Scheme Update

We are pleased to announce that the successful design and construct contractors for the North Esk Irrigation Scheme are Gradco Pty Ltd, who will build the dam, and Shaw Contracting (Aust.), who will build the pump stations and pipeline network.

Landholders will have received notification indicating that access to their property, for the purposes of survey and construction works, will be required. This notification enables the contractor to undertake necessary preliminary surveys and design works and is the first trigger for their contact and engagement with landholders.

Through the tender process, an opportunity to modify the dam design slightly such that the White Hills boost pump can be removed was identified. This is a significant benefit to the scheme as it will further improve the operating efficiencies of the scheme as all distribution lines, except for the Logan line, will now be able to be delivered under gravity. For those on the White Hills line, this will provide an estimated operating cost saving of around $15.00 per ML.

Second Instalment Payment for 10% deposits

With the commencement of construction planning and works, TI will now issue invoicing for the 8% remaining for the water purchase contract deposits. This will also mean that those wanting to transfer their rights are now able to do so.

Construction

The majority of landholders will deal with Shaw Contracting in their capacity as the pipeline designers and installers. Shaw’s landholder liaison will seek to meet with every landholder to work with them to understand the construction requirements (both landholder and contractor) for every property.

Construction works will initially focus on the transfer pipeline, North Esk pump station and the new dam located on Dalness with the distribution network construction later in the project.

The contractors will complete a Landholder access agreement with each property holder to confirm what works are proposed, the location of infrastructure to be installed, the location of existing farm infrastructure to be worked around, timing and restoration. These agreements form the cornerstone for ensuring works are completed as agreed with landholders post construction.


As part of the commencement of construction, Tasmanian Irrigation have issued notice under the Irrigation Clauses Act to relevant landholders of our intention to commence work. This is a statutory notice required and indicates the formal commencement of the design and construction works. From this point, the contractors will continue to contact landholders directly in relation to works and land access.

Construction Schedule

Broadly, the current construction plans will see the period through to the end of January 2018 used for the detailed design and planning required for construction. This period will be used particularly by Shaw for establishing landholder access agreements, walking the alignment and finalising the pipeline and infrastructure locations.

The period to May 2018 will primarily focus on construction of the Rocklands Dam on the Dalness property, the North Esk pump station and transfer pipelines. Construction of the distribution network is targeted to be complete by the end of 2018.

Shaw Contracting (Aust.)


Shaw Contracting have a long relationship with Tasmanian Irrigation projects and have completed the Winnaleah Irrigation Scheme augmentation, including upgrade of the Frome Dam in 2011, The Sprent Dam at the Kindred North Motton Scheme, Lake Leake Dam repair, Arthurs Lake inlet works, the Dunn’s Creek Dam associated with the Upper Ringarooma scheme, the South Riana Dam and the Dial Blythe Irrigation Scheme pumps and pipeline network. They are currently working on the Duck Irrigation Scheme at Smithton where they are the sole contractor responsible for the construction of both the Mill Creek Dam and the pipelines and pump station contracts.

Shaw’s project Manager will be Mike Luttrell with IPD Consulting the design engineers and Cromarty as the communications contractor.
Gradco Pty. Ltd


Gradco is a well-respected Launceston civil contracting firm who have also worked on several projects with Tasmanian Irrigation. Gradco has constructed the 6,000ML Milford dam which is part of the Lower South Esk Irrigation Scheme and the recently completed 7,600ML Southernfield Dam at the Southern Highlands Irrigation Scheme. Tom Diprose will be Gradco’s Project Manager with GHD Consulting the design engineers.

Figure 1: North Esk Irrigation Scheme Transfer pipeline and Dalness Dam will be the focus of works to May 2018

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