**Communities Update**

**Wyangala Dam Wall Raising Project**

**Larger dam will improve water security for Lachlan Valley**

The $650 million Wyangala Dam Wall Raising project will provide thousands of Lachlan Valley region residents and their communities with improved water security and stronger drought resilience.

The project is being led by WaterNSW with joint funding by the NSW and Federal Governments with preliminary works scheduled to start October 2020 and major construction works scheduled for Oct 2021.

The existing 85-metre dam wall will be raised by around 10 metres, increasing existing water storage by 53%.

A Stantec-GHD joint venture has now been engaged by WaterNSW for the project as engineering and environmental advisors. Detailed investigations are already underway including optimum height for the new wall along with inundation mapping which will be finalised in late September this year.

Early works will start in October 2020 which will include the relocation of the Wyangala Waters Caravan Park to a higher location, with the existing park to be utilised as the construction project HQ. WaterNSW has been working closely with Reflection Holiday Parks for several months on the relocation plans. While some early progress has been made, the detailed work for the layout and facilities is ongoing and will be finalised in the coming months. We will be supporting Reflections to keep their customers and site holders updated.

The planning and environmental approval process will also commence along with the Environmental Impact Statement to be available for public display and comment by mid 2021.

**Will other options be considered?**

The Lachlan Valley catchment was identified in 2015 as a priority for investment in critical water infrastructure. A number of options were identified including a possible dam in the vicinity of Cranky Rock. After an initial feasibility assessment, raising the dam wall at Wyangala was determined as the most viable option to improve water security and availability.

WaterNSW has been tasked by the NSW and Federal Governments to deliver this critical project and will not be considering other alternative options to ensure all resources are dedicated to meeting the timeframes for construction and delivery of this Critical State Significant Infrastructure project.

**Maximising local opportunities from the project**

We are strongly committed to maximising local opportunities from the project over the construction period for the Wyangala Dam project. We will be connecting local businesses with our project partners and major contractors. If you’re interested in providing products and services to the project, please register online at www.waternsw.com.au/wyangalabusiness.

We’re also working closely with the local Business Chambers and Councils to ensure any opportunities that come through the construction period be sourced where possible from the local region.

This is an iconic project for our region and communities along the Lachlan River. It’s a once in a generation opportunity to develop and grow skills, capacity and supply chains that will benefit our region and communities further afield.

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Jordan Core
President, Cowra Business Chamber

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**Wyangala Dam Snapshot**

- The second major dam built for irrigation in NSW when construction began in 1928
- Wyangala Dam has helped drive economic development in the Lachlan Valley
- Today the dam continues to support irrigated agriculture across the valley
- It also supplies stock and household needs for landholders and towns along the Lachlan River, environmental flows, flood mitigation and hydroelectricity
- The dam is a major destination for recreational activities for many people in NSW

**We will be selecting our major contractors and project partners on their track record of maximising local opportunities and engaging local businesses for their projects.**

David Hogan
Head of Engagement, WaterNSW

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**Benefits, Facts and Figures**

- **$650M** cost shared by NSW & Federal Governments
- **Early works will start in October**
- **Dam wall to be raised by approximately 10 METRES**
- **Increased capability to attenuate floods**
- **Inundation mapping underway, due for completion in late September**
- **Improved drought resilience**
- **2025 Project due for completion**
- **Water storage increased by 53%**
- **Total storage capacity increased from 1217GL to 1867GL**

**Key Activities 2020 - 2021**

- **APR-JUN** Community information via radio, local papers and online due to COVID-19 restrictions
- **MAY-JUL** Landholders contacted directly to arrange and commence on-site property inspections and assessments
- **AUG** Onsite assessments and analysis completed to define likely inundation area
- **SEPT** Final inundation modelling outcomes advised to landholders, Councils and local communities, informing ongoing property inspections and assessments
- **OCT** “Shovels in the ground” early project works start
- **MID 2021** Concept design & environmental assessment approvals
- **OCT 2021** Dam construction works commence, will take around 4 years to complete

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**Questions**

Check out the FAQs on our website, and if you have any questions please email wyangaladamproject@waternsw.com.au

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**Local Chambers of Commerce**

Contact your local Chamber of Commerce for further details and support.

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**Keep in touch**

- Email wyangaladamproject@waternsw.com.au
- Follow us on Twitter @WaterNSW
- Join WaterNSW - Wyangala Dam Raising project group
- Visit us online waternsw.com.au