Frequently Asked Questions

Caloundra & Mountain Creek to Kawana Sewerage Pipeline Projects

March 17

Project

1. When will construction take place in my area?

If you are a resident or business owner located within 70 metres of one of our construction sites, you will receive a works notification at least four days prior to works commencing. If you subscribe to receive SMS or email via www.pdgroup.com.au/unitywater, you will be updated on works commenced and completed.

2. Are you working at night and on public holidays?

Working hours are Monday to Sunday, 7am to 6pm. If we are required to complete unscheduled works outside of these hours, prior approval will be sought and the community notified if practical to do so.

3. Are you removing trees?

We endeavour to preserve trees and the native vegetation wherever possible, however in certain areas removal is necessary. In consultation with the land owner, any trees removed will either be retained and maintained, replaced with another suitable tree as determined by council arborist, or compensated in the form of offset planting. With 81% of these projects being completed using trenchless methods, we have significantly reduced the amount of vegetation removed compared to that required for projects employing traditional open cut trenching methods.

4. What is being constructed?

Mountain Creek to Kawana: A new sewerage main which involves the installation of new connections to existing rising mains and sewage pump stations, leading to the Kawana Sewage Treatment Plant.

Caloundra: A new sewerage main 2.5 kilometres from the existing sewage pumping station near the Caloundra Road and Nicklin Way roundabout.

5. Why do we need a new sewerage main?

A new sewerage main offers the community numerous benefits including:

- A more efficient system reducing overall maintenance costs
- Alleviating the incidence and severity of overflows during extreme wet weather events
- Tying in with current major developments in Kawana and Caloundra
- Addressing odour and corrosion issues within the existing, ageing sewerage mains.

6. What measures will be put in place to reduce disruption to my area?

Nearest to site, Pipeline Drillers put measures in place as required and in accordance with the Queensland Environmental Protection Act (1994) to minimise noise and vibration disturbance. These include sound barriers, road traffic control and pedestrian management.

7. How do I speak with someone about the project?

The project's Communications Manager Melissa Soutar, can be contacted on 0428 556 958 or by email to melissa@pdgroup.com.au. Alternatively, a feedback or enquiry form can be submitted at www.pdgroup.com.au/unitywater

Pipeline drillers Unitywater

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General

1. Am I likely to have my water, electricity or other services disconnected for any period of time?

No, we will make every effort to ensure you and all of our local residents and business owners go about your day unaffected by the works. If for some unexpected reason a shutdown is required, you will be advised at the earliest time possible.

2. Will the roadways in my area be affected?

Within proximity to any construction site there will be times where reduced speeds and traffic control is required. Signage will be in place on any approach roads where change is unavoidable.

3. Do you have all the mandatory approvals and permits required to undertake works?

Yes, each project and stage of works to be undertaken is approved by Unitywater, Sunshine Coast Regional Council, and Department of Transport and Main Roads. Certain works require additional approval and/or a permit from relevant government bodies including the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection.

Drilling

1. What is Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD)?

HDD is a steerable trenchless method of installing underground pipes, conduits, and cables in a shallow arc along a prescribed bore path by using a surface launched drilling rig. This type of drilling is low impact on the community and landscape due to its small surface footprint taken up by the drill site.

2. How far underground do you drill?

When drilling, we can reach depths of 15 to 35 metres.

3. What kind of ground are you drilling in?

Ground conditions vary and can be any individual type, or combination of sand, marine mud, clay, rock, basalt. Caloundra ground conditions is typically sandstone rock, while Kawana ground conditions typically include sand, silt, clay and some minor rock sections.

4. How do you steer during the drilling of the pilot hole?

We locate and record the drills position by monitoring an electromagnetic signal transmitted from a sonde instrument mounted on a drill head to a locator on the surface, or by a wireline or wireless non-walkover system.

5. What is the pipe being installed, and why can I see it in other locations?

The product pipe is a high-density polyethylene (HDPE) used for conveyance of sewerage. This pipe has a heavy wall thickness for longevity, ensuring it does not corrode or become brittle. Pipe stations are located near site to store, weld and lay out string ready to be pulled into the bore. You may see these black and cream-striped (to indicate sewerage), 900mm diameter pipelines strung out along either side of Kawana Way and at the southern end of Nicklin Way.

6. What is microtunnelling?

Is a pit launched pipe jacking method of installing pipes using a remote-control microtunnelling machine. Microtunnelling will be used to install pipe under Kawana Way just north of Wyuna Canal.