the schemes are fully subscribed and there is no capacity in the current water sources to cater for the growing need.

This important Tranche Three project is currently in the prefeasibility phase and three options for alignment are currently being considered.

A Preferred Option Design is planned to be released for public consultation in mid 2022, followed by Water Sales.

In the meantime, Tasmanian Irrigation is delivering an Interim Solution to improve reliability in this region.

An interconnect pipeline between the existing South East Stages Two and Three was completed and operational in December 2021 to assist with balancing flows.

Construction of the new South East Interim Solution pipeline near Campania has commenced as part of the second step, and will run over a 12-week program to completion.

In addition to this, the optimisation project for Stage Two is currently developing the external heritage and environmental surveys, with the aim to commence construction in mid-2022.

The third step is an upgrade to an existing pump station and pipeline at Richmond to allow the Daisy Banks Dam to be filled directly from the Coal River when water quality allows.

Southern Midlands Irrigation Scheme

Area serviced: Central Highlands and Southern Midlands Council regions, with

the potential to support irrigation activities in the Brighton Council region.

Principal primary

production: Livestock, broadacre cropping, wool and a small level of dairy, fruit and wine grapes

Capacity: Approximately 30,000 ML

Total forecast cost: \$300m+

Estimated construction start date: To be confirmed

Estimated water delivery commencement: To be confirmed

Pipeline: 200 kms

Dams: Zero

Pump stations: Two

This project is currently in the prefeasibility stage and the funding submission has now been completed. Expressions of Interest for this project reached 38,300 megalitres with an estimated 70 irrigators expected to gain access to water through the development of this scheme.

The other projects that are being considered as part of Tranche Three are Detention, Flowerdale and Gretna.

Up-to-date fact sheets on each Tranche Three project can be accessed from

www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au,

or please contact

enquiries@tasirrigation.com.au

or call (03) 6398-8433 for additional information.

"Dairy is Tasmania's largest agricultural commodity sector, producing a record 961 million litres of milk last financial year. Milk production in Tasmania has increased by 32 per cent in the past decade and by 63 per cent compared to 20 years ago. With pasture-based systems, water is key to production across Tasmania. Dairy farming regions that have access to Tasmanian Irrigation Schemes appreciate the supply of reliable water that underpins their businesses and provides opportunity for further investment."

-Laura Richardson, DairyTas Regional Manager





TASMANIAN IRRIGATION — MEET THE TEAM

Melanie Durham

Tasmanian Irrigation title: Procurement and Contracts Lead.

How long have you worked at Tasmanian Irrigation: I joined the Company one year ago.

Snapshot of your work and study history: Prior to joining Tasmanian Irrigation, I spent 15 years working in the mining industry in Queensland and Western Australia as a procurement and contract management professional.

During this time I was responsible for strategic sourcing and contract management of a variety of contract categories, such as structural and civil construction, drill and blast, energy, maintenance and mining equipment (to name a few).

Prior to this I worked in various administration roles for companies including tax consultancy, wine wholesaler, performance exhaust centre and a company supplying export ships with provisions and bonded goods.

Brief description of your current role: Providing strategic guidance and direction across the organisation on all aspects of procurement and contract management.

This includes development of tender documentation and facilitation of tender evaluations for the procurement of works, goods and services as well as contract negotiation and monitoring supplier performance through the contract lifecycle.

My role also involves the development and implementation of sourcing strategies, policies, procedures and standardised procurement templates and ensuring employees understand and comply with company contracts.

What do you enjoy most about working at Tasmanian Irrigation: Being able to help achieve the best value for money outcome against contracts required for our Tranche Three Irrigation Schemes.

What has been your most memorable moment since joining TI: Attending the tender site inspection for the upcoming Don Irrigation Scheme to see where it will be built. I'm looking forward to replacing this moment with seeing the Don scheme being constructed.

Favourite book: Song of Fire and Ice series (Game of Thrones).

Favourite food: Can't beat my husband's chicken curry and rice.

Favourite movie: Lord of the Rings Trilogy.

Favourite holiday location: So far, it's the Scotland highlands but I am always on the look out for my next favourite location. I also love travelling around the Tasmanian countryside since I've only been here for about two years.

Best piece of advice for the next generation: Spend less time in front of a screen and more time enjoying what nature has to offer.

If I was Prime Minister for a day, I would: Reduce our reliance on fossil fuels by becoming a leader in renewable energy and subsidising alternative fuel vehicles. I would also increase the age pension amount so that our senior citizens are not living below the poverty line.

The three people you would invite to share dinner with you: I enjoy a good story so I would invite Ryan Reynolds, Graham Norton and Ellen DeGeneres.

Upcoming Events



Please visit Tasmanian Irrigation's website at www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au to ensure you stay up to date with the latest information about existing irrigation schemes and Tranche Three projects,

And don't forget to follow Tasmanian Irrigation on Facebook.

Forecast upcoming events include:

Early to mid 2022

Tamar Preferred Option Design launch

Don construction commences

Sassafras Wesley Vale Augmentation Water Sales launch

South East Interim Solution construction commences

South East Integration Project Preferred Option Design launch



For more information about this newsletter, please contact:

Tasmanian Irrigation Pty Ltd

Address: Level 2, Launceston Airport Passenger Terminal Building,
201 Evandale Rd, Western Junction, TASMANIA, 7212

Postal address: PO Box 84, Evandale, TAS, 7212

Phone: (03) 6398-8433

www.tasirrigation.com.au

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communications@tasirrigation.com.au

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