

VICTORIAN DESALINATION PROJECT

FACT SHEET

**WATER NOW
AND FOR THE FUTURE.
FOR SURE.**

PIPELINE HYDROTESTING

The Victorian Desalination Project involves the construction of an 84km pipeline to transfer desalinated water from the desalination plant near Wonthaggi to Melbourne and regional communities.

Before the pipeline begins operating, it must undergo a routine testing procedure known as hydrotesting.

What is hydrotesting?

Hydrotesting is a standard quality test carried out on gas and water pipelines all over the world.

It involves filling the pipeline with water, pressurising it, and then performing inspections and quality tests to establish whether the pipeline and its supporting structures, like air valves, are operating properly.

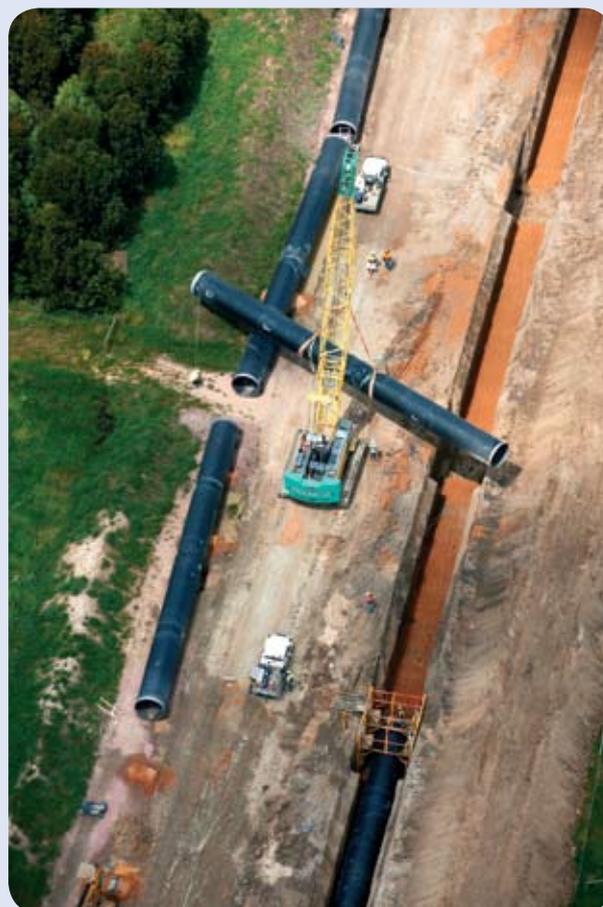
Hydrotesting ensures pipelines are fit for operation, providing final verification that the pipeline has been well constructed and that no defects exist within the pipes or ancillary structures before they begin operating.

How is hydrotesting done?

To accommodate the length and volume of the pipeline, hydrotesting will be carried out in four sections. Hydrotesting of each section will take around two weeks to complete.

A small work crew will be established near Soldiers Road in Berwick. From this location, the pipeline will be filled with water from Cardinia Reservoir, one section at a time.

Just like the drinking water you receive at home now, the water will be safely disinfected with chlorine. This is standard procedure for water pipelines and a normal part of ensuring water meets the required quality standards.



Hydrotesting provides final verification that the pipeline is fit for operation.

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Minor construction work will connect sections of pipeline that have been successfully hydrotested.

Crews will pressurise the pipeline and then travel along the pipeline either on foot or in light vehicles, inspecting and operating valves and other pipeline infrastructure to ensure they are performing as required.

Minor construction work will be carried out to connect the sections of pipeline that have been successfully hydrotested.



Crews will inspect the pipeline to ensure it is performing as required.

What can the community expect?

Because this will be the first time that the pipeline will be filled with water, air valves located along the pipeline will emit a hissing sound – a normal function as air is pushed out of the pipeline.

Noise mitigation measures will be in place and noise will stop once the pipeline is full of water. The air valves will then only operate periodically.

Members of the community can also expect to see small work crews along the pipeline, working to fill and pressurise the pipeline. They may also notice crews inspecting the pipeline, either by foot or by car.

Hydrotesting is a 24-hour operation, so some night lighting may also be expected.

Further information



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