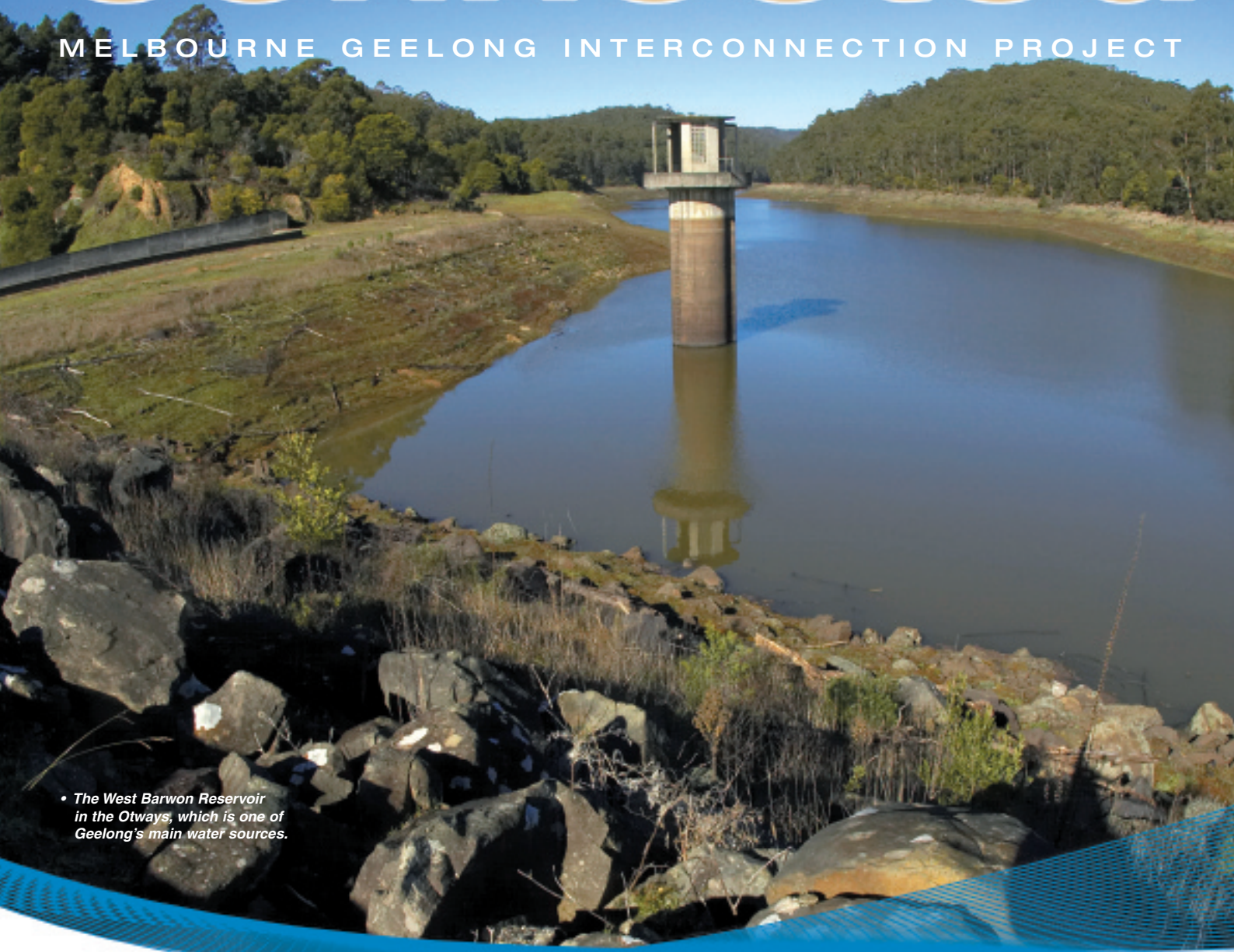


Getting connected

MELBOURNE GEELONG INTERCONNECTION PROJECT



• The West Barwon Reservoir in the Otways, which is one of Geelong's main water sources.



www.barwonwater.vic.gov.au

Barwon Water is working to secure the region's water supply for the future by embarking on a record five-year capital investment program. We are constructing the Melbourne Geelong Interconnection as part of this program.

