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MEDIA RELEASE

SA WATER TO TRIAL HAPPY VALLEY SYSTEM CAPABILITY

This month SA Water will begin an infrastructure trial to test the capacity of an expanded Happy Valley water supply system.

SA Water Chief Operating Officer John Ringham says this operational trial aims to investigate and confirm the capabilities of an expanded Happy Valley water supply system to distribute a greater volume of water in the lead up to the Adelaide Desalination Plant coming on line.

“Once this trial is complete, we will have a better understanding of how much water can be transferred into the wider Happy Valley system which is a critical part of the metropolitan water supply network,” Mr Ringham says.

“The Hope Valley Water Treatment Plant will go off-line for part of the trial period.”

The trial will include:

- areas normally supplied filtered water from Hope Valley will be switched to receive water from the Happy Valley WTP;
- increased monitoring and sampling to identify effects on water quality and pressure; and
- proactive planning and rapid resolution where there are problems associated with turbid or discoloured water or pressure (identified as part of the trial).

“The trial will be undertaken for up to three-months and is essential to provide vital information about the our ability to transfer water using the current infrastructure,” Mr Ringham says.

“Every measure has been put in place to ensure there is minimal impact on customers during the trial. However, there is the possibility some people may notice a slight change to the colour, taste and smell of their water as the flow is reconfigured in some areas throughout our network.

“We have been in close consultation with the Department of Health while planning this trial and it is satisfied that the trial will not pose any risk to public health.

“We are also working closely with our metropolitan systems manager United Water, to ensure the trial runs smoothly and customer enquiries can continue to be managed.”

Public notices will be placed in local newspapers to inform the community of the trial.