

April 11, 2022

MEDIA RELEASE

SITES SHORTLISTED FOR EP DESALINATION PLANT

Four sites have now been shortlisted as possible locations for the Eyre Peninsula Desalination Plant, Sleaford West, Point Boston, Shoal Point, and Sleaford original site.

Selected by the independent Site Selection Committee, the preferred sites will now undergo a further rigorous process of detailed design, including marine science research, costing, and community engagement, before a final site is determined by the end of July this year.

The construction of the plant will supplement the Uley South groundwater supply with desalinated seawater, to ensure future long-term water security for the region.

Site Selection Committee Chair Peter Treloar says the Committee, tasked with finding a viable site option, has put in significant work to get to this stage, and is confident it is on track to deliver a water security outcome for Eyre Peninsula.

“After considering many sites around the coastline of the EP, and giving consideration to the configuration of the SA Water network, as well as social, environmental and financial factors, we are narrowing the list of suitable locations,” Mr Treloar said.

“This is the largest investment in water infrastructure on the EP since the construction of the Tod Reservoir and reticulation scheme in the 1920s and has the potential to be a game changer for the Eyre Peninsula.”

The Site Selection Committee is made up of 20 members representing local industries, including aquaculture, fisheries, business, government, environment, and regional development, and is assisted by independent consultancy group TSA Management.

“The community is well-represented on this diverse Committee, which comprises a wide range of expertise and local knowledge to ensure all interests are being taken into consideration. I believe we’re well positioned to obtain the right outcome for our community,” Mr Treloar said.

The committee was formed in February this year, after the State Government announced it was undertaking further investigations and community consultation into possible sites. SA Water had previously announced Billy Lights Point as the preferred location and remains as a base case for comparison.

Subject to required approvals, construction of a new desalination plant is expected to begin in 2023, with first water being delivered by the end of 2024.

TSA and SA Water project teams will be engaging with all communities across the EP during April and May to seek feedback on the shortlisted sites. This engagement will include an online survey, community pop up briefing sessions in all major towns where team members will be present to answer questions and receive feedback, and presentations to Councils and community boards. Community feedback will be provided to the Committee and considered as part of the detailed assessment process.



Best for Project

EYRE PENINSULA DESALINATION PLANT
Site Selection Committee

For information about when the project team will be visiting your town or to view the minutes of the Site Selection Committee meetings visit SA Water’s *Water Talks* website:
watertalks.sawater.com.au/desalination-eyre-peninsula

Community Consultation ‘Pop-Up’ Sessions

Date	Where	Venue/timing
Mon 2 May	Port Lincoln	Rogue & Rascal Cafe (10am-12pm)
Mon 2 May	Coffin Bay	Coffin Bay Shopping Centre (2pm-5pm)
Tue 3 May	Cummins	Five Loaves Bakery (9am-12pm)
Wed 4 May	Tumby Bay	Tumby Bay Bakery (9am-12pm)
Wed 4 May	Cleve	Cleve Foodland (2pm-5pm)
Thu 5 May	Cowell	Cowell Bakery (9am-12pm)
Thu 5 May	Arno Bay	Arno Bay IGA (2pm-4pm)
Fri 6 May	Port Lincoln	Port Lincoln Woolworths (9am-12pm) Port Lincoln Bunnings (1pm-3pm)
Tue 10 May	Streaky Bay	Elliott’s Streaky Bay Bakery (10.30am-1.30pm) Foodland (2.30pm-5pm)
Wed 11 May	Kimba	Eileen’s Cafe (10.30am-12pm) Kimba IGA (1pm-3pm)
Tue 17 May	Elliston	Elliston Bakery (9am-11am)
Tue 17 May	Wudinna	Wudinna Bakery / Foodland (1pm-3.30pm)
Wed 18 May	Ceduna	Ceduna Bakery Coffee Lounge (9.30am-12pm) Ceduna Foodland (1pm-3.30pm)

– ENDS –

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Annexure

TSA is an independent national Project Management Consultancy appointed to support and facilitate the work of the Eyre Peninsula Desalination Plant Site Selection Committee.

The Eyre Peninsula Desalination Plant Site Selection Committee, comprising representatives of the Eyre Peninsula community, has been appointed to recommend to the South Australian Government and SA Water a preferred site for a desalination plant.