

## Media Release

**Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> February 2011

**Re:** Improvements to Devonport Wastewater System Underway

---

Cradle Mountain Water is implementing plans to improve the wastewater system that services Devonport.

“Any wastewater system is vulnerable to external factors that result in high flows which then lead to spills. This can be due to high seasonal industrial effluent discharges, or storm water inflow into the wastewater system during wet weather events. Such problems can be exacerbated by unexpected power failures resulting in pump downtime. If these problems occur it can result in system overflows and contamination of waterways, beaches and the marine environment with subsequent negative impact on residents, tourism and the environment,” CEO Andrew Kneebone explains.

Cradle Mountain Water’s long term plan is to address these risks for the Devonport wastewater system through a series of projects that include:

- Provision of additional detention storage in Horsehead Creek Pump Station (completed 2009)
- Upgrade of North Caroline Street Pump Station capacity (in progress)
- Installation of back-up power generation facility at North Caroline Street (in progress)
- Integration of control system across all major Devonport sewerage pump stations (future)
- Upgrade of Pardoe Treatment Plant (future)

The project to upgrade the North Caroline Street Pump Station was initiated by Devonport City Council in 2008 and is scheduled for completion later this year. This project builds on past projects to reduce the risk of overflows in the Devonport wastewater system as well as reducing odour issues.

“One of the major features of this upgrade is the installation of an odour control system which will alleviate odour problems that have been experienced in the past,” Andrew Kneebone said.

“Many East Devonport residents have had to endure strong odours coming from the pump station which is due to the high effluent component and long detention times in the system. This new odour control system seals all wastewater components, the air is then extracted from these components, stripping odours prior to release,” he said.

(more...)

“We have increased the number of installed pumps from three to five, which provides greater flexibility for varying inflow conditions and we have also increased the overall storage in the system through the construction of an additional pump well. The upgrade also includes the installation of a back-up generator to ensure security of power supply,” he said.

“The upgraded North Caroline Street pump station will also be equipped with a modern and fully automated control system which will pave the way to implement an integrated control system across all the major sewage pump stations. This will facilitate communications between pump stations. Future upgrade of the Pardoe treatment plants as well as reduction of storm water inflow and infiltration in the Devonport sewerage system will further improve the system,” he said.

**-ENDS-**

