

# Fitzroy to Gladstone Pipeline



## Construction Update

**October 2023**

### July – September 2023 completed activities

- ✔ Approval of temporary workforce accommodation camp in Gracemere.
- ✔ Commencement of preparation, clearing and grading works for the temporary workers accommodation camp in Gracemere.
- ✔ Commencement of clearing and grading works in the northern end of the pipeline corridor.
- ✔ McConnell Dowell BMD Joint Venture (MBJV) attendance at the Port Curtis Coral Coast (PCCC) Trust 2023 Dorrie Day (First Nations Career Day).
- ✔ Community Information Sessions held at Gracemere Shoppingworld.
- ✔ Commencement and completion of preparative works to prepare the site and create access for pipe laying in the southern pipeline corridor.
- ✔ 3.5 kilometres of pipe laid through the northern pipeline corridor.
- ✔ 800 metres of pipe laid through the Wetland Protection Areas near Rockhampton.
- ✔ Commencement of pipe laying through the northern boundary of the Stanwell to Gladstone Infrastructure Corridor (SGIC) State Development Area.
- ✔ 65 tonne Bucket Wheel Trencher arrived at site and operational.
- ✔ First four trainees began work.

### Upcoming activities to commence in the next quarter:

- Expected commencement of roadworks on Ridglands Road.
- Site establishment work at the Water Treatment Plant in Alton Downs and the Reservoir Site in Aldoga.
- Completion of workers accommodation camp in Gracemere.
- Commencement of major construction in northern pipeline corridor.
- 115 tonne Chainsaw Trencher (for hard ground) to arrive at site.
- Expected completion of pipe laying at the northern end of the pipeline corridor.
- Continued local procurement and engagement of subcontractors.



### First pipes in Wetland Protection Areas

Fitzroy to Gladstone Pipeline (FGP) achieved a major milestone on 11 September with the start of pipe laying through two Wetland Protection Areas (WPAs). The FGP corridor runs through seven WPAs and construction within these areas must be completed during the dry season (May-September). As such, the remaining five WPAs will be completed during the dry season next year. As of the end of September, more than 3.5 kilometres of pipe has been laid.

Site establishment work at the Alton Downs Water Treatment Plant and Aldoga Reservoir are expected to commence in late October. Construction between Alton Downs and Bajool in the northern corridor is expected to be completed by end of 2023, weather and construction conditions permitting.

Preparative works, including geotechnical investigations and cultural heritage clearances are taking place at the southern end of the pipeline corridor, near Gladstone, with major construction works expected to begin in early 2024.

## Gracemere workers accommodation camp

To prevent additional pressure on the local rental market, a temporary workers accommodation facility in Gracemere will be constructed. The plans for the facility were approved by Rockhampton Regional Council in August 2023. Early works at the site, including clearing and grading, began in September 2023, with completion expected by late December 2023

The accommodation facility will house up to 200 people and the facility will include a reception, office, kitchen, dining area, bedrooms and amenities, gym, laundry, storage and medical room. There will also be a warehouse with laydown and washdown areas, and a vehicle workshop for minor repairs.

The accommodation facility, warehouse and vehicle workshop will be used throughout the duration of FGP construction. Once work on the FGP is completed, the site will be returned to its pre-existing condition.

## Local spend and content

### Austrack SafeVac SV400

The pinnacle of vacuum lifting technology has been employed on the Fitzroy to Gladstone Pipeline, as a measure to further enhance safety and productivity on this project.



The brand new SafeVac SV400 model from Austrack Equipment Pty Ltd can safely lift and manoeuvre the mild steel cement lined pipes from the trucks into the laydown site. The SafeVac SV400 was designed and manufactured locally in Queensland and a few of its impressive features include:

- exceeds Australian safety and performance standards
- improved lifting capacity and visibility by removing tank and pump unit to the back of the excavator
- large in-cabin control screen to improve overall operator control and system safety
- large hi torque rotator for enhanced operator control
- timed sequence dual action buttons for pipe latch and release built into joystick to increase productivity
- vacuum latch/release valve situated for instantaneous vacuum latch and release
- over rotation warning to prevent pipe contacting the excavator.

## Local spend

The FGP team are committed to creating a lasting legacy in the Central Queensland region. To help achieve this, GAWB and MBJV have committed to local spend targets to support businesses in the region. A total spend of \$90 million has been allocated for the Gladstone and Rockhampton region. As of the end of September 2023, \$26.9 million has been spent within the Gladstone and Rockhampton region, and a further \$42.1 million spent within Queensland.



## Suppliers and equipment

### Bucket wheel trencher

How's this for some heavy machinery? This is the Trenchor T1360 Mechanical Drive Wheel Trencher, weighing a whopping 65 tonnes. This trencher arrived on site in September 2023 and was crucial in kick-starting pipe laying works through the wetland protection areas near Rockhampton. Wheel trenchers have a large, toothed metal wheel on the front that can cut through soil at varying depths, while simultaneously pushing excavated materials to the side using spacers and ejectors.



