

LOCH SPORT SEWERAGE SCHEME

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Loch Sport Sewerage Scheme is a \$40.3 million Gippsland Water project that will deliver reticulated wastewater services to over approximately 2,400 properties in the lakeside township of Loch Sport.

The scheme will be delivered by Gippsland Water as part of the Victorian Government's Country Towns Water and Sewerage Program.

A pressure sewer system has been selected as the best solution for the specific location of Loch Sport because of its environmental, economic, health and service quality benefits. The system can be constructed with minimal impact on customers and the environment.

A pressure sewer system features a small tank on each customer's property that collects the sewage and pumps it into the town's reticulation system. It is then pumped to Gippsland Water's Dutson Downs site for treatment.

WHAT WILL THE PROJECT COST?

The project cost estimate for the Loch Sport Sewerage Scheme is approximately \$40.3 million. A total of \$9.245 million will be contributed by the Victorian Government towards the Loch Sport project. Gippsland Water will be using this contribution towards the planning and development phases of the project.

Additional costs associated with the construction of the Loch Sport Sewerage Scheme will be funded from Gippsland Water's customer base through water and wastewater tariffs, with the exception of the capped customer contribution and on-property connection costs.

Landowners will pay for electricity costs to operate the pressure pump on their property. Estimated annual electricity costs (based on electricity prices in 2010) to operate a pressure sewer system are:

- Permanent home with family (four people) - \$30/year
- Permanent home with two people - \$20/year
- Holiday homes - under \$10/year

Property owners will also be required to pay ongoing Gippsland Water wastewater tariffs. Some commercial properties and high volume users may be subject to additional fees and charges.

UPFRONT CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION

Property owners in towns receiving sewerage services under the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program, including Loch Sport, are helping to minimise public health and environment risks, and are required to pay a capped contribution towards the construction of the sewerage scheme.

A property owner can pay \$800 upfront or \$80 a year over 20 years. Hardship relief is available for eligible property owners.

CONNECTION COSTS FOR CUSTOMERS

For residential customers, Gippsland Water will pay for the supply and installation of the pump pit, pump and power control panel, and service pipe into your property.

For commercial customers where a normal pump pit will not meet requirements, the customer will be required to pay additional costs.

Property owners are required to arrange and pay for the costs to connect their household to the Gippsland Water on-property pumping pit, and any plumbing modifications that may be required in their house. This connection must be completed by a licensed plumber.

Gippsland Water will pay for the supply and installation of the new circuit breaker required to operate the pumping unit.

Some property owners will be required to pay for an upgrade to their switchboard if it is unsafe or does not meet the minimum wiring standard.

FURTHER INFORMATION

More information about the Loch Sport Sewerage Scheme is available by telephoning Gippsland Water on 1800 066 401 or by visiting www.gippswater.com.au.