PLANNING YOUR WATER FUTURE

seqwater
WATER FOR LIFE

WATER FOR A GROWING LOCKYER VALLEY

We're planning for your water future. Because we can't always count on the rain.

The plan might look different depending on where you live in South East Queensland.

We might have differences but we are one region, and Seqwater is planning for a reliable and sustainable water supply for all South East Queenslanders.

LOCKYER VALLEY WATER

The communities of Glenmore Grove, Gatton, Helidon, Withcott, Grantham, Forest Hill and Laidley are supplied by the Lowood water treatment plant. The raw water supply is sourced from the Brisbane River, downstream of Wivenhoe Dam and the river's confluence with the Lockyer Creek.

The region has two irrigation dams Bill Gunn Dam (Lake Dyer) and Clarendon Dam. The Atkinson Dam is in the nearby region of Somerset.

IRRIGATION

The Central Lockyer Valley scheme was established to support irrigation in dairy, vegetable and forage crops sectors following construction of various weirs from the 1940s to the 1980s. Bill Gunn Dam was built in 1988, Lake Clarendon in 1992 and the Morton Vale Pipeline in the mid-1990s.

Located east of Gatton, the scheme is supplied by Clarendon and Bill Gunn dams. Both are offstream storages filled by diverting water from nearby creeks during significant flow events.

Critically low levels in Bill Gunn Dam and Clarendon Dam mean Seqwater is currently unable to supply surface water or Morton Vale pipeline customers in the Central Lockyer Valley scheme. Customers are currently supplied by groundwater.

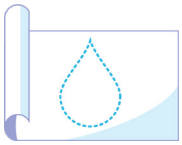
The Lower Lockyer scheme provides water for irrigation and was established following construction of Atkinson Dam in 1970. Located west of Lowood, the scheme was designed only to supply water for irrigation. Due to the lack of rainfall and subsequent critically low levels in Atkinson Dam mean Seqwater is unable to supply water to customers.

Activities in the catchment that influence water quality include land clearing, extractive industry, and cropping along the river banks. Sewer infrastructure, on-site sewage treatment, and agriculture (cattle and poultry) are significant pathogen risks during wet weather.

BY 2028, THE POPULATION OF SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND IS PREDICTED TO GROW BY MORE THAN 750, 000 PEOPLE.

AVERAGE DAILY RESIDENTIAL WATER USE IN CENTRAL SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND IS 166L PER PERSON.*

WATER IN THE FUTURE



OUR PLAN

The Water Security Program is Seqwater's plan to provide South East Queensland with drinking water over the next 30 years. This includes planning for extreme weather — both flood and drought.

POPULATION AND WATER USAGE IS GROWING

Currently South East Queensland uses around 300,000 million litres a year. By 2046, with our increasing population, the forecast medium demand is around 525,000 million litres a year. With all South East Queensland water grid assets available and operating (including the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme), our region's bulk water system can supply about 440,000 million litres a year.

NEW WATER SOURCES NEEDED

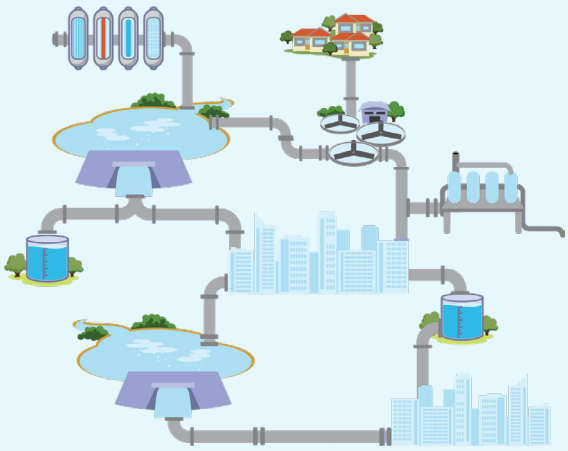
Our bulk water supply system meets our region's current needs but in the future new sources and upgrades will be required to meet the needs of our growing population, expected to reach 5.1 million by 2046. The next new source is expected to be needed on the Sunshine Coast before 2040. No single option, such as a new dam, desalination plant, rainwater tank or stormwater harvesting scheme, on their own, is likely to meet the region's needs. We will need a combination of options. In the future we will need to make trade-offs to make the right choices for South East Queensland.

WHAT WE'RE DOING NOW

FUTURE UPGRADE FOR LOWOOD WTP

The primary supply source for the Lowood water treatment plant is the Brisbane River, downstream of Wivenhoe Dam. Releases from Wivenhoe Dam ensure that flows in Brisbane River are always available. The supply to Lowood WTP is therefore dependent on Wivenhoe Dam. The Brisbane River will remain the supply source out to 2046.

No new sources are required although augmentations will be required to the Lowood WTP over the 30 year horizon. Demand is forecasted to grow to 5,900 ML/annum. The Lowood water treatment plant can currently produce about 16 ML/day or about 2,700 ML per annum. The Lowood WTP will be upgraded sometime in the next few years so it can supply 35 ML/day or 12,700 ML/annum.



IMPROVING THE WATER GRID

Without the water grid, the system could only supply about 355,000 million litres of water a year. By boosting the yield of the system, the grid helps delay the need for additional water supply infrastructure. Although off-grid communities are not directly connected to the water grid, they are dependent on the water grid as a source for water carting during severe droughts and short-term water supply disruptions.

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WATER WISE TIPS

Water is a precious resource and South East Queenslanders are encouraged to be water efficient all the time.

Water outside before 8am and after 4pm
If you water in the heat of the day, you can lose up to 50% of the water to evaporation.

Check for leaks
You can lose thousands of litres of water a day without even knowing it due to underground leaks. Use your water meter to check for leaks at home and in your irrigation system.

Use a good mulch
A good mulch will help your plants retain water through the scorching summer days and reduce weeds that compete for water.

Use your pool cover
Pool covers reduce evaporation by about 90%.

Check how much water you use
Do you really know how much water you use? Use a water audit tool (there is one on on our website) to calculate where you're using water and opportunities to make savings.

Take shorter showers
Shave a couple of minutes off your regular shower time to save water.

Turn off the tap
Half fill the sink instead of leaving the tap running to wash fruit and vegetables, and turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.

DROUGHT RESPONSE PLAN

We have introduced a drought readiness phase to better prepare the region for the prospect of drought. Drought response actions are linked to the combined volumes of our region's water storages.

Drought readiness messaging begins when storage levels reach 70%. Voluntary water conservation will commence at 60% as increased production at the desalination plant. We'll also begin restarting our purified recycled water treatment plants. Mandatory water restrictions will commence at 50%.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

More information is available at our Realities of Rain hub at
https://yourseqwater.com.au/realities-of-rain

You can also subscribe to our email newsletter to stay up to date with news and events.

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