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Tasmanian  
Irrigation

## Greater South East Irrigation Scheme

Andrew Pattle, Project Director



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### March 2026

Hi everyone,

It's been a great start to 2026 for the Greater South East Irrigation Scheme.

Tasmanian Irrigation is moving forward on a broad front with the design of the project. We have formed a blended technical team between engineers from Tasmanian Irrigation and Pinion Advisory to harness our collective strengths for the design of the project. The technical team has been busy over the spring and summer period, checking the proposed route of the pipeline, and seeking to minimise impacts on landowners, the natural environment and heritage values.

As you can imagine, it's a balancing act to try to get this right, while also meeting cost and time constraints for the delivery of the project. Shortly, we will be sharing the proposed pipeline routes with affected landowners and the wider community, seeking feedback.

We have also been busy recruiting new staff and replacing retiring team members to ensure we are well positioned to drive the project forward. Read more below about new and departing team members.

A key element of the project is the Meadowbank pump station that supplies all the water for the project. As its name suggests, it is located on the shore of Lake Meadowbank, in an inlet of the lake near the Meadowbank Dam. We are currently working with Hydro Tasmania and the adjacent private landowner on siting and design of the pump station.

Looking to the future, a key activity is to progress the environmental studies needed to support approval of the project under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999*. We will also be finalising the scheme design to reflect current and expected future water sales.

Please reach out any time if you require additional information about the Greater South East Irrigation Scheme.



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*Figure 1 – Project Director Andrew Pattle views a cave in the project footprint. Our First Nations consultant believes Aboriginal people would have used the cave. This is one of many sites that we will protect as part of the development of the project.*

# Project stages

## Phase 1 - Prefeasibility

(12 to 18 months)



## Phase 2 - Feasibility

(12 to 18 months)



## Phase 3 - Approvals & Design

(24 to 30 months)



Complete detailed design



Agree land access arrangements with landholders for construction



Community engagement



Secure regulatory approvals



Tender process for materials and construction contracts



Final State Government approval for construction

## Phase 4 - Construction & Commissioning

(18 to 30 months)



## Phase 5 - Close-out

(6 to 18 months)



## Project Fast Facts

Capital cost	\$301 million
Scheme capacity	37,200 megalitres
Number of irrigators	375
Km of pipeline	160
Pump stations	4
Estimated no. jobs created during construction	225
Estimated no. ongoing jobs created	468
Estimated total net economic benefit to Tasmania	\$291 million
Estimated construction commencement	2028
Estimated first water	Mid 2030

The GSEIS is funded by the Australian Government (\$150 million), the Tasmanian Government (\$75 million) and irrigators through the purchase of water entitlements (\$75 million).

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## Building the Right Project Team

Tasmanian Irrigation continues to build the team responsible for delivering the Greater South East Irrigation Scheme, recognising that projects of this scale require the right mix of experience, capability and perspectives.

Recent additions, including Project Officer Ayla Richardson and Project Communication and Engagement Manager Tracey Taylor, bring new skills that will support the project as it moves through design, planning and engagement with landowners and communities. At the same time, the project team has farewelled valued contributors Lorrienne Lyte and Liesa Kennedy, who played important roles guiding the project through its early stages.

Read more about our GSEIS recruitment here: [Building the Right Team for the GSEIS - Tasmanian Irrigation](#)

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## Water Sales

Anyone interested in purchasing winter or summer water on the Greater South East Irrigation Scheme should contact Andrew Pattle on 0417 750 307 or [andrew.pattle@tasirrigation.com.au](mailto:andrew.pattle@tasirrigation.com.au)



*Figure 2 – GSEIS consultants, Liam Guest and Fiona Walsh surveying the proposed pipeline corridor.*

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## Farm Water Access Plans

Many of you will be aware that water supplied by Tasmanian Irrigation may only be applied to land and stored in dams that are covered by an approved Farm Water Access Plan (Farm WAP).

Existing South East Stage Three (Sorell) irrigators already have Farm WAPs in place. These plans will be reviewed, updated for the new water required and transitioned to an updated template.

New Tasmanian Irrigation customers, and those converting from South East Stage One and Stage Two, will be required to prepare a Farm WAP. This ensures irrigation water is managed sustainably and in accordance with both Australian and Tasmanian Government requirements. Tasmanian Irrigation will provide guidance and support throughout the process.

Please visit [www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au/farm-waps](http://www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au/farm-waps) to learn more about Farm WAPs, including why they are required, and to review the frequently asked questions.

If you require further information, please contact [farmwap@tasirrigation.com.au](mailto:farmwap@tasirrigation.com.au). TI's Environmental Services team will provide further detail as the rollout progresses, closer to construction time.

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# Key Project Contacts

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*The Greater South East Irrigation Scheme project is jointly funded by the Australian and Tasmanian Governments, and delivered in partnership with Tasmanian Irrigation. Australian Government funding is provided through the National Water Grid Fund.*



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