

Media Release – 16 January 2010

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP DELIVERS \$60 MILLION WASTEWATER SCHEME IN NEW ZEALAND

Water Infrastructure Group has delivered the NZ\$60 million Mangawhai EcoCare Wastewater Scheme for the Kaipara District Council in New Zealand. The scheme was officially opened by the Mayor of Kaipara District Council, Neil Tiller, and the Chairman of Northland Regional Council, Mark Farnsworth , on 16 January 2010.

Mangawhai is a popular beach resort located in a sensitive estuary and marine environment 1.5 hours north of Auckland. The EcoCare project represents a proactive and positive approach by the community and Council in partnership with Water Infrastructure Group to curtailing the degradation of Mangawhai's estuary and waterways.

The EcoCare Scheme provides a sustainable wastewater scheme for 1200 homes in Mangawhai Township with capacity to service 4500 properties in the future. A new high tech, small footprint water reclamation plant treats the wastewater so that it can be used to irrigate pastures and increase farm productivity. The reclaimed water is pumped 11 kilometres to 180 megalitre storage facility, eliminating discharges from the township to the estuary and harbour.

Peter Everist, Water Infrastructure Group General Manager, explained the vital role that the EcoCare Scheme will play in maintaining the long-term environmental and economic health of Mangawhai.

“Instead of a conventional sewerage scheme, Water Infrastructure Group designed and built a sustainable infrastructure solution that is affordable for the community.”

“EcoCare is the first large scale water reclamation scheme in regional New Zealand that eliminates the environmental impacts of urban wastewater and the first major infrastructure project delivered with private sector financing.”



“Water Infrastructure Group will now partner with Council and the community to operate the scheme for the next 15 years, which again is a first for delivering sustainable infrastructure services for regional communities in New Zealand,” Peter said.

Peter commended Kaipara District Council on its approach to the project, saying the crucial issue from his side was the development of a contract which created a public-private model which provided for the delivery of a viable and sustainable asset.

“The real key to success in any such contract is Council, and in particular its CEO, understanding the concepts of the project and the contract. Kaipara District Council did this very quickly and effectively. The support from Kaipara District Council and its CEO has been vital to the successful delivery of this innovative project.”

Jack McKerchar, Chief Executive Kaipara District Council, said that the Mangawhai EcoCare Scheme was not only essential to protect the environment but was also a model of how to deliver sustainable community infrastructure.

“We are delivering the EcoCare Scheme under a partnership arrangement with Water Infrastructure Group and the model that we have developed for Mangawhai is one that could work for other communities in New Zealand who are also facing rapid development and environmental issues,” Mr McKerchar said.

Kaipara District Council Mayor Neil Tiller said the project is the culmination of many years of planning and consultation with the community to align objectives and outcomes for the project including maintaining affordability for the community.

“This is an exciting example of a Council, community and the private sector working together to solve public health and environmental issues in a small community,” Mayor Tiller explained. “One of the most exciting aspects is the use of reclaimed water to irrigate pastures. The quality of the reclaimed water is so high it meets standards that will enable dairy cows to graze. The EcoCare Scheme will also protect our estuary and harbour for future generations so that residents and visitors alike can continue to enjoy our beautiful environment and recreational activities.”



Construction began in January 2007 and the first house was connected in July 2009. The major elements of the Mangawhai EcoCare Wastewater Scheme include:

- 21 kilometres of sewers
- 15 pumping stations
- 6 kilometres of rising main
- a small footprint water reclamation plant
- an 11 kilometre reclaimed water transfer pipeline
- a 180 megalitre reclaimed water storage facility and irrigation system

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About Water Infrastructure Group

Water Infrastructure Group provides a unique combination of design, build, operate and maintenance services. We offer sole-source accountability for streamlined delivery of sustainable water infrastructure to meet community and business needs.

Our holistic approach to infrastructure delivery results in:

- Award winning innovation
- Reduced costs
- Guaranteed performance
- Individualised solutions
- Comprehensive environmental compliance
- Enhanced risk management

Water Infrastructure Group is an Australian leader in water recycling and Australia's largest supplier of Class A recycled water for farming and residential use. We have led the way with the introduction and regulatory approval of microfiltration technology for water recycling and our innovation and contributions to the water industry have been recognised by Australian and international excellence awards.

We have an extensive track record in the delivery of water and sewage treatment plants and we are one of Australia's leading infrastructure rehabilitation specialists, providing services such as pipeline inspection, assessment, linings, coatings and major valve work.

Some current projects from our portfolio include:

- Eurobodalla Northern Water Treatment Plant in NSW
- Barwon Water Biosolids Management Project in Geelong
- Campaspe Water Reclamation Scheme in Echuca
- Eastern Irrigation Scheme in Melbourne
- Mangawhai EcoCare Project in New Zealand
- Moura Wastewater Treatment Plant in Queensland
- Surbiton Park Recycled Water Plant in Melbourne
- Virginia Pipeline Scheme in Adelaide

Formed in 2008, Water Infrastructure Group has over 200 people and combines the complementary skills of the former Earth Tech water projects group with Tyco's Water Technology Australia and Water Services businesses to deliver an expanded range of services that cater for the needs of customers and current developments in the water industry. More information about Water Infrastructure Group can be found at www.wigroup.com.au.

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