

PROJECT UPDATE

Greater South East Irrigation Scheme



Dear Irrigators,

I am pleased to announce a significant milestone in the Greater South East Irrigation Scheme (GSEIS) project with the appointment of Andrew Pattle as Project Director. This leadership transition represents a natural evolution as the project continues to move from its foundational development phase and into detailed design. You can read more about Andrew below.



Lorrienne Lyte has guided the GSEIS since 2021, successfully steering the project through critical early phases including comprehensive feasibility studies, robust business case development, and securing essential public funding approvals.

To ensure seamless continuity and maintain the strong momentum we have built, Lorrienne will continue serving as Project Manager for the design and stakeholder streams. This approach allows us to preserve institutional knowledge, maintain stakeholder relationships, and ensure all project workstreams continue without interruption.

Andrew brings extensive project management experience in the dams and hydro sector, most recently with Hydro Tasmania. His appointment reflects Tasmanian Irrigation's commitment to delivering this transformative project with the highest level of professional leadership.



Progress update

Since government funding commitments were [achieved in late 2024](#), Tasmanian Irrigation has made progress on delivering the GSEIS and the 32,220 ML of new water it will bring to one of the driest regions in the state, supporting farm diversification, productivity, and long-term resilience.

Planning & design

- Approximately 98 per cent of the proposed pipeline alignment has been assessed for environmental and heritage values. Further work will need to be done as the alignment is refined.
- The detailed design phase has commenced. This includes defining the construction corridor and surveying the temporary construction access, laydown and stockpile areas.

Stakeholder engagement

- Landholder liaison continues with more than 400 landholders across the alignment.

- Engagement is being undertaken with additional landowners for areas of the alignment that have been adjusted following field assessments and water sales.
- We continue to work closely with farmers and the broader community as we commence detailed design.
- We thank everyone for their support to date and look forward to working collaboratively as the project progresses.

Regulatory & compliance

Environmental



Most flora species are more easily identified in spring when they flower, so there is a window each year to carry out these surveys as we refine and adjust the pipeline alignment. During this time:

- We undertake field ecological assessments to identify species present along the proposed alignment.
- We review the findings and take active steps to avoid or mitigate impacts to the environment.
- These studies will form part of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conversation (EPBC) Act* referral application.

Cultural heritage

We are committed to minimising the project's impact on cultural heritage and field assessments are ongoing, with the alignment adjusted to avoid heritage values as much as possible. We will also be undertaking extensive community consultation as the project progresses.

Financials

Approximately 75 additional water sales applications have now been accepted or conditionally accepted, with notifications mailed out in late August.

- This brings our accepted water sales applications up to 435 total. Note that all accepted applications from the first round of water sales are still current.
 - A further 15 second round applications have been extended to the end of November, as the costed options to include those applications are under review. Decisions on which applications can be accepted will inform the final design of the scheme.
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People Spotlight: Andrew Pattle, Project Director

I've spent nearly four decades in water infrastructure, specialising in dams and hydroelectric power, and managing large-scale international developments and major facility refurbishments.



Based in Hobart since 1996, I've built strong partnerships throughout the state's water infrastructure network while maintaining a global perspective.

My experience spans the complete project lifecycle - from hands-on construction supervision to developing dam safety programs and leading multi-disciplinary teams. I

particularly enjoy the community engagement aspect, working with local stakeholders and navigating environmental approvals to ensure projects benefit everyone.

I'm excited to join Tasmanian Irrigation on the Greater South East Irrigation Scheme. The opportunity to transform irrigation infrastructure across the greater south-east region is a once-in-a-career experience, and I look forward to working with the talented team to bring this vision to life.



Key project contacts

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Timeline

- Construction start: Early 2028
- Commissioning: Mid 2030
- First irrigation season: October 2030



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.

*Total Project Cost: \$301 million
Federal Government Funding commitment: \$150 million
State Government Funding commitment: \$75 million
Irrigator contribution, through the purchase of water entitlements*



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