



Harvey Water

Irrigation Centre South West Highway Harvey WA 6220
Tel: (08) 9729 0100 Fax: (08) 9729 0111
e-mail : admin@harveywater.com.au
Internet : www.harveywater.com.au

MEDIA RELEASE

4/06

September 2006

HARVEY PIPE PROJECT WINS ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARD

A groundbreaking initiative by Harvey Water to deliver unparalleled water savings has won the regional category of the WA Engineering Excellence Awards presented at a glittering function in Perth last week. The award recognised the success of the Harvey Pipe Project in demonstrating multiple benefits to many stakeholders.

The Harvey Pipe Project competed with many major infrastructure engineering projects such as in oil and gas and was absolutely thrilled to be considered one of the 5 best projects in Western Australia in 2005/6.

General Manager Geoff Calder said “the \$72 M water trading initiative between Harvey Water and the Water Corporation has pushed the benchmark for sourcing water in WA to an entirely new level.”

He explained that by converting irrigation channels to pipes, a total of 17.1 GL of high quality water will be available each year to the Perth system via a permanent trade. Mr Calder said that this was a win-win-win-win situation for the irrigators, the economy, the community and the environment. He added “this is water that would normally be lost in the system through seepage and evaporation and does not affect the irrigators’ allocation.”

With Stage 1 completed in June 2006 ahead of schedule and on budget, this project is the largest of its kind in Australia, with a total of 198km of polyethylene pipes to be installed over three years.

A project of this magnitude in a small community such as Harvey has created a strong spirit of co-operation across the community. Installing 1200mm diameter pipes through the middle of the Harvey town site required proactive collaboration with the Shire of Harvey. The digging of trenches and impact of heavy machinery in local farmers’ paddocks required Harvey Water staff to work closely with local landowners.

Project Manager Steve Icton said “clearly this project could not have gone ahead without such local knowledge and the network of relationships”.

“Helping our irrigation industries to grow from Waroona to Dardanup”



Harvey Water

Irrigation Centre South West Highway Harvey WA 6220
Tel: (08) 9729 0100 Fax: (08) 9729 0111
e-mail : admin@harveywater.com.au
Internet : www.harveywater.com.au

Mr Icton praised the efforts of all involved, saying “the commitment and degree of professionalism shown by the welding crews and support staff should not be underestimated and I want to congratulate everybody involved for their efforts.”

He added “the impact of the project on local employment cannot be overstated”. Over 40 new full time jobs were created locally between Harvey Water and the main contractor Mako Civil. GHD engineering consultants have played a significant role in the design and implementation of the project. Harvey Water are spending in excess of \$20,000 per annum on training staff in all areas of construction including forklift operation, dogman competencies , poly welding and safety.

This project is an excellent example of the kinds of changes that are needed to ensure that water is used wisely by all those who have the benefit of access to it. Harvey Water is proud to have taken the initiative to demonstrate that rural and regional users can also contribute to more beneficial water use by all sectors of Australian society. The Engineering Excellence award is recognition by our peers of the quality of work that is being carried out by Harvey Water.

ENDS

CONTACT

For more information please contact Geoff Calder, General Manager on (08) 9729 0124 or 0417 938 109.