

Community Bulletin 2

18 November 2009

North Western Sewer Emergency Relief Structure

As previously advised, the Pipelines Alliance on behalf of Melbourne Water will undertake works to construct an Emergency Relief Structure (ERS) on the North Western Sewer.

The ERS will be built on the banks of the Maribyrnong River within the Afton Reserve in Aberfeldie, also known as the Afton Street Conservation Park.



Figure 1 – Area of works showing existing north western sewer main in red and intended structure in yellow

The ERS will be mainly underground. When it is finished, the only part of the structure that will be visible will be the pipes on the north bank of the river. It will look like a typical drain outlet, with rocks placed around the end of the pipes and shrubs planted to fit with and enhance the area. All work areas will be reinstated to a condition as good as or better than they were before work started.

Your water supply will NOT be affected by these works.

Construction is expected to take approximately four and a half months to complete and during this time you may notice:

- **Additional vehicle and truck movements** – from workers and materials entering and leaving the site.
- **Construction noise and dust** – you may notice some noise and dust as a result of construction activities. We will minimise these wherever possible by:
 1. restricting work hours to 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday. Work will also be required on some Saturdays between 8am and 4pm in order to speed construction and minimise inconvenience. We will advise you if work is required outside these hours, and
 2. following a Site Environment Management Plan (SEMP), which specifies measures such as watering areas of earthworks, covering truckloads of soil and restricting vehicle movements to confined paths.

- **Closure and fencing of some areas and paths within the park** – areas near the works will need to be fenced off for safety and security. At the end of construction, paths will be reinstated and security fencing removed.

We will work to minimise these impacts and apologise for any inconvenience that they may cause.

Common Questions:

When are you doing the work?

Delivery of materials will start on 19 November and construction will begin on 23 November 2009. The project is expected to finish in May 2010. Some reinstatement works, including plantings, may take place at a later date to suit seasonal conditions.

Why are you doing this work?

Following an extreme wet weather event large amounts of rainwater can seep into the ground and enter the sewer system. A rapid and substantial increase in volume could cause the system to reach capacity as pressure builds. In order to maintain safe operation the ERS is required to provide a relief mechanism.

How do ERSs operate elsewhere?

There are dozens of ERSs within the Melbourne sewer network. They only operate in emergency situations to protect the system from damage and prevent an uncontrolled sewerage spill in homes and low lying areas.

The operation of the ERS comes under the strict controls, standards and guidelines set by the EPA and Melbourne Water.

Who is building the ERS?

The ERS is being constructed by the Pipelines Alliance on behalf of Melbourne Water. The Pipelines Alliance is a partnership between Fulton Hogan, Jaydo, GHD and Melbourne Water, and is part of a five-year program to improve sewerage and drainage systems across the Port Phillip and Westernport regions.

How will the river be affected?

While some construction work will take place at the river's edge, there will be no impact on the river as a result of these works.

For information about this project call Wes Turnbull on 8417 7662. You can also call Melbourne Water on 131 722 or visit melbournewater.com.au for general information about other projects to secure a sustainable water future.