

How the Altona Sewage Treatment Plant Works

Information Sheet



Background

The original Altona Sewage Treatment Plant was constructed in the 1960s to provide sewage treatment services to the Altona area. The plant was originally constructed as a temporary facility until the Western Treatment Plant was able to cope with the increasing volumes of sewage in the area.

When City West Water was established in 1995 a review of the entire City West Water network, including the Altona Sewage Treatment Plant, was undertaken. This review confirmed that there was a long-term requirement for the plant.

Altona Sewage Treatment Plant's Service Area

The plant now serves just over 20,000 properties in the Altona, Altona Meadows, Laverton and Point Cook areas and treats a flow of approximately 13 million litres of sewage a day.

Upgrade of the Plant

In 2003, the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Victoria approved an upgrade to the plant, enabling City West Water to continue to provide high quality sewerage services to the residents of the area.

The upgrade, which was completed in 2007, involved constructing a new treatment plant that treats the sewage to a higher standard than could be achieved by the original plant.



The Treatment Process



Raw sewage enters the plant.



Cotton buds, bits of plastic and debris are removed from the sewage.



Biosolids are separated from the treated sewage.



The remaining treated sewage waste is cleaned.



The treated sewage is cleaned once more before being released into Port Phillip Bay.



The biosolids are cleaned a second time.



Left over water is removed from the biosolids, loaded into holding bins and taken to a recycling facility. Here the biosolids are composted with green waste like grass cuttings, leaves and prunings.



Sewage



Treated wastewater



Biosolids



Once the Altona Recycled Water project comes online, much of the waste will receive advanced treatment to ensure the quality is suitable for customer use. Instead of being released into the Bay, the recycled water will be piped to local customers to use.



The Altona Recycled Water Project

The Altona Recycled Water Project will supply 2.5 billion litres per year of Class A recycled water to industry and golf courses in the Altona area.

The project will involve designing, constructing and operating a recycled water treatment plant at the Altona Sewage Treatment Plant. New pipelines from the Altona Sewage Treatment Plant will then connect industrial company Genos, Koorngal Golf Course, Sanctuary Lakes Golf Course and Altona Green Reserve to the recycled water supply.

City West Water expects that recycled water will be available to these customers by December 2010.

Landscaping at the Plant

A landscape plan for the Altona Sewage Treatment Plant has seen the area beautified and professionally landscaped.

City West Water will continue to landscape the plant to blend in to the natural habitat of the surrounding areas.

Altona Sewage Treatment Plant Community Liaison Committee

City West Water meets quarterly with our Altona Treatment Plant Community Liaison Committee to discuss the plant operations, plant upgrade works and other issues of concern to the local community.

The Committee includes members of the local community and representatives of the EPA and Hobsons Bay City Council.



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