



Australian Government



Water for the Future

# Bega to Yellow Pinch Dam Water Transfer Pipeline – General Facts

## Objective of the project

The Bega to Yellow Pinch Water Transfer Pipeline is being developed by the NSW Department of Commerce, in collaboration with the Bega Valley Shire Council. The main objective of the project is to improve the security of the Tantawangalo-Kiah water supply system that supplies the urban areas in the southern region of the Bega Valley. The Tantawangalo-Kiah Water System comprises:

- Two water sources – Tantawangalo Creek and the Kiah Bore field on Towamba River
- Two Storage Dams – Yellow Pinch Dam (3000 ML) and Ben Boyd Dam (780 ML)

In 1995, a study of the secure yield of the Tantawangalo-Kiah Water System that supplies Candelo, Wolumla, Merimbula, Tura Beach, Pambula and Pambula Beach, was conducted by the NSW Department of Commerce (DoC). It was determined that the current supply is lower than the assessed current demand. A pipeline connecting the Bega River bore field to the Tantawangalo-Kiah Water System was determined to be the most effective way of providing security to this water supply.

## Location of the infrastructure

The Bega to Yellow Pinch water transfer pipeline will be located between the existing South Bega Reservoir and the Yellow Pinch Dam. The pipeline will be approximately 19.8 kilometres in length; the majority of the pipeline will follow the Princes Highway and be located within the road reserve.

In some areas the pipeline will be routed through private property, generally following previous service delivery easements (such as the Telstra fibre optic cable easement or the Country Energy power line easement). Where located on private property, meetings will be held with landowners to ensure they are compensated for the use of their land and to discuss any site-specific issues.

## Project specifics

The pipeline diameter will be 450mm, constructed out of PN35 (pressure class) ductile iron cement lined material. Along the length of the pipeline, there will be one air vent stack and approximately 45 air valves located at high points, required to release air pressure that may build up within the pipeline. There will also be approximately 41 scour valves located at low points which are required to drain water out of the pipeline. Scour valves will be enclosed in pits within buried concrete housings 1-1.2 metres in diameter with a steel plated covering. These scour valves will also have associated erosion controls to minimise the impact of water pressure when water is released from the pipeline.



A pumping station will be built adjacent to the two existing reservoirs at South Bega, and will be approximately 10 metres by 36 metres in area, with a surrounding cleared area approximately 50 metres by 60 metres. The Bega balance tank will measure 10.5 metres in diameter and 6 metres in height with a capacity of 0.5ML.

### Impacts on the community

An environmental assessment was commissioned by the NSW Department of Commerce, on behalf of Bega Valley Shire Council. It identified potential adverse impacts associated with the Bega to Yellow Pinch Water Transfer Pipeline and recommended measures to manage these impacts.

The assessment concluded that the proposal would involve localised, short-term disturbance to soils, temporary and permanent impacts to vegetation and animal habitat and temporary impacts to social values and economic activities on the pipeline route. A series of fact sheets have been prepared to outline these impact areas (detailed below).

nghenvironmental, a local environmental consultancy, have been engaged by the Department of Commerce and the Bega Valley Shire Council, to assist in providing information about the project, to engage and to collate feedback from the community. While the pipeline route has already been determined, it is important for the community to be informed and have input where possible. Accordingly, the community engagement process will focus on areas where the community can contribute to the project.

Additional information can be obtained by contacting Joshua Wellington of nghenvironmental

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#### **FACT SHEET 1: General Facts** (this Fact Sheet)

Objective of the project, location of the infrastructure, project specifics and impacts on the community

#### **FACT SHEET 2: Easement Agreements**

Process of negotiations with private landowners, applicable legislation

#### **FACT SHEET 3: Community Impacts**

Private farmland impacts, broader community impacts and measures to reduce impacts

#### **FACT SHEET 4: Native Animal Impacts**

Regional values, habitat values, potential impacts and measures to reduce impacts

#### **FACT SHEET 5: Native Plant Impacts**

Regional values, local values and threats, potential impacts of pipeline and measures to reduce impacts

#### **FACT SHEET 6: Noise and Vibration Impacts**

Residential values, potential impacts and measures to reduce impacts

#### **FACT SHEET 7: Soil and Water Impacts**

Soils: potential impacts of pipeline and measures to reduce impacts. Water: catchment areas, water course values, potential impacts of pipeline and measures to reduce impacts

