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100GL DESALINATION EXPANSION IN PUBLIC WORKS TODAY

A report outlining works required to double the capacity of the Adelaide Desalination Project from 50 to 100 GL is to be presented today to State Parliament's Public Works Committee by SA Water.

The 100GL plant, which has a total estimated capital expenditure of \$1.824 billion, includes augmentation for:

- Desalination plant works;
- Transfer pipeline system works;
- Network infrastructure and associated ETSA sub-station upgrade works; and
- Temporary site works, facilities and upgrades to site access infrastructure.

Minister for Water Security Karlene Maywald says some of the approvals required to forge ahead with the expansion are already in place as the initial approval processes for the construction of the 50GL plant took into account the possible augmentation to supply up to 100GL a year.

“Impacts on the community and the environment have been identified in the Environmental Impact Statement, which comprehensively considered the impacts and mitigation measures associated with the plant producing a possible 100GL a year.

“By doubling the capacity of the Adelaide Desalination Plant we can further enhance South Australia's water security by supplying up to half of Adelaide's annual water use and reducing our reliance on the River Murray.

“The recent announcement by the Commonwealth Government for a \$228 million injection to the expansion works is fantastic news, and the State Government is committed to matching those funds for the expansion.

“Under the ADP works program, we are on track to deliver first water from the 50GL plant by the end of December 2010 and work on the 100GL expansion will continue progressively until it reaches capacity by the end of 2012.”