

Wednesday, 18 November 2009

### **LOCAL KIDS NAME DESALINATION PLANT'S TUNNEL BORERS**

Minister for Water Security Minister Karlene Maywald today joined students from the Hallett Cove Primary School at the Adelaide Desalination Plant construction site to welcome the arrival of *Cora the Bora and Nessie* - two 150-tonne Tunnel Boring Machines.

Two grade 5 students from Hallett Cove R-12 School – Selena Spink and Ellie Jamieson – were the lucky winners of the ‘Name the Tunnel Boring Machine Competition’ recently run by SA Water and AdelaideAqua.

Hundreds of students from schools in Adelaide’s southern suburbs entered the competition.

The two \$15 million Tunnel Boring Machines are a vital part of the plant’s outfall and intake pipeline construction. Marine excavation works began this week with the arrival off the coast of Port Stanvac of the 2400-tonne Jack Up Barge, the Santa Fe.

“It’s exciting to be here to welcome these heavy weight tunnellers and join with some of our future water conservationists to give the bores their names,” Minister Maywald says.

“As part of the prize, the winning names – ‘*Cora the Bora*’ and ‘*Nessie*’ – have been printed on the machines.”

SA Water and AdelaideAqua will later this month begin work on carving tunnels under the seabed for the desalination plant’s intake and outfall pipelines.

“Ways to minimise impacts on the marine environment formed a large part of the environmental investigations undertaken at the start of this project,” Minister Maywald says.

“Using these two custom-built Tunnel Boring Machines will assist to limit the disturbance of the seabed because no large above-ground pipes will be required for the intake and outfall pipelines.

Minister Maywald says it’s great that young people are getting involved with water security projects.

“A big part of the Adelaide Desalination Project revolves around community and student education,” she says.

“This includes the temporary Visitors Centre at the ADP site, which allows groups to come and find out more about desalination.”

The Adelaide Desalination Project is well on the way to delivering the first desalinated water by the end of December 2010, on time and on budget.