A 55 km underground pipeline will link Geelong's storage basins at Lovely Banks with the Melbourne water supply network at Cowies Hill, west of Werribee. It is an important part of the State Government's long-term water strategy designed to meet growth and development. It will form part of the State water grid and is critical to meeting future demand in the region.

What you need to know

Why is the pipeline being built?

The wholly-owned and operated Barwon Water pipeline will ensure the Geelong region has ample water for growth and development over the next 20 years and beyond.

It will have the potential to provide up to 16 billion litres of drinking water a year, or about half Geelong's current annual consumption.

The pipeline is part of Barwon Water's planning for the future. Combined with other key Barwon Water projects, it will provide water security to meet future demand and challenges such as climate change.

What will the pipeline look like?

Barwon Water is working on the design phase of the project.

Construction is scheduled to begin in mid-2010 and be completed by the end of 2011.

Pre-construction activities will begin along the proposed route during 2009.

A preferred alignment has been selected and is shown on the map opposite.

Further investigations, such as flora and fauna, waterway and cultural heritage assessments, as well as land and geotechnical surveying, will be required to more accurately determine the pipeline route.

Barwon Water will be consulting a wide range of stakeholders, including community interest groups. Any potential cultural heritage issues will be dealt with in co-operation with local community representatives and Aboriginal Affairs Victoria.

Are planning permits required and have these been granted?

Permits are required and we will work with relevant State and Federal authorities to ensure all appropriate planning approvals for the project are obtained.

What is the estimated cost of the project?

The estimated cost of the project, based on preliminary planning to date, is \$137.9 million. The State Government has committed \$20 million to the project.

Will the price of water to Geelong consumers increase as a result of the pipeline?

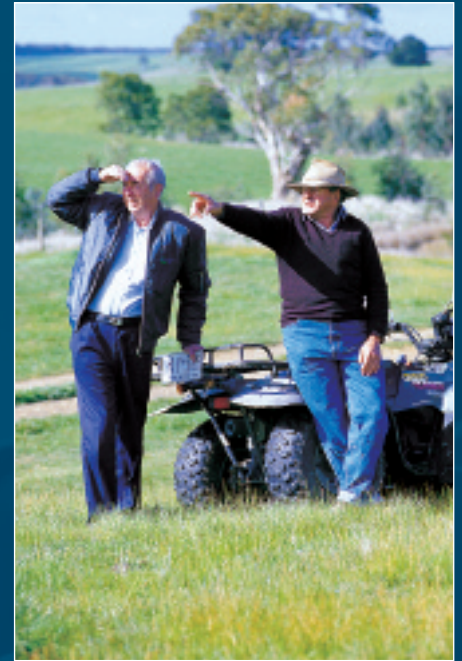
Yes, with a project of this magnitude there will be an unavoidable price increase.

However, this is still to be determined in consultation with the Essential Services Commission. Barwon Water is also negotiating with Melbourne Water to secure the best price possible for the bulk water for its customers.

How many jobs will the project create?

Up to 60 people will be employed in the design phase and up to 200 during construction.

This excludes Barwon Water staff. Additional jobs will be created during the manufacturing of the pipeline components.



How can I get more information?

During the design and pre-construction phase, information bulletins will be issued to the Geelong community.

Media releases will also keep the public informed of progress and information will be posted on the Barwon Water website www.barwonwater.vic.gov.au

A dedicated project email address mgi@barwonwater.vic.gov.au has been set up to respond to requests for information.

Community members can also contact Barwon Water on **1300 656 007**. Detailed enquiries will be referred to the Barwon Water project team.

PROPOSED PIPELINE ROUTE



Barwon Water promises to provide sustainable water and sewerage management to our community through innovation, leadership, real community relationships and a high performance workforce.



- *The Lovely Banks area showing the Barwon Water storage basins into which water from the Melbourne Geelong Interconnection will flow.*



For more information

Email: mgi@barwonwater.vic.gov.au

Telephone: 1300 656 007

www.barwonwater.vic.gov.au

Barwon Water and its project partners, consultants Kellogg Brown & Root Pty Ltd and Maloney Field Services, look forward to a successful working relationship with all community stakeholders on this exciting and very important project.