

Keepit Dam safety upgrade

Works package two - dam wall works

Keepit Dam, on the Namoi River in northern NSW, is one of a number of dams WaterNSW is currently upgrading to meet contemporary standards for extreme floods and earthquakes.

Why is the upgrade needed?

The upgrade will enable Keepit Dam to safely pass extreme floods and withstand earthquakes.

Keepit is safe for day-to-day operations and can pass the largest flood on record but requires modifications to comply with contemporary standards

What will the upgrade involve?

The process involves technical investigations, environmental assessments, extensive community consultation, approvals, design and construction.

Works package one was completed in 2011 and involved construction of two

spillways and three saddle dams.

Stage two of the upgrade involves preliminary electrical relocation works ahead of post tensioning the concrete section of the dam wall.

Further works will be considered following post-tensioning.

Community updates and involvement

WaterNSW is committed to keeping those affected by the upgrade informed as the project progresses.

Project managers worked with key stakeholders including local councils and the Lake Keepit State Recreation Park management throughout the development of the project.

A Keepit construction liaison group was

established at the start of construction on works package one which met regularly throughout construction to discuss any issues and continue to receive updates on the project.

The general community will continue to be kept up-to-date via information sheets, the WaterNSW website www.waternsw.com.au, local media and presentations to community groups.

Dam operations as normal

The water level of the dam and normal water releases will not be affected by the upgrade.

The Lake Keepit Recreation Park will remain open throughout construction.

Once construction commences access to the dam wall will be restricted for safety purposes.



Upstream works

Split Rock Dam has been upgraded concurrently with Keepit Dam to ensure both dams can withstand extreme flooding given that Split Rock can impact on Keepit.

Community benefits

The works involved some modifications to the Lake Keepit Recreation Park with a new amenities building constructed, caravan sites relocated and associated facilities provided.

Surplus road base material was also donated to the local gliding club to assist them with repairing roads at the site.

Environmental mitigation

Environmental assessments have been carried out ahead of each package of works.

Mitigation measures will be put into place during construction where recommended in the environmental assessment

Program of works

January 2014	Award preliminary works contract
December 2014	Complete preliminary works
Mid 2016	Award post-tensioning contract
Est. late 2016	Commence construction on post-tensioning
Est. 2019	Complete post tensioning work
Ongoing	Assess the requirement and priority for further works



Further information

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