

# Bondi Water Resource Recovery Facility

Sydney  
**WATER**

Community update - July 2024



## Building a sustainable future

The Bondi Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) is Sydney Water's oldest wastewater treatment plant, operating since December 1953.

Bondi WRRF, and the deepwater ocean outfalls installed in 1991, continue to protect our waterways and Bondi Beach. Using circular economy principles in operating the Bondi WRRF, we make the most of using resources in the wastewater by:

- turning waste methane gas (biogas) into electricity which powers our operations and supply surplus electricity back to the grid
- producing up to 100 tonnes of biosolids (organic solids) weekly, all reused in either agriculture, composting or land rehabilitation
- reusing up to 3.5 million litres of recycled water per day in the treatment process instead of drinking water.

We continue to transform and improve sustainability outcomes to reduce our carbon emissions and be more energy efficient as we upgrade Bondi WRRF and the Bondi wastewater system to maintain safe and reliable wastewater services and protect our waterways. These improvements support Sydney's growth and safeguard Bondi Beach and the local community.

We know that our work can sometimes have an impact on our community, and we'd like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding as we continue to upgrade Bondi WRRF.

## Update on our current work

### Ocean outfall pumps upgrade

In January 2024 major work started to renew and refurbish the ocean outfall pumps. These pumps discharge the treated wastewater to the deepwater ocean outfall. All six pumps will be upgraded over the next four years to improve their reliability. This work will not impact on the operation or performance of the Bondi WRRF.

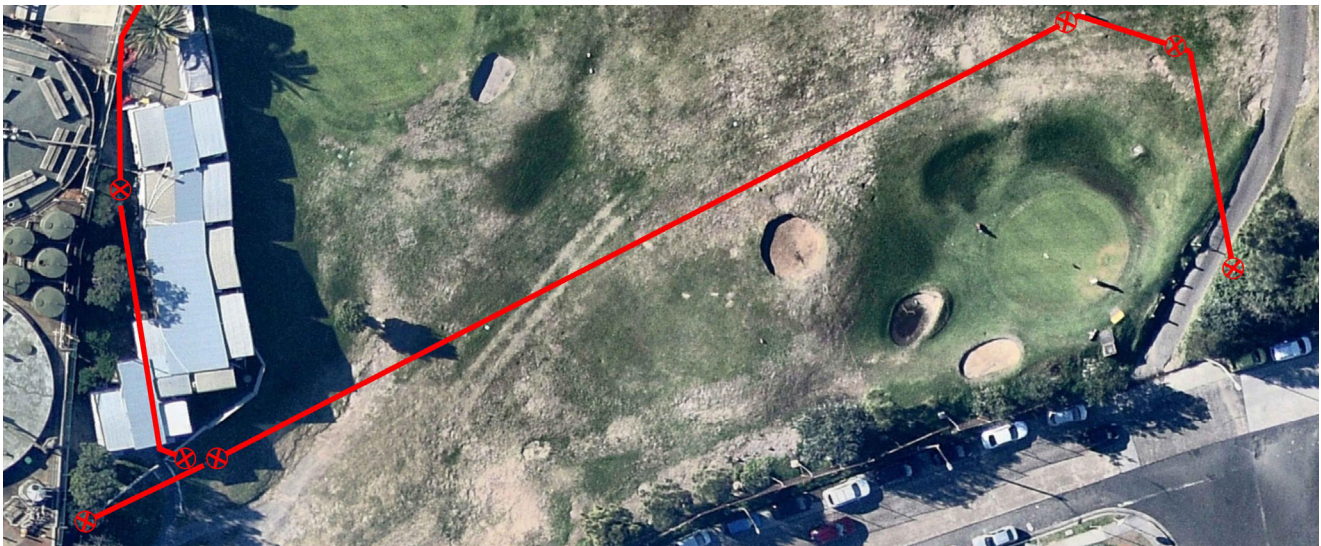
### Supernatant pipeline replacement

We're replacing an aged section of the supernatant pipeline with a new pipeline. These pipes help prevent spills above ground in times of heavy rain and prevent overflows from the digesters area at Military Road. Work is

scheduled to begin in August and will take up to two months to complete, weather permitting.

