

## Aldinga Wastewater Storage and Recovery Scheme

October 2009

### ABOUT THE SCHEME

SA Water and the Willunga Basin Water Company (WBWC) have started an aquifer storage and recovery scheme on the property where the Aldinga wastewater treatment plant is located. The scheme involves recycled water being stored in the aquifer during winter and early spring when irrigation demand is low and being retrieved for irrigation during summer and autumn.

The recycled water to be stored in the aquifer will be sourced from the Christies Beach wastewater treatment plant at a quality suitable for irrigation of vineyards. The water quality will need to meet both the Department of Health and Environment Protection Authority (EPA) guidelines and approval conditions. It's important to note this is the same quality of recycled water currently being used by approximately 50% of the Willunga Basin vineyards, via the WBWC.

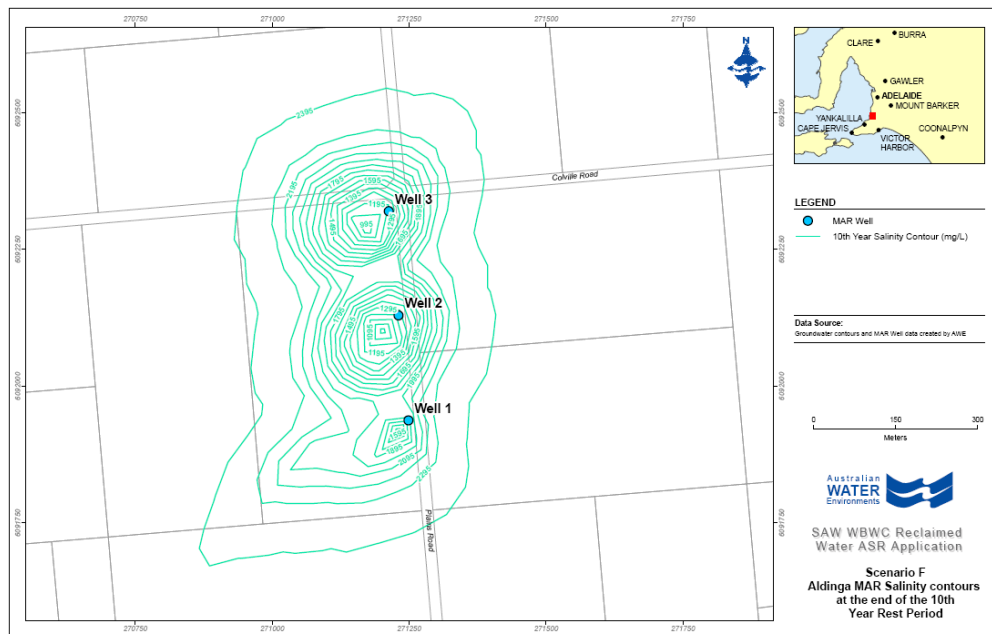
This project will enable SA Water to increase the use of recycled water from the Christies Beach wastewater treatment plant, and thereby reducing the amount discharged to the Gulf St Vincent. The project will also benefit the River Murray by reducing the amount of drinking water currently being used for irrigation.

### HOW WILL IT AFFECT ME?

Water will be injected through three bores into a confined aquifer to enable up to 400 megalitres (ML) of water to be stored per annum. Modelling indicates the injected water will form a bubble (or plume) in the aquifer which will only move a short distance from the injection point, this is due to slow movement of water in this aquifer (see diagram).

Bores located within a few hundred metres of the injection points may be subject to increased water pressure as injected water displaces a portion of the natural groundwater. There are however, very few private bores within this range of the injection points.

Water stored will be between 30-70 metres below the surface in a confined aquifer and will not affect the water table or impact the surface soil.



The above diagram shows the location of the bores and the predicted extent of the bubble after 10 years. The amount of recycled water between the two outer-most contours is about 4% of the total water, with native groundwater being the other 96%.

## WHO IS INVOLVED?

SA Water is partnering with the privately owned Willunga Basin Water Company to deliver this project.

## MORE INFORMATION

If you have any further questions or would like to understand more about the project please contact SA Water on 1800 812 362 or visit our website at [www.sawater.com.au](http://www.sawater.com.au).



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