Scheme update

The NEIS has now been under construction for eight months and significant progress has been made, though much of it away from the general public’s eye. Initially focus has been on the completion of the technical designs for the scheme, providing the necessary detail and design drawings for our key contractors to be able to construct the new dam at White Hills, the two pump stations and sixty kilometres of pipelines and associated infrastructure.

Progress on the new dam at White Hills, which will be known as the Rocklands Dam once it is completed in October is now over 50%. The key milestone of completing keyway works and installation of the concrete encased outlet pipe was reached in mid-May. A team of dedicated Gradco employees has been hand cleaning the 980m of keyway since January to ensure that there is a structurally competent seal between the clay core of the dam and the underlying bedrock. With this important work completed placement of the main earth wall is now proceeding apace. The first 450m of the wall from the eastern abutment is now all but at the final height of RL241.6m. The remainder of the wall varies between RL 225 and RL 239m.

When complete the wall will have over 300,000m³ of earth placed over the 987m length and have a highest point of 21.6m. The final storage will be in excess of 5,200ML.

The North Esk pump station located at Watery Plains is now at a point where the concrete slab has been placed, the intake manifold is placed, and the shed erection is in progress. The pump station is planned to be complete by the end of July with water transfer commencing soon after. The 5km transfer pipeline joining the pump station to the dam has been the focus of significant works since February with the clearing of a forest corridor and major earthworks through rock to create the necessary working space and bench to install the pipeline. The 5km has been pre-dug and blasted and pipe laying is now in progress and expected to be complete by the end of June. Construction has required some significant machinery with 67T and 87T excavators with rock breakers and drilling and blasting required to construct the alignment.

More visual works have now commenced with pipe laying crews working on the distribution line in four locations. Two crews are currently working away from the dam on the Dalness property, one on the Clarendon line and the other on the White Hills line. Two further crews are working in the district, the most visible being at Logan Road on the Clarendon line and the other on the Evandale D working back from Sharman’s vineyard to Relbia Road.

Construction remains on target to be complete in December 2018.

Farm Water Access Plans

The Farm Water Access Plans team has been active in the district with landholders engaging with the team and consultants since February. These important documents are required to be in place before water from the scheme can be supplied. The plans must cover any lands where it is proposed to apply scheme water.

Tasmanian Irrigation would like to thank landholders for their co-operation during construction and look forward to the successful completion of construction in late December 2018.
Landholder Access Plans

Part of the construction protocols Tasmanian Irrigation requests of our construction contractors is to document, in conjunction with landholders, the works required for construction on their lands. The document ensures that landholders are aware of the works required, timing of the works, access needs, disturbance and rehabilitation plans. The discussion also provides the contractor with key information relating to stock movements, fencing, rehabilitation and the location of infrastructure. TI asks that this is in place prior to works and then signed off as works are completed as agreed.

Shaw Contracting representatives will be in contact with landholders ahead of works to complete these plans. All parties are then able to use these plans as a reference as to what was required to be completed.

Pipeline installation on the transfer pipeline

This newsletter contains information of a general nature and reasonable care has been taken to ensure accuracy at the time of publication. Scheme details and policies may change and individual circumstances may vary. This newsletter should not be relied upon as a basis of individual decision-making.

For more information and details regarding the articles in this issue, please contact:
Tasmanian Irrigation Pty Ltd, PO BOX 84 Evandale, TAS, 7212.
Ph: 03 6398 8433  www. tasilrrigation.com.au

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter electronically please email ian.smith@tasilrrigation.com.au

Scheme Contacts

Charles Watson
Evandale local farmer, property owner and harvesting contractor
0417 390 848

Kellie Hoffmann
vineyard manager at White Hills
0407 531 271

Michael Hart
has extensive experience in establishing new crops, a background working for DPIW and TIA
0408 542 024

Peter Lindsay
mixed enterprise farmer in the White Hills area
0417 320 503

Tom Graesser
farmer and independent agronomist in the Evandale area
0407 161 856

Andrew Hogarth
mixed enterprise farmer
0438 918 177

Ian Smith
Project Manager
0488 153 346
ian.smith@asilrrigation.com.au

Aaron Cassidy
Scheme Engineer
0400 143 114
aaron.cassidy@asilrrigation.com.au