

# Project update

## Mount Evelyn Water Treatment Plant

### About the project

In Melbourne, Water is essential to our way of life. Today, clean, affordable water is readily available to our homes and businesses where we need it.

Melbourne Water is planning to build a new back-up water treatment plant in Mount Evelyn to ensure drinking water remains accessible and safe in the event of planned or unplanned shutdowns of the Silvan Reservoir and Water Treatment Plant.

We are always looking to the future and other resources to supply more as our population grows, ensuring we have enough water today, tomorrow and for generations to come.

### Where is the project at?

Melbourne Water has withdrawn the planning permit application from Yarra Ranges Council.

We have decided to look into making some revisions to our treatment plant design and construction footprint as a result of ongoing consultation and feedback from Yarra Ranges Council and some community groups.

Some of the things we're looking at changing include:

- Building design
- Building colours and materials
- Access road dimensions
- Power-line relocation
- Reduction in vegetation removal

Exploring these options will take some time. We need to engage with our construction provider to create new design drawings, evaluate additional project costs, provide new documentation and information to Council and various other stakeholders we are working with on the project.

By exploring these options, we expect the project to be delayed by approximately **12 months** depending on external approvals, processes and procedures we have to follow and adhere to.

While we are exploring these new options, we may not be able to implement everything that we would like to change. This can be due to multiple reasons including external approvals, other utility provider requirements, land topography constraints, project budget and logistics of the future site operations and requirements, to name a few.

We are aiming to submit a new planning permit application to Yarra Ranges Council by the end of July or early August 2023.

## **What does this mean for you?**

We have to do a lot of background work and internal discussions over the next six months. We will aim to keep the community updated during this time, but you may notice that we may not have as much to share as a result.

Where there are opportunities to involve the community of some of the design aspects, we will look into every potential opportunity for collaboration or engagement. We expect there may be some elements for the community to engage with or provide feedback on.

We still aim to host a community information session in the Mount Evelyn township within the first half of this year, but we would like to use that opportunity to provide the most detailed and solid information possible to ensure ultimate transparency with what our project is doing and trying to achieve.

When we submit our new planning permit application, the project will undergo standard planning permit approval processes under *Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (the Act)*.

This process will be run by Yarra Ranges Council and includes:

- Community advertising – advertising is done in the form of local signage displayed at the proposed site location/land and also on the Yarra Ranges Council website.
- Opportunity for community submissions.

## **Where can I find more information?**

You can stay up to date by visiting our project page on the Melbourne Water website - <https://www.melbournewater.com.au/services/projects/mount-evelyn-water-treatment-plant>.

On the website you can view our recent bulletins and FAQ document with answers to questions we've received from the community.



Melbourne Water is owned by the Victorian Government. We manage Melbourne's water supply catchments, remove and treat most of Melbourne's sewage, and manage rivers and creeks and major drainage systems throughout the Port Phillip and Westernport region.



For planning permit information, this will be available on the Yarra Ranges Council website once it is submitted.

If you'd like to get in touch directly with the project team, please email [MountEvelynWTP@melbournewater.com.au](mailto:MountEvelynWTP@melbournewater.com.au). We will endeavour to answer your questions or feedback as quickly as possible.

### Keep up to date with what's happening

For more information about this project please visit

<https://www.melbournewater.com.au/services/projects/mount-evelyn-water-treatment-plant>



Interpreter

For an interpreter, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) on 13 14 50



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