

Media Release

The Hon Gayle Tierney MP
Minister for Skills and TAFE
Minister for Water



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MORE WATER IN THE PIPELINE FOR GRAMPIANS LANDHOLDERS

The Allan Labor Government is delivering vital water security for drought-affected farmers in western Victoria, with construction now underway on the Mininera Rural Pipeline Project.

The Member for Ripon Martha Haylett, representing the Minister for Water Gayle Tierney, turned the first sod of the project today. This marks the start of work on the Mininera Rural Pipeline Project, an extension of the East Grampians Rural Pipeline Project – bringing relief during challenging periods of drought.

The investment will deliver piped water to Mininera and surrounding areas, with more than 80 km of mains pipelines to service 199 rural properties – bolstering long-term resilience by reducing reliance on rainfall, improving drought and bushfire preparedness, and supporting agricultural growth.

Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water is overseeing delivery of the project, with Mitchell Water constructing the East Grampians Rural Pipeline and installing the pipeline for the community and surrounding areas.

The project will build landholder and businesses confidence in reliable water access and allow existing agricultural enterprises to expand, knowing they have access to a reliable, high-quality water supply from Lake Fyans year-round. It will also increase the environmental and cultural benefits associated with local waterways and wetlands.

The Mininera pipeline extension will also enhance firefighting capability, with 10 hydrants and seven firefighting tanks to be installed, adding to the extensive network access already delivered through the East Grampians pipeline.

The pipeline is supported by \$15 million from the Government's Drought Support Package, alongside \$15.6 million from Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water, as we continue to advocate for matched Commonwealth funding to deliver the full scope.

Earlier stages of the project are already delivering water to properties in areas severely affected by drought, and the Mininera Pipeline Extension will further strengthen the region's future.

The East Grampians Rural Pipeline Project has made significant progress, with over 500 km of pipeline installed to date and 372 water meters installed at connected properties. An additional 18 Country Fire Authority (CFA) fire hydrants and 11 CFA fire tanks have also been installed for fire-fighting purposes.

Quote attributable to Minister for Water Gayle Tierney

"This investment will transform water security for Mininera and the surrounding communities. We're strengthening drought resilience and creating real opportunities for agricultural growth for generations to come."

Quote attributable to Member for Ripon Martha Haylett

"Reliable water access is vital for our farmers and the growth of their businesses. This pipeline will give them peace of mind knowing their water supply is secure all year round."

Quote attributable to Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water

"Climate variability and changed farming practices have made local catchment dams unreliable as a source of water supply. We are committed to delivering water solutions that allow our communities to thrive."

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