



## Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme, QLD

When it was completed in 2008, the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme was the largest, fastest, most complex and most technologically advanced project undertaken by the Queensland Government. The \$2.5 billion project was also a crucial component of the \$9 billion South East Queensland Water Grid, the largest urban drought response in Australia.

The Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme also provides recycled water for power stations, industry and agriculture. It is also available to supplement urban water in times of drought if required.

The project comprises a network of more than 200 kilometres of large-diameter underground pipelines, three advanced water treatment plants, nine storage tanks and 12 pumping stations. Given the scale of this construction and program, five separate alliances were established to deliver the major project components.

### Evans & Peck's role

Western Corridor Recycled Water Pty Ltd was established to manage the five construction alliances and undertake high-level responsibility for project management, engineering, safety, procurement, communication and community engagement, financial controls and governance. This Project Management Group brought together leading Australian and international organisations, including Evans & Peck, to deliver the most significant water infrastructure project in Australia since the Snowy Mountains Hydro-Scheme.

Evans & Peck was intimately involved in the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme from the initial project definition phase, through its procurement, delivery, commissioning and handover.

Specific activities undertaken by Evans & Peck included:

- reviewing the project concept
- establishing the project objectives
- designing the delivery framework

- establishing central program management function and controls
- negotiating project specific insurances (London)
- undertaking project risk assessment
- designing and managing procurement processes including tender assessment, selection and expert evaluation advice
- establishing the project's governance framework
- providing industry experts to support the five alliances and sit on alliance boards
- reviewing target cost estimates for all five alliances and implementing value improvement processes to realize capital cost savings of up to 25%
- reviewing monthly progress claims
- defining safety and industrial relations protocols
- providing accelerated project team development advice and implementation
- designing and implementing monthly reports to the company board
- developing the transition plan from construction to operation, including the coordination of commissioning to provide an integrated operational scheme.

### FACTS AND FIGURES

Client: Seqwater (formerly WaterSecure)

Project value: \$2.5 billion

E&P involvement: 2006 - 2008

Mobilising a whole-of-industry advisory service to deliver the project on time and under budget



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## Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme, QLD (continued)

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### Results

#### World-class project outcomes under extreme time pressures

Aware of the potentially dire consequences for South East Queensland if the pipelines and advance water treatment plants were not built by the legislated deadline of December 2008, Evans & Peck mobilised a whole-of-industry advisory service to deliver the project on time and under budget. In the process, Evans & Peck created immense value for money for the Queensland Government, including:

- significant reductions in project cost outcomes
- all projects meeting the regulation date
- all water capacity and quality requirements met
- excellent safety performance, with the lost time injury rate well below the industry average.

#### Innovation in project development and delivery

Due to the unprecedented scale and complexity of the project, the Queensland Government needed a strategic advisor with the flexibility and creativity to overcome difficult and dynamic challenges. These included:

- a project delivery timeframe compressed from an industry benchmark of four to five years to just two years and four months
- a booming infrastructure market in South East Queensland that created an environment of critical resource shortages and steep price escalation
- changes in ultimate project control that saw Evans & Peck provide continuity of advisory services to five separate owner organisations during the course of project delivery

- a high profile project with multiple work fronts over a vast area, which was technically advanced and environmentally sensitive
- major stakeholder and community interfaces.

#### Award winning advisory services

In March 2009, Evans & Peck won the National Infrastructure Award for Advisory Excellence from Infrastructure Partnerships Australia. The award recognised excellence and innovation in advisory and implementation services the role of lead transaction manager and commercial advisor to the Queensland Government for the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme.

