

Petrie Water Supply Upgrade

FAQs

Who will benefit from the upgrade?

About 100,000 residents in the Moreton Bay region will be connected to the South East Queensland Water Grid for the first time. People living in Dakabin, North Lakes, Mango Hill, Kallangur, Murrumba Downs, Griffin, Petrie, Lawnton and Strathpine will be supplied with drinking water primarily sourced from North Pine Water Treatment Plant.

What is the SEQ Water Grid?

The SEQ Water Grid is an integrated network of pipelines that enable Seqwater to move water around the region to where it is needed the most.

Why can't the Petrie Water Treatment Plant be upgraded?

The Petrie Water Treatment Plant, which was built in the 1950s, underwent a condition assessment which determined the facility would need a substantial and costly refurbishment to continue safely servicing the community.

After considering a number of potential bulk water supply arrangements, it was determined that decommissioning the plant and connecting the scheme to the SEQ Water Grid was the most efficient and cost-effective solution.

The upgrade is a joint project between Seqwater and Unitywater and will involve four construction projects during the next few years, including construction of a 2.4 kilometre pipeline.

What will happen to the Petrie Water Treatment Plant once it has been decommissioned?

The plant will be permanently taken offline and the land it is built on will eventually be remediated. During this period, Seqwater will be investigating a number of feasible options for the land.

What does the upgrade involve?

The upgrade comprises four separate construction projects:

1. A pipeline to connect the Boundary Road Reservoir with the Northern Pipeline Interconnector.

2. A new pumping station and associated network configurations at the Petrie plant as well as pipework reconfigurations and decommissioning of the Kallangur Pumping Station.
3. A new water quality management facility at Boundary Road Reservoir.
4. Decommissioning of the Petrie Water Treatment Plant.

How long will the upgrade take?

Construction is due to begin in September 2016 and is expected to be complete at the end of 2017.

Will this upgrade have any impact on drinking water quality?

While some residents may notice a change in taste, the water supply remains very high quality. Unitywater conducts weekly testing of water supplies and must comply with the Water Supply Act and the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.

Will the upgrade affect water security in the region?

Connecting the affected residents to the water grid improves their water security.

Will the upgrade connect previously unconnected properties to the water supply?

No. The new pipeline will be engineered as a high pressure trunk supply main to connect the Northern Pipeline Interconnector with the reservoir and is not designed to supply nearby properties with water from the network.

What will happen to the staff currently working at the Petrie WTP?

Our water treatment staff operate a range of plants across the northern region and is not based at a single plant. Our existing staff will continue to work across the region.