



Desalination connection – FAQ

Where/When is Westernport Water connecting to the desalinated pipeline?

Westernport Water intends to connect to the desalination pipeline at Eden Road, Glen Forbes as a way of supplementing our existing water sources. Construction of the connection point will be carried out in 2012.

What will be the cost to Westernport Water?

The cost of this connection to Westernport Water will be \$220,000 as the construction of the delivery point will be undertaken through the Victorian Desalination Project.

How will it work?

Westernport Water will connect a 600mm diameter off-take that will draw water directly from the 1900mm diameter desalination pipeline. The water will then be piped via our main supply line and to the San Remo storage basin.

From there, the desalinated water will blend with the Melbourne Pool water and Candowie Reservoir water before being distributed across the Westernport Water network.

How will water quality be affected?

All desalinated water is required to meet strict standards set by the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines and is constantly monitored to ensure it is at the highest possible quality. All water provided by Westernport Water is perfectly safe for human consumption and does not pose any health risk.

How will our bills be affected?

As of now, the costing of desalinated water is set till 2013. The Melbourne supply pool operates on a 'user pays' system; that is, charges are only incurred if Westernport Water utilises Melbourne pool water. With the increased storage at Candowie Reservoir, it is not expected that Westernport Water will require Melbourne pool water or desalinated water at any time other than severe drought conditions.

What is a safe level of boron in drinking water?

The Australian Drinking Water Guidelines state that a concentration of up to 4mg/L of boron does not pose a human health risk. The direct water supply from the Desalination plant is required to be less than or equal to 0.5mg/L at all times.