



MEDIA RELEASE

Community input needed for water planning

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Next week Gippsland Water wants its customers and the general community to come and share their views on water at three community forums. Gippsland Water seeks a range of stakeholder views as it plans for the future. These forums have been arranged for the community to comment on the draft Water Supply Demand Strategy (WSDS). The WSDS is the fifty year plan that lists the actions needed to ensure that water is available in the long-term.

The forums will seek input from the community on a range of issues regarding planning for future water needs. These issues include levels of service and any projects required to be able to meet future demand for water with the supply available. The community will also be asked to comment on the benefits and costs of any actions. Gippsland Water wants to know the overall value the community places on water and the levels of service the community expects from it.

Gippsland Water managing director David Mawer said, "In planning for the future it is important that Gippsland Water is aware what the community's needs are. We want people to tell us what they think about water. We strongly encourage the community to engage with us as we plan how to manage the delicate balance between the supply and demand for water.

This will help us decide how to best manage resources in a way that ensures future stability of water supply while also meeting community needs", he added.

These forums form part of Gippsland Water's overall community consultation process on the Water Supply Demand Strategy.

The first forum will run in Warragul on Tuesday, 13 December, followed by Sale on Wednesday 14 December, and Traralgon on Thursday 15 December, 2011. Each forum will run from 12pm to 3pm.

For further information or to RSVP to one of the sessions, please telephone Katie Freeman on 1800 066 401 or email katie.freeman@gippswater.com.au.

For more information about Gippsland Water's Water Supply Demand Strategy, please visit www.gippswater.com.au or telephone 1800 066 401.

Authorised:
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