## Community

### Gracemere community information sessions



Representatives from Gladstone Area Water Board and our Principal Contractor, MBJV, were at Gracemere Shoppingworld between Thursday 17 and Saturday 19 August, to update the broader community about the FGP, facilities and infrastructure, and construction activities ahead of construction beginning at the northern end of the pipeline corridor.

Over the three days, the team engaged with more than 160 local community members. The most commonly asked questions were around job and supply opportunities and general information about the FGP.



## Port Curtis Coral Coast Trust Dorrie Day

We are committed to delivering the Fitzroy to Gladstone Pipeline construction phase with a diverse and inclusive workforce. We are targeting to spend approximately \$10 million with suppliers and businesses owned by First Nations Australians. We expect to achieve 10,000 hours of total working hours undertaken by First Nations Australians.



As part of our commitment to First Nations engagement, MBJV represented the FGP team with a stall at the 2023 Port Curtis Coral Coast Dorrie Day on 3 August. Dorrie Day is a careers day for First Nations Australians to become engaged with businesses and organisations from Gladstone and the surrounding regions. The aim is for First Nations Australians to understand the positions and careers available to them. The event had an enthusiastic turnout of First Nations job seekers and students from across Gladstone.



## First FGP trainees

We are committed to creating a lasting, positive legacy within Central Queensland through the provision of safe, reliable water. This commitment is shared with FGP Principal Contractor, MBJV. A significant component of this legacy building will be job creation and upskilling of the next generation.

Throughout construction of the FGP, our team are supporting more than 25 apprenticeships and traineeships and providing more than 10,000 hours of training. In exciting news, our first four FGP trainees will start onsite in early October!



## MBJV help QFES with fire at Alton Downs

In a heartening display of community support, the MBJV demonstrated exceptional teamwork in August after a fire broke out on Harding Road in Alton Downs, attributed to a campfire drum on a nearby property. Strong winds added to the difficulties of containing the fire by emergency service crews. Craig Cassidy, MBJV Senior Health and Safety Advisor, responded swiftly and the MBJV team were quickly stationed at the command post with a truck carrying 1,200 litres of water. The additional water supply helped Queensland Fire and Emergency Services to effectively contain the blaze.

## Fitzroy to Gladstone Pipeline Benefits

Benefits of the FGP include:

- Continuous operations of Gladstone's industry
- Water security and reliability
- More than 400 jobs at the peak of construction
- Contributing to the growth of the Queensland economy
- More than 40% of construction costs to be spent locally throughout project delivery
- More than 10,000 hours of training to the delivery team
- More than 25 apprenticeships and traineeships
- Target spend of \$10 million with suppliers and businesses owned by First Nations Australians
- Target of 10,000 hours for First Nations Australians workforce participation
- Commitment to delivering the FGP with a diverse and inclusive workforce

## About the pipeline

The Fitzroy to Gladstone Pipeline (FGP) is a \$983 million project to address the single source water supply risk from Awoonga Dam and enable long-term water security for GAWB's customers.



The 117-kilometre pipeline will run from the Lower Fitzroy River in Rockhampton and connect to Gladstone Area Water Board's existing water network at Yarwun. The pipeline comprises a water treatment plant, reservoirs and pumping stations at locations along its alignment including Laurel Bank, Alton Downs and Aldoga.

The FGP will have the capacity to transport 30 gigalitres per annum from the Fitzroy River to Gladstone. The pipeline is designed to be efficiently retrofitted with additional infrastructure to enable bi-directional flow in the future.

McConnell Dowell BMD Group Joint Venture (MBJV) has been contracted to construct the FGP, and once constructed, the FGP and associated infrastructure will continue to be owned and managed by the Gladstone Area Water Board.

The Fitzroy to Gladstone Pipeline is a Queensland Government funded project, delivered by the Gladstone Area Water Board.

## About GAWB

Gladstone Area Water Board (GAWB) was established in 1973 as a Project Board under the State and Regional Planning and Development, Public Works Organisation and Environmental Control Act 1971-73 (Qld). On 1 October 2000, GAWB commenced operations as a Category 1 Water Authority under the Water Act 2000 (Qld) (Water Act) and on 1 July 2008, GAWB became a registered service provider under the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008 (Qld).

GAWB owns and operates Awoonga Dam on the Boyne River, along with a network of delivery pipelines, water treatment plants and other bulk water infrastructure required to service our customer base. We play an important role in the region and contribute to the economic growth and prosperity of the State by providing one of the essential inputs, water, to a number of large multi-billion-dollar industries that are located in Gladstone.

## Fitzroy to Gladstone Pipeline enquiries

For any project related enquiries please contact our team:

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