



Government of
South Australia



**NORTHERN
WATER**

Northern Water overview

Northern Water aims to provide a secure, climate resilient water source for industry located in South Australia's Upper Spencer Gulf and Far North. The Project is located on the traditional lands of the Barngarla and Kokatha peoples.

Learn more about
the Project →

About the Project

Northern Water will unlock the economic growth potential of the region, particularly in industries that are critical to global decarbonisation. It will provide an alternative to water resources including the Great Artesian Basin and the River Murray.

The Project will involve the construction and operation of a large-scale desalination plant at Mullaquana Station, approximately 20 km south of Whyalla in the Upper Spencer Gulf, along with approximately 400 km of transfer pipeline connecting to the Far North.

If approved and constructed the desalination plant and pipeline will produce 51 gigalitres (GL) of water per year, mainly for industrial use. Any future expansion will require a separate planning, environmental assessment and approval process.

Benefits of Northern Water



Supporting the continued development of South Australia's key mining resources to unlock globally significant deposits of strategic and critical minerals to drive economic growth.



Unlocking sustainable growth in future key industries that contribute to decarbonisation, strengthen sovereign capability, and enable employment and regional growth.



Increasing environmental sustainability by providing an alternative to environmental water sources, including the Great Artesian Basin, the River Murray and local aquifers.



Preserving culturally significant water sources for First Nations communities in South Australia, supporting cultural continuity and community wellbeing.

Project approvals

Commencing construction of Northern Water will rely on gaining Project approvals and agreements. This includes:

- engagement with key stakeholders and the broader community
- Native Title and Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUA) with Traditional Owners
- commercial negotiations for Project delivery and water purchase
- statutory planning and environmental assessment
- a market-tested proposal which will, in part, inform a Final Investment Decision (FID).



Legend


- Desalination plant site
- Pipeline
- Pump station
- Water storage tank
- Regional centre, town or site
- Kokatha infrastructure name
- Kootaberra Approximate location of infrastructure

Acknowledgement of Country


We acknowledge and respect the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Barngarla and Kokatha Peoples, and their deep ongoing spiritual and cultural connection to Country.

We will work together to share our collective knowledge and recognise the enduring impact of infrastructure on Country.

Contact us

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