

Meander Dam

a Regional Resource, Tasmania's Future

Newsletter

Issue No. 2 February 2007

Launch of Meander Dam Website



February 2007 saw the launch of the Meander Dam Website www.meanderdam.net.au.

The website will provide up-to-date information on all aspects regarding the development of the Meander Dam including:

- A brief history
- A list of our Associates including links to their websites
- Irrigation Rights including details on the four purchase options available
- Photos of the construction site
- Construction methods
- Environmental Protection Methods
- Information on the Rivers & Water Supply Commission including a link to the RWSC website
- Recreation Plan - provides details of the recreation activities planned for the Meander Dam site including a link to the Recreation Management Plan

Construction Progress Report

Construction of the Meander Dam continues to progress well with 60% of Dam construction now completed. If the fine dam-building weather continues, at current pace it is possible the Dam will be completed ahead of the November 2007 scheduled completion date.

With the River-bed cleared and foundation concrete poured into the left and right abutments the first of the pre-cast concrete blocks being the form-work for the Roller Compacted Concrete (RCC) Dam wall have been put in place.

On the 16th January 2007 the first of over 200,000 tonnes of Roller Compacted Concrete of which the dam wall is constructed was placed into the river-floor.



Above: Cleared River-bed ready to pour concrete with first pre-cast concrete blocks form-work in place.

Construction Report (cont.)



Above: Meander Dam foundation area showing placement and compaction of RCC.

The photo above shows the placement of concrete and precast blocks in the dam wall of which by Mid-February 500 of the downstream blocks and 60 of the upstream precast panels had been placed .

Construction of the dam wall has risen to approximately 25% of the total 47m above the river-bed which the wall will be when completed. As the width of the dam increases significantly as the wall rises there is however only 17% of the total 35,000 tonnes of concrete poured to date.



Open Day

**Sunday March 25, Meander Hall,
10am to 3.30pm**

- With music from Garry Smith, Rod Boxhall, Linda King, Anne Townsend & Man-
- Face Painting
- Pony Rides
- Apex Train
- Balloon Man
- Jumping Castle
- Rivers and Water Supply Display
- Meander Dam Recreation Plan Consultants in attendance
- Inland Fisheries Display
- Food and Beverages
- Free Buses to the Meander Dam Site

(please note, no private vehicle access to the dam site)

Irrigation Sales

With the Meander Dam well over half way completed, Irrigators will soon be able to benefit from the 24,000ML of irrigation water stored in the Dam. The four products on offer by the Commission for the purchase of irrigation rights before 30th June 2007 are based on \$1,000/ML. The up-front payment in full product offers a discount of 8% pa for payment before 30 June 2007. The discount schedule for this product is detailed below:

Payment made before	Price
31st March 2007	\$980/ML
30th April 2007	\$987/ML
31st May 2007	\$993/ML
30th June 2007	\$1,000/ML

By committing after the completion of the Dam Development, the price of the irrigation rights will be based on \$1,100/ML and will be indexed in line with CPI and the associated costs.

The Commission has also set the initial annual charge for supply and use of the water in the 2007-08 season at \$35 per ML with an end-of-season rebate on water not used of \$7/ML. In setting the annual charge of \$35 per ML, the Commission has made some positive assumptions on the level of support that will be forthcoming from irrigators and we trust that this confidence is rewarded and the \$35 per ML can be sustained.

Following the recent interest rate increases the Commission has been forced to increase the interest rate of the fixed repayment loan product by 0.25%. The current interest rates and annual repayment amounts for the 5-year and 10-year fixed repayment loan are detailed below:-

*Note: Interest rates are current until the 31st March 2007 or unless withdrawn earlier.

Interest Rate*:	5-year	10-year
Interest Rate*:	7.40%pa	7.45%pa
Annual Repayment Amount	\$239.88	\$142.08

