

From the Chair



Welcome to the October issue of the Theodore Water Newsletter.

Cotton planting is well underway and continuing dry and warm conditions will see the crop off to a solid start.

The end of the current water year is upon us, and Theodore Water has applied for the full amount of carryover available to our allocation holders.

Given current storage levels we are hopeful of receiving a Med-A allocation once the carryover period finishes.

MODERNISATION UPDATE

Pump Station

There has been significant progress on the Theodore Pump Station upgrade since our engagement of Verntec Consulting.

Final designs were submitted to council, and an amended development application has been approved. Key contractors for the electrical, piling and construction are currently working on tasks that can be completed offsite before mobilising to site.



On the 16th September we had Verntec and Crighton's Engineering onsite. During this time, piling materials were delivered and a riverbank and riverbed survey was completed to allow finalisation of the pile plan. Crighton's will return to site in late October to commence piling works with the goal of installing the pumps, platforms and electrical control room in early December.

On the 23rd September the container for our electrical control room was delivered to I2R in Griffith. The main switchboard and variable frequency drives will be wired and installed into the container for factory acceptance testing prior to delivery to Theodore in late November.

Fluid Engineering is currently fabricating the pipework and manifold that will connect the new pumps into the rising main. This will also be delivered to site with the pump components in late November.



A Pipeline

On the 9th of September tenders closed for the remediation of the A pipeline. The submissions were of a very high standard, offering comprehensive works programs for the pipeline. We received multiple submissions that are currently being considered.

Understandably this will be a significant investment, and we will take the time to review the submissions and come to an informed decision and approval at the next board meeting on the 27th of October.

Following this, the successful tenderer will be engaged, and procurement of materials will commence. As per the conditions of the tender, the aim is for remediation works to commence in May 2026. Once we get closer to the time, we will engage with our irrigators to optimise the timing to minimise disruption.



We are finalising our review into the leaks of the pipeline, and we will provide more information on this once it becomes available.

Our team has recently completed repairs of some of the more significant leaks that were impacting the heavy vehicle bypass and Partridge Drive. Given the history to date, we expect there may be more as the season progresses, and we will work through these as the opportunity presents. Again, we thank you for your patience and particularly recognise the efforts of the Theodore Water staff in working through this situation.

Other Modernisation Items

Recently we have completed 1A headwall at Gibber and installed the new box culvert crossing on D-Channel that will offer increased capacity. We are currently waiting for a window after pre-irrigation to allow the installation of the new box culvert at the first crossing along E channel.

Preliminary works have been completed on the new 20ML Edward's outlet allowing supply until the gate and meter are delivered. Thank you, to the Theodore Water team for finding a solution to allow water to continue to be delivered through this outlet.



Additional purchases of 8 box culverts have been made that will allow the replacement of 4 crossings of priority to improve supply through our channel infrastructure.



We are working on obtaining quotes for the replacement of the siphon on C-channel, with the aim for those works to be completed during the shutdown for A pipeline in 2026.

It is pleasing to see these infrastructure improvements underway and achieving our goal to improve water supply and efficiency across the network.

In the coming months we will review our Strategic Asset Management Plan for the next 5 years for consideration prior to approval at our November AGM.

PUMP STATION WORKS

Theodore Water would like to advise that construction works for our new Pump Station at the Theodore Water depot on Second Avenue will commence in mid-October 2025, with completion anticipated by the end of February 2026.

The project marks a positive step forward in the modernisation and capacity upgrade of the Theodore Water pump station and associated works.

During the construction period, residents and visitors may notice:

- Increased traffic in and around the area as construction vehicles and equipment are in operation.
- Rising noise levels, particularly from pile driving works, which are expected to take place over a 4–6 week period at the start of the works.

We acknowledge that these activities may cause some disruption and apologise for any inconvenience caused. Your patience and understanding during this important upgrade is greatly appreciated.

The completed works will deliver long-term benefits to the Theodore irrigation industry and broader community.

For further information or project updates, please contact **Chris Watson** on **0488 767 688**.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND SOME INTERESTING READS



Theodore Water - Upcoming Events

Theodore Water Board Meeting - The next onsite board meeting will be held Theodore on the 27th of October.

Theodore Water Shed Meeting - Our normal shed meeting will follow the board meeting at 4pm. An invitation and further reminders will be sent prior to the date. We welcome your attendance and input at this meeting.

<https://www.theodorewater.com.au>



CRDC (Cotton Research and Development Corporation) - Interesting Reads

The Cotton Pest Management Guide 2025 26 - Published September 18, 2025

<https://www.crdc.com.au/publications/cotton-pest-management-guide>

Australian Cotton Production Manual 2025 - Published July 03, 2025

<https://www.crdc.com.au/publications/australian-cotton-production-manual>

FUN WATER FACT

Pure water, which you won't ever find in the natural environment, does not conduct electricity.

Water becomes a conductor once it starts dissolving substances around it.

