






Gold Coast Waterfuture Strategy 2009

The Gold Coast Waterfuture (GCWF) Strategy provides a blueprint for the sustainable management of water supply across Gold Coast City up to 2056. Initiated in 2004, the strategy was developed by an Advisory Committee consisting of community members, industry representatives, Gold Coast City Councillors and Council Officers. Working in consultation with Gold Coast residents, the Committee developed an innovative, long-term water supply strategy, underpinned by diversity, adaptability and sustainability. Adopted by Council in 2005, the strategy was implemented from 2006.

Managing Change

The GCWF Strategy is reviewed regularly to ensure that it remains up-to-date and responsive to changes in water supply requirements, technological advances and unexpected events.

In 2009, the strategy was reviewed due to the South East Queensland (SEQ) Water Reform – the institutional reform of the SEQ water industry and water supply arrangements. The SEQ Water Reform has led to the transfer of responsibility for bulk clean water assets to State Government-owned entities.

Original GCWF Strategy initiative	Entity now responsible
Pressure and Leakage Management Water Conservation Recycled Water Rainwater Tanks	 
Hinze Dam (including the raising of the dam)	
Gold Coast Desalination Plant	
Southern Regional Water Pipeline	

Timeline

2004
Project Established

2005
Strategies considered and preferred strategy chosen
Community feedback sought

2006
GCWF Strategy implementation commenced

2007
GCWF Strategy revised due to worsening SEQ drought Revised strategy shared with community

2008
Bulk water assets transferred to State Government

2009
Strategy reviewed due to SEQ Water Reform

Pressure and Leakage Management

Gold Coast Water pioneered the introduction of this program in 2005 and it is now implemented throughout SEQ. This initiative helps conserve drinking water by detecting and repairing leaks in the network, decreasing potential pipe bursts by reducing excess water pressure and reducing the amount of water used in homes by reducing excess water pressure.

It is expected that over \$14 million will be spent on pressure and leakage management on the Gold Coast. Of this, Gold Coast Water has spent over \$7.35 million to date. Currently, Gold Coast Water is achieving savings of at least 6.9 ML/day through reduced system pressure and leakage.

Water Conservation

The Gold Coast community has achieved impressive success in reducing the consumption of drinking water. This has been facilitated through the introduction of water conservation initiatives for residents and businesses. Many of the schemes which were initiated on the Gold Coast have since been expanded to SEQ, including the Home Watersaver Rebate Scheme and the Home WaterWise Service. To conserve this precious resource, we need to continue implementing water efficient appliances and reducing wasteful water usage.

Recycled Water

The first stages of the Pimpama Coomera Waterfuture Master Plan, Australia's largest integrated urban water cycle management program, have been implemented including the completion of the Pimpama Recycled Water Treatment Plant. Class A+ recycled water, a high quality of recycled water, is due to be supplied to homes via a third pipe system during 2009.

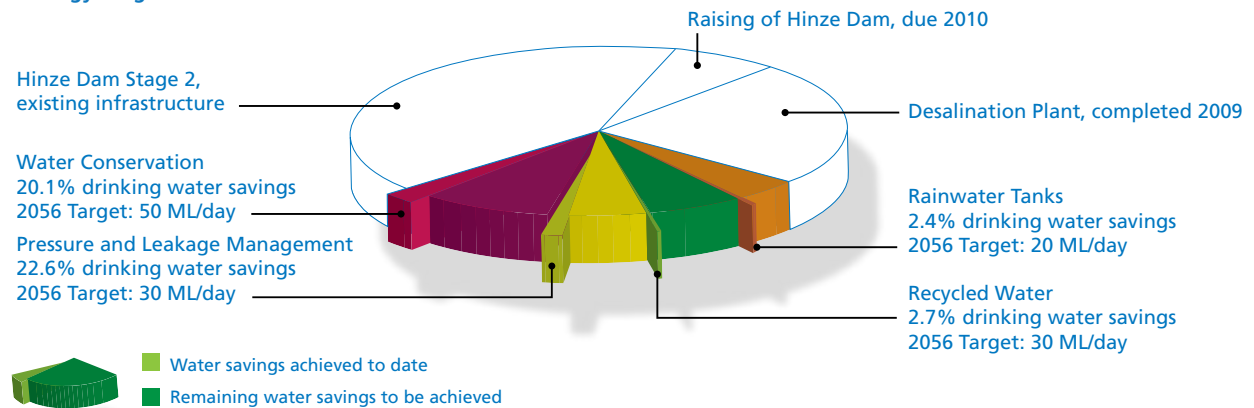
In addition to the use of this valuable resource to reduce the demand for drinking water, over 18 ML of recycled water is beneficially reused per day throughout the Gold Coast. This is mainly used for irrigation and reduces the release of recycled water to the environment.

Rainwater Tanks

Across Gold Coast City, rainwater tanks currently supply 0.5 ML/day for suitable purposes where drinking water would have once been used. Rainwater tanks also reduce stormwater run-off to the environment.

Gold Coast Water's initiative of mandating the installation of rainwater tanks in new developments is now incorporated into the State Government *Queensland Development Code Part 4.0 Building Sustainability* as a solution to achieve the required water saving targets from all new buildings.

Strategy Progress



Note: Percentages indicate savings achieved relative to individual 2056 target.

Key Achievements

- ✓ Initiated the construction of the Gold Coast Desalination Plant with the ability to provide 125 ML/day to SEQ. The plant is now owned and operated by WaterSecure.
- ✓ Initiated the Raising of Hinze Dam Project. When complete in 2010 it will increase the dam's water supply from 191 ML/day to 225 ML/day. Hinze Dam is now owned and operated by Seqwater.
- ✓ Initiated the construction of the Southern Regional Water Pipeline, which is now owned and operated by LinkWater.
- ✓ Developed a 50 year draft Recycled Water Strategy for the city which has been forwarded to the State Government for future regional water planning.
- ✓ Completed all infrastructure components of the Pressure and Leakage Management Project saving approximately 6.9 ML/day.
- ✓ Completed a review of the Demand Management Strategy to ensure continued success in reducing the consumption of drinking water.

Future Goals

- Implement projects to continue to achieve the GCWF Strategy objectives.
- Continue to investigate localised and emerging initiatives which may contribute to securing future water supply for the city.
- Review the strategy to ensure that it remains adaptable, balanced and diverse.
- Work with the State Government and other organisations to implement the SEQ Water Reform.

Award Winning Strategy



Gold Coast Water won the prestigious Global Water Intelligence Global Water Awards 2009 Public Agency of the Year, for its contribution to sustainable water management through the GCWF Strategy. The award recognises the people, projects and organisations that have made a positive and true difference in the industry.



The GCWF Strategy was honoured with the 2009 Australian Water Association Queensland and National Water Environment Merit Award, awarded to an organisation that has made a significant contribution to the industry, community or environment.

Gold Coast Water

Ph: 1300 366 692

Email: waterinfo@goldcoastwater.com.au

PO Box 5042 Gold Coast Mail Centre Qld 9729

Web: goldcoastwater.com.au/waterfuture