

PROJECT UPDATE

Cooroy Sewage Treatment Plant Upgrade

AUGUST 2011

Creating a larger capacity, more environmentally-friendly STP

Unitywater has requested tenders from previously qualified Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) participants for the construction of the Cooroy Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) Upgrade.

This project is a \$15.6 million investment from Unitywater to manage the increasing volume of wastewater being generated in the Cooroy and Pomona catchment.

The new plant will be constructed beside the existing facility and will ensure treatment of sewage to a higher environmental standard, significantly reducing the impact on the environment.

The upgrade is part of Unitywater's commitment to protecting the environment and providing a quality, reliable sewage treatment service to Sunshine Coast residents.

Project Background

The existing Cooroy STP has been in service for 40 years and was upgraded in 1973, 1989 and 1996.

A detailed planning report undertaken in 2009 by engineering firm GHD confirmed the need to upgrade the STP to cater for anticipated population growth in the surrounding area and to improve treatment standards.

Fast Facts

Location	17 Mary River Road, Cooroy
Supplier	Unitywater; Montgomery Watson & Harza (MWH); and A construction partner yet to be appointed.
Construction	Expected to commence November 2011
Completion	Operations expected to commence October 2012
Funding	\$15.6 million

Benefits

The upgrade will provide a number of benefits for the environment and for nearby residents, due to:

- increased treatment capacity to cater for increasing population in the area, till 2026 at least;
- improved treatment standards to better protect the environment;
- minimisation of odour emissions by covering the necessary tanks and installing the latest in odour control technology; and
- reduction of operational noise levels.

Site Activity Update

Pre-construction works: As part of the STP upgrade, a small area of non-remnant vegetation adjacent to the existing plant was cleared and fenced, with all necessary measures taken to protect the environment during vegetation clearing.

This work was approved by Sunshine Coast Regional Council, and a wildlife expert was on site during the clearing to ensure that no native animals were harmed. Woodchips from the cleared vegetation were stockpiled and will be reused on site, so nothing goes to waste.

Relocation: Unitywater has worked with Sunshine Coast Regional Council and locals to ensure neighbouring community groups, the Camphor Laurel Timber Initiative and the Cooroora Wood Workers Club, can continue their activities. These groups have been relocated to a larger site nearby.

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How does a Sewage Treatment Plant work?

Sewage - which includes waste from your toilet, sink, shower, bath, dishwasher and washing machine - goes on quite a journey when it leaves your home. It travels through a series of pipelines and pumping stations before reaching one of 18 sewage treatment stations in the Unitywater service area.

Screening

Larger solids are sieved from the wastewater. These solids are sent to landfill while the sewage continues on to the next stage.

Nutrient removal and biological treatment

Naturally occurring organisms feed on the nutrients in the wastewater in a tank called a bioreactor, removing nitrogen and other organic contaminants.

Clarification

The wastewater is transferred to clarifiers to remove fine particles. Micro-organisms assist in this process, and a clear layer of treated wastewater flows through to the next stage.

Disinfection

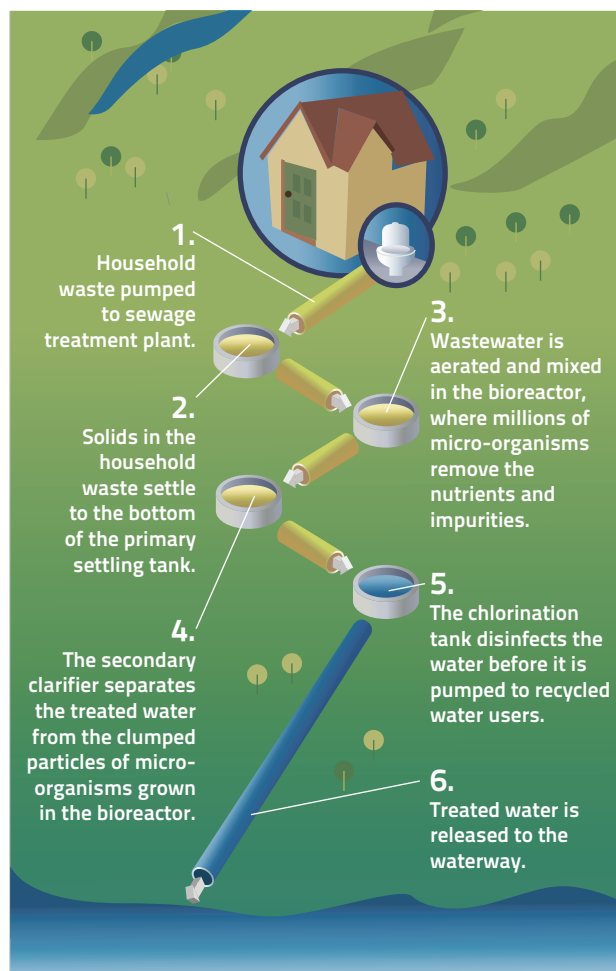
The treated water is then disinfected using liquid chlorine solution and released into Cooroy Creek as recycled water.

Solids Treatment

Treated solids are transported to Noosa STP for further treatment and finally for reuse on agricultural land.

Odour treatment

Odour is captured from various stages of the treatment process and piped through an odour filter before releasing the cleaned air.



For more information

- Visit www.unitywater.com/Cooroy
- Email community@unitywater.com
- Phone Unitywater's Customer Service Centre on **1300 0 UNITY** (1300 086 489) from a landline for the cost of a local call. Standard mobile phone call charges apply.