

DARWIN REGION WATER SUPPLY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

Community Update | Issue 4



Welcome to the fourth community update for the Darwin Region Water Supply Infrastructure Program (the Program), which includes the Manton Dam Return to Service (RTS) and the Adelaide River Off-stream Water Storage (AROWS) projects. We will continue to provide these progress updates throughout the year to keep you informed.

This issue features the latest updates on the following:

- Community Reference Group
- Stakeholder events:
 - Developing Northern Australia Conference
 - Royal Darwin Show
 - Facing North 2023
- National Water Grid Authority annual meeting
- Release of AROWS Concept Design tender
- Manton Dam RTS Design and Construction Tender

Visit the [Water Security website](#) to learn more about the Program.

Community Reference Group Meeting

The third Community Reference Group meeting for the Program was held at the De Lago Resort at Lake Bennett on 27 June 2023.

CRG members were briefed on the Environmental Impact Statement for AROWS and provided with an update on the AROWS and Manton Dam RTS projects. The group also toured the AROWS project site, led by Power and Water's senior headworks planning engineer, Trevor Durling.

Read the key takeaways from the meeting and site tour [here](#).



Developing Northern Australia Conference

Staff from the Northern Territory (NT) Government attended the Developing Northern Australia Conference held at the Darwin Convention Centre on 24-26 July 2023.

Over the course of three days, policy makers, industry representatives, Indigenous leaders, peak bodies and government representatives from the NT, WA and QLD gathered to discuss how we can unlock the potential of Northern Australia through sustainable development, strategic economic planning and diversification.

The AROWS project team shared a booth with the Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade, and engaged with a broad range of stakeholders interested in the future of the Territory's water supply. Staff provided attendees with an overview of the project, describing the unique elements of the off-stream reservoir. Attendees of the conference that engaged with the project team were interested in the economic opportunities that would be enabled by AROWS, such as the potential development of an agribusiness precinct at Lambells Lagoon.



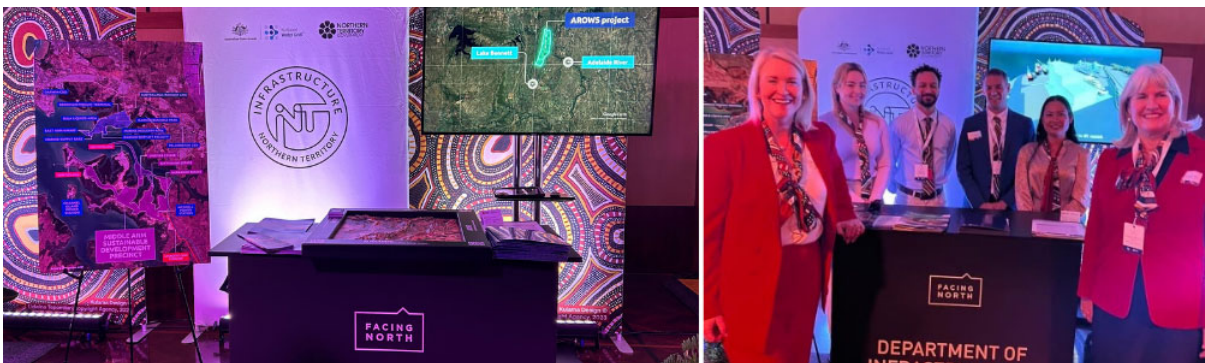
Royal Darwin Show 2023

The project team shared an exhibition booth with the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics at the annual Royal Darwin Show on 27-29 July 2023.

The booth offered a cutting-edge virtual reality experience in partnership with CSIRO, photo booth, time capsule, spinning wheel, and of course, the popular AROWS 3D model.

The 3D model displays a physical representation of AROWS, allowing the public to visualise the large scale of the project and understand how the naturally occurring basin will be used to store water. Using an iPad, attendees had the opportunity to overlay information and visuals on the 3D model.

The team enjoyed sharing the AROWS story and updating people on how the project is progressing.



Facing North 2023

Facing North 2023 was held in Canberra at Parliament House on 2 August 2023. The event brought together key business decision makers, industry and government to showcase the Northern Territory to the rest of the country.

Senior leaders from the AROWS project team attended the event to raise the project's profile as a critical enabling infrastructure for Australia's northern gateway. Conference attendees showed a keen interest in the innovative nature of AROWS, and the considerable opportunities the project could bring to the Territory and the rest of the country.



National Water Grid Authority Annual Meeting

AROWS project team Senior Director, Evan Tyrrell, and Director, Kisha Avellanosa, attended the National Water Grid Authority's inaugural annual meeting in Melbourne on 29 and 30 June 2023.

Evan presented on the delivery of the AROWS Detailed Business Case, showcasing best practice project development. AROWS is the first NT project to progress to stage 3 'Investment Ready' on Infrastructure Australia's Infrastructure Priority List, and secured more than \$300 million in funding from the Australian Government, through the National Water Grid Authority.

The meeting generated lots of constructive discussion around water infrastructure investment in Australia.

AROWS Concept Design Tender

The NT Government have released a tender for an engineering consultant to undertake further investigations and produce a Concept Design Report for the AROWS project.

The consultant will build on the significant technical work completed to date by Power and Water and progress any additional studies to deliver a concept design. The Concept Design Report, along with a rigorous environmental impact assessment, will inform the future investment decision on the construction of AROWS.

The tender will close on 6 September 2023.

Manton Dam Design and Construction Tender

In April 2023, Power and Water released a tender for the design and construction of the infrastructure required to return Manton Dam to service as an operating water source for the Darwin region. The work will include a refurbished intake tower, a new pumping station and pipeline, and a new water treatment plant.

The tender closed on 8 August 2023. Award of the design and construction contract is expected to be announced by the end of this year, subject to approvals, with the completion of the project expected in 2026.

Once Manton Dam is returned to service, it will provide an additional 7,300 megalitres a year into the Darwin region water supply system.

Contact us

We value your input and look forward to continuing to work with the community as the Program progresses.

You can contact the project team at any time to discuss the Program. Please send us an email at waterinfrastructure.DIPL@nt.gov.au.



watersecurity.nt.gov.au

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