

South East Queensland Regional Water Supply Strategy (SEQRWSS)



South East Queensland is one of the fastest growing areas in Australia. In the next 20 years, the population is expected to grow by one million and the area is likely to be home to more than 3.7 million people. Population growth is good for the economy and helps us to become internationally competitive. However, it places increased development pressures on our land and water resources. We have to balance the impacts of development, the lifestyles of the population and the needs of the environment.

The South East Queensland Regional Water Supply Strategy (SEQRWSS) is a project being progressed in partnership between the Queensland Government and the South East Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils (SEQROC). The project aims to develop ways to manage and meet the future water supply needs of South East Queensland.

Key objectives of the strategy are to:

- assess future needs for a safe and reliable supply of water in South East Queensland
- assess the best way to meet those needs
- decide on a future plan that achieves optimum social, environmental and economic outcomes.

The SEQ Regional Water Supply Strategy is due for completion by December 2006.

Issues being considered are:

- the short, medium and long-term needs for urban, industrial and rural water supply
- the preservation and purchase of future sites for water storages, desalination plants and other infrastructure
- best use of water and infrastructure including 'fit for purpose' use, reducing demands for water, improving water-use efficiency, recycling more water, making better use of rainwater and stormwater and diversifying water resources
- the sharing of water between various community and industry sectors
- adequacy and security of water supply for industries and communities
- economical, financial, environmental and social impacts
- efficient, safe and reliable supply, management and use of water
- government and community responsibility and involvement
- ongoing implementation and review of the strategy.



