Coliban WATER

Gunbower Upgrade
WATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT

Update 01
August 2011

Water Treatment Plant Upgrade

Above: Works at Gunbower Water Treatment Plant, July 2011.

Project background

In 2008, we had planned to increase the treatment capacity at the Leitchville Water Treatment Plant in order to service both Gunbower and Leitchville townships via the construction of a nine kiliometre pipeline to connect the two sites. The Gunbower Water Treatment Plant was then to be de-commissioned.

Following feedback from a community open day and the decision by a major water customer in Leitchville to cease operations, the project was revisited, with a decision made to upgrade both sites instead.

New upgrade project

We are underaking a major upgrade at both the Gunbower and Leitchville Water Treatment Plants. These works will improve water reliability, treatment and broader operational flexibility for both systems. We are also rectifying a number of occupational health and safety concerns that have been identified at each site.

Both plants are old, with the Gunbower plant built in 1994. The treatment systems are dated and the infrastructure aged. Upgrading both sites is more cost effective than the originally proposed project in 2008. The overall total project cost is $13.1million, with $4.1 million to be spent on the Gunbower project.

At the Gunbower Water Treatment Plant we will be installing a more robust treatment system which will allow us to better handle the variability in the raw water supply that is experienced throughout the year.

Timeline

Earthworks commenced last month which included the removal and filling of existing lagoons on site to accommodate the new treatment plant components. Installation works for the new treatment components at the plant will commence next month.

Leitchville upgrade works will be running in parallel to this project, with works commencing at the end of next month. The Gunbower project is expected to be completed and operational by the end of this year, with Leitchville completed in early 2012.

Benefits

The water treatment processes on site will be improved, which will provide a more reliable water supply for customers. Water quality will also be improved with greater management of the fluctuating raw water quality.

Customer impacts

Water supply will not be impacted during the course of the project. There may be some variations to water pressure, colour and taste whilst the new infrastructure is commissioned, however the water supply will remain safe to drink and these variations will be limited.

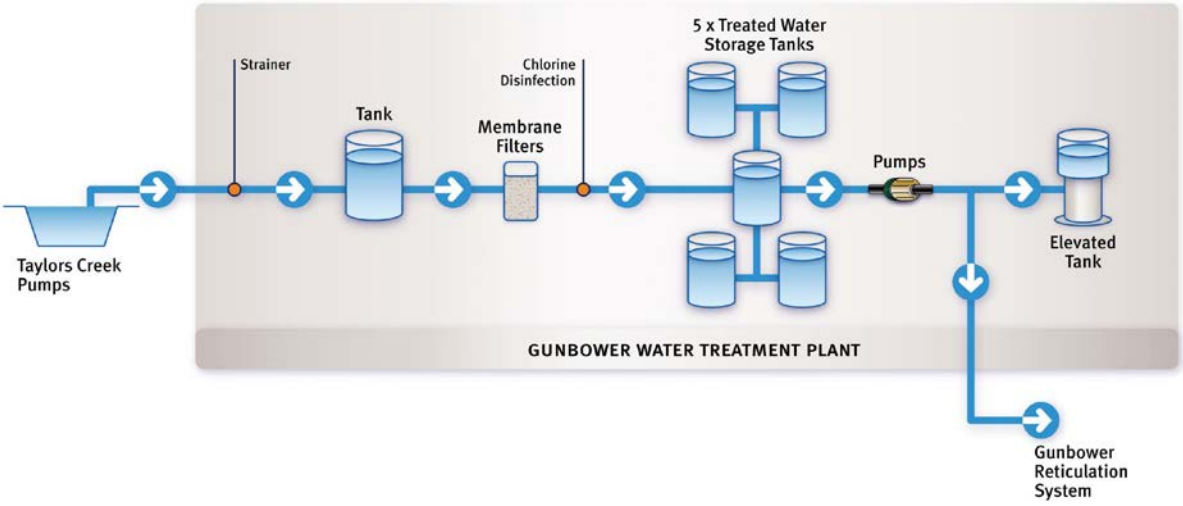
Feedback

We will continue to update you directly and in local newspapers as the project progresses. If you have any questions or feedback to provide, please contact us on 1300 363 200 or email coliban@coliban.com.au

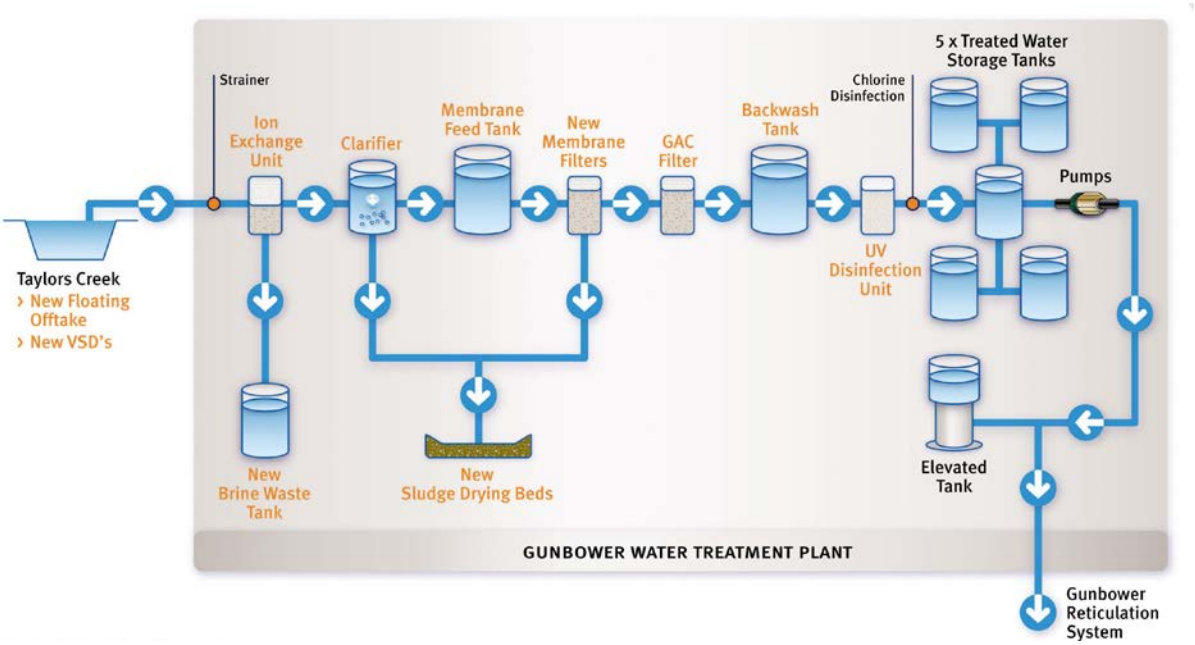
For more information about the project, please call our Customer Contact Centre on 1300 363 200 or e-mail your question to coliban@coliban.com.au

A dedicated project web page has been developed to provide the latest information on construction. Click on the link to “Major Projects” at www.coliban.com.au

Gunbower Water Treatment Plant – Before the upgrade



Gunbower Water Treatment Plant – After the upgrade



Definitions:

VSD means pumps that are controlled by Variable Speed Drives. These enable the flow rates from the two pump stations to be varied and better controlled which assists the overall operation of the treatment plant.

Ion Exchange Unit pre-treats the water to assist with removing organic materials from the raw water supply.

GAC Filter stands for Granular Activated Carbon filters which removes taste and odours from the water supply.