



Tasmanian Irrigation

NEIS Newsletter January 2018

Scheme Update

Construction of the new dam has been well underway since mid-November 2017, the access road to the dam from Blessington Road has been constructed, the dam foundation and keyway have been exposed and the blasting for the spillway completed. Continued dry weather conditions have ensured that works have been able to progress to schedule and placement of material on the first 350m of the 980m wall is expected to commence in the first week of February.

Preparation of the foundation for the main dam will take a few more weeks to ensure that the contact surfaces are adequately cleaned down and prepared.

Detailed design for the North Esk pump station and the transfer pipeline between the North Esk River and the dam are nearly completed and construction work is expected to commence in mid-February. Construction of the dam and the transfer pipeline remain the priority to ensure that the scheme can extract water for the 18/19 irrigation season.

Construction work for the 63km of distribution network pipelines is due to commence in April. Landholders will soon have contact from Mike Luttrell, Project Manager for Shaw Contracting commence discussions in relation to works on their lands. Mike will do this progressively in accordance with his works plans.



Figure 1 : Foundation Excavation



Figure 2 : Farm connection point

Farm Water Access Plans

Farm water access plans are an integral component of water delivery from Tasmanian Irrigation. The purpose of Farm WAP's is to identify where Tasmanian Irrigation water will be applied and manage any potential risks that may arise from the application of this water.

The assessable area under a Farm WAP includes all the land to which Tasmanian Irrigation water will be applied as well as dams and the irrigation infrastructure that will be directly impacted by the use of TI water now and into the future.

A Farm WAP is not a property management plan and does not necessarily have to cover an entire property. It must be completed by prequalified consultants in accordance with the approved soil, water and biodiversity modules and contain management actions to be implemented if risks of applying Tasmanian Irrigation water are identified.

Cassie Tickner-Smith from the TI Farm WAP team has started to contact participating scheme landholders to commence the preliminary work for the preparation of Farm WAPs. TI assists in the preparation of the plans by collating basic farm information and providing tender packages of work to pre-qualified contractors for completion. Prior to awarding the work, landholders are consulted in relation to the costs associated with the preparation of their plan and approval to proceed. Farmers are able to confirm if they wish to proceed at this point or make alternative arrangements.

TI is unable to deliver water to properties not covered by a Farm WAP. Further information and an example of a very comprehensive plan can be found at <http://www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au/index.php/schemes/north-esk-irrigation-scheme>.

Water Trading

Many participants are interested in how they can trade water in the scheme. Water can be traded, subject to pipe-line capacities, into the zone in which their connection is located and any zone through which the water has flowed to the connection point.

TI runs a water trading notice board <http://www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au/index.php/buy-trade-search> where water wanted or for sale can be listed. The value of the water trade is subject to negotiation between the two parties. Receiving lands must be covered by a Farm WAP.

Trading can be as a temporary, short term or permanent trade. Costs associated with these are commensurate with the administration associated with the trade and are detailed in attachments located on the above notice board.

Landholders can trade flow rate, water volume or both. If you wish to know more, please do not hesitate to contact TI for more information.

Thanks

Tasmanian Irrigation and the NEIS Working Group wish to express thanks to Jim Cuming who has now left, for his contribution to the development of the North Esk Irrigation Scheme over the past three years. His contribution to the development of this community asset is appreciated.



Figure 3: Removal of the old dam wall, January 2018

Contacts

Mike Luttrell – Shaw Contracting	0409 560 107	michaell@shawcontracting.com.au
Tom Diprose – Gradco	0408 326 867	TDiprose@gradco.com.au
Ian Smith - TI Project Manager	0488 153 346	ian.smith@tasirrigation.com.au
Aaron Cassidy – TI Scheme Engineer	0400 143 114	aaron.cassidy@tasirrigation.com.au

Working Group

Charles Watson	0417 390 848	Peter Lindsay	0417 320 503
Kellie Hoffmann	0407 531 271	Tom Graesser	0407 161 856
Michael Hart	0408 542 024	Andrew Hogarth	0438 918 177

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.tasirrigation.com.au

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter electronically please email Ian.Smith@tasirrigation.com.au