

christies wastewater treatment plant NEWS 2006



The Christies Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant receives and treats wastewater from the local community and industry.

The population in the area has increased since the plant was built in 1971 and is expected to grow during the next 25 years. SA Water is planning to upgrade the plant to meet the expected population growth.



Government
of South Australia



SA Water

This is the first in a series of newsletters to ensure the community remains informed as the project progresses. SA Water is also looking to provide the community with an opportunity to review the upgrade plans for the Christies Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant and to have input to the future of the Noarlunga Downs Lagoon site.

■ **Read on to see how you can be involved in this project »**



Questions?

Call us on ☎ 1800 812 362

Residents' say

In late 2005, SA Water consulted with interested groups and residents from the southern suburbs to understand their issues regarding wastewater treatment at Christies Beach. A brochure was distributed to local residents and a community open day was held at the plant.

Residents and stakeholders raised a number of issues:

Environmental: Reuse of treated wastewater; impact of discharge on marine environment; reduction in use of water from the River Murray; environmental sustainability of the plant; reduced energy use and greenhouse gas emissions; effect of climate change; impact of plant operations on residential areas (such as truck movements to and from the plant); odour and noise.

Social: The need for the community to remain informed; ensure the plant properly caters for future population; closure of sludge lagoons; protection of public health.

Economic: Commercial sale of treated wastewater; use of treated wastewater in primary production; efficient and reliable plant operation.

SA Water is looking at the best way to address these issues in the upgrade of the plant.

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The Christies Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant receives and treats wastewater from household toilets, sinks, showers, washing machines and industry. SA Water is not responsible for stormwater. Stormwater is collected by a separate network of pipes, and is not treated at the plant.

South Australia's Strategic Plan aims to deliver on six key objectives that provide for strong economic growth without compromising the environment or quality of life. South Australia's Infrastructure Plan and SA Water's Strategic Plan for 2005-2009 support these objectives by setting specific priorities and targets for water and wastewater management in particular. The planned upgrade for the Christies Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant delivers on these strategies by ensuring wastewater infrastructure is secure and adequate for the future needs of Adelaide's southern community.

Over recent months, SA Water has been working to identify the best way to upgrade the plant. The preferred upgrade option finally selected will be the one that best addresses the issues raised during the consultation phase of the project, while balancing environmental, social and economic considerations.

The project will deliver a number of benefits, including:

- Accommodation of future population growth in the Christies Beach catchment area up to 2030;
- improved sludge management practice;
- best practice treatment technology;
- enhanced plant sustainability;
- landscaping improvements to the Christies Creek and coastal interface areas; and
- new access into the plant to divert truck traffic away from residential areas.

Want to know more about the Christies Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade and the future of the sludge lagoon site? >>

Sludge lagoons

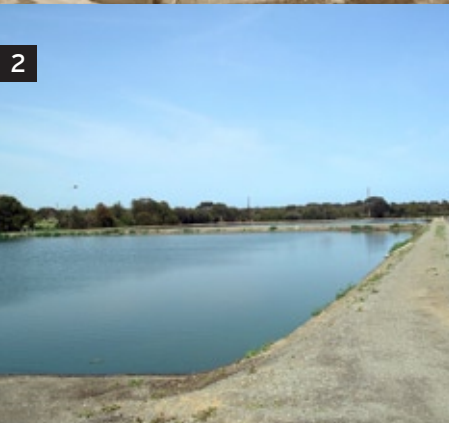
In January 2006, the South Australian Government announced its intention to close the sludge lagoons at Noarlunga Downs once the new Sludge Management System is brought on line in late 2009.

The existing site consists of five shallow engineered lagoons covering an area of about eight hectares and is located on a portion of the Onkaparinga River floodplain. The lagoons receive sludge from the Christies Beach Wastewater Treatment plant.

SA Water recently started environmental investigations to determine potential remediation strategies for the site depending on future usage. Investigations will continue over the next two years on an intermittent basis, subject to the normal operation of the lagoons, weather conditions and access to the sites.

BELOW:

1. The Christies Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant in 1971, shortly after construction
2. Sludge lagoon, Noarlunga Downs.
3. Elevated view looking across sludge lagoons, Noarlunga Downs.



Get involved! Register for an information session.

How to get involved

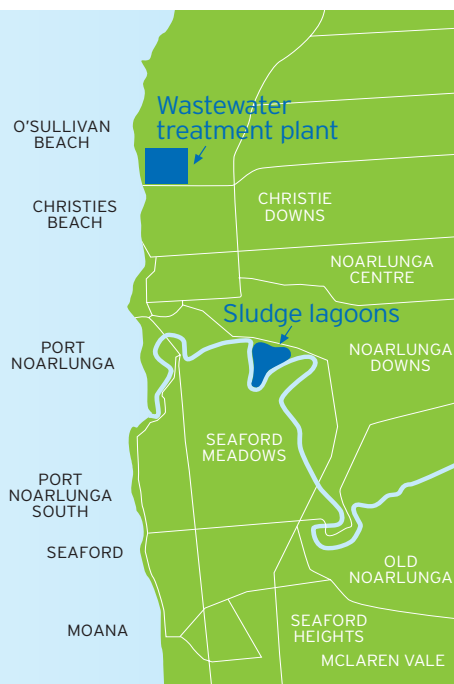


SA Water is offering a number of opportunities for local residents to be involved in the project. Separate information sessions will be run later in the year for those interested in the Christies Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and those interested in knowing more about the closure of the sludge lagoons. Following the information sessions, SA Water will look to establish two community advisory groups - one to work with the treatment plant upgrade project and the other to assist the project team in planning for the future of the sludge lagoon site.

If you have an interest in these SA Water projects, then you can register for an information session by:

- **Contacting** the SA Water Customer Call Centre on 1800 812 362
- **Emailing** your contact details to christiesbeach@sawater.com.au
- **Completing** the enclosed reply paid registration card

Please ensure you provide your name, address and contact phone number and clearly indicate which project most interests you. SA Water will contact you to advise of the time and venue for the information session.



Questions?

For more information contact the Customer Call Centre on 1800 812 362 or email christiesbeach@sawater.com.au

For information on any other SA Water projects log on to www.sawater.com.au