

# Adelaide Desalination Project Fact Sheet

# WATER IS GOOD

## Marine Monitoring

While the Adelaide Desalination Plant will make fresh drinking water from seawater, it will also create saline concentrate. The concentrate will be dispersed offshore through a series of diffusers that are designed to rapidly mix the concentrate with seawater to enhance dilution and maintain as close as possible natural background salinity concentrations in the Gulf St Vincent.

A marine monitoring system has been installed around the diffusers to measure seawater salinity. Sensors will constantly monitor salinity, water temperature, and current velocity, and will provide real time data to AdelaideAqua Pty Ltd (the company contracted to operate and maintain the plant) via monitoring buoys offshore from Port Stanvac.

Once received, the data is transmitted to the 50GL Reverse Osmosis building, where it's integrated into a computer system that monitors and controls the plant's operations.

The monitoring system verifies the diffuser performance and will alert the plant's operators of any adverse trends close to the outfall location. In the unlikely event that salinity exceeds the levels stipulated by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) operating licence, the plant will be required to operate at a lower capacity or shut down – in accordance with the protocols specified by the EPA.

Regular marine monitoring reports are sent to the EPA (available to the public) and daily marine monitoring data is posted on the AdelaideAqua website.

### Monitoring prior to plant operations

Marine monitoring off shore from the Adelaide Desalination Plant site commenced in 2008 and has continued throughout the construction, providing two years of data describing ambient conditions in the gulf. AdelaideAqua has been posting salinity data on their website since July 2010.

### More information

For information about the Adelaide Desalination Project:

- Visit [www.sawater.com.au](http://www.sawater.com.au)
- Phone the project information line on 1800 812 362
- Email [desalination@sawater.com.au](mailto:desalination@sawater.com.au)



One of the monitoring buoys for the Adelaide Desalination Project



One of six diffusers on the outfall pipeline



Australian Government



Government of  
South Australia



SA Water

AdelaideAqua

D&C Consortium