The new pipe will be installed through Williams Park (Bondi Golf Course) and will require the removal of vegetation and trees to install the new pipe. We are working with Waverley Council and Bondi Golf Club to plant additional trees within the golf course, and to ensure the area is restored to existing conditions.

Our work may impact users of Williams Park and golfers. We are working with Bondi Golf Club to minimise impacts where possible. **Bondi Golf Club and the golf course will remain open during these works.**



*Alignment of the new supernatant pipeline (marked by red line)*

### Administration building upgrade

We are investigating options to upgrade our office and administration building at Blair Street.

The existing buildings at 176-178 Blair Street no longer meet our needs. We are developing options to remove these building and reuse this area for on-site parking for our staff and storage areas. As part of the design options, we will include measures to improve the visual amenity, streetscape, and landscaping along Blair Street. Once preliminary design options are developed, we'll update local residents and Waverley Council.



*Our staff working at Bondi WRRF to make sure we provide world class wastewater services and protect our waterways*

## Stay updated – on time, every time and paperless

We're committed to ensuring you are kept informed. If you'd like to receive email notifications about our work or would like more information. Send your details to: [bondiwrrf@sydneywater.com.au](mailto:bondiwrrf@sydneywater.com.au)



## Decline tunnel repairs

Work to remediate a section of the decline tunnel is currently underway. The decline tunnel provides pedestrian and vehicle access to the underground plant. Recent inspections identified sections of the decline tunnel need repair. This includes repair to the shotcrete concrete lining, install rock-bolts and other minor repairs. These works are needed to stabilise the decline tunnel and ensure it is always available for use. This work will take up to four months to complete.

Work will be conducted **outside of normal working hours** as the decline tunnel is used during the day to operate the plant. Working hours will be between 3.30 pm to 2 am, Monday to Friday. We will plan to conduct the noisiest works between 3.30 pm and 7 pm.

## Ventilation upgrades

We're continuing to upgrade and improve our underground ventilation systems to improve their operation and reduce odour impacts on the community.

During the winter months, when there is less odour due to colder weather, we'll shut down our odour scrubbers to carry out critical maintenance works. This will include cleaning works and installing new equipment. These works are planned start in July 2024 and will take up to five weeks to complete. We'll also be conducting an odour review during this time to reduce odour sources and impacts.

There is a minor risk of odour during this time. Use the QR Code on page 4 to let us know if you are experiencing any odours.



*Decline access tunnel – main access route to underground plant from Military Road*

## Upcoming works

### Eastern safe haven refurbishment

Work is expected to commence November 2024 to refurbish the Eastern Safe Haven, a concrete structure located at the base of the cliff-face used as an emergency point for the underground plant. We will be placing temporary rock-netting on the cliff-face to protect our project team whilst we carry out work beneath. This netting will be removed once the work is completed. These works are expected to be completed in late-2025. There will be minimal impacts on the community.

### Ben Buckler vent stack refurbishment

Work is expected to commence in October 2024 to refurbish the Ben Buckler vent stack. The work will include installing scaffolding around the stack to enable us to refurbish the concrete and structure to ensure ongoing use of this heritage asset. These works are expected to be completed in late-2025.



*(left) Existing Ben Buckler Stack (right) Ben Buckler Stack being built in 1910 to replace original stack built in 1888  
©Sydney WaterNSW Historical Research Archive*

## Long term planning projects

We're planning important improvements for the Bondi WRRF and the local Bondi wastewater system to keep our waterways safe and clean.

Over the next decade, we plan to implement a series of improvements at Bondi WRRF and within the Bondi wastewater system to ensure we continue to provide safe, reliable and resilient wastewater services. As we develop the planning, we will update our timetable, project details and the community. We will continue with short-term upgrade works as part of the broader program improvements.

It's expected that work may include upgrades to the following areas:

- upgrade and or rehabilitate the Bondi Ocean Outfall Sewer (BOOS)
- upgrade of the treatment process at Bondi WRRF, including:
  - screenings and grit collection and systems
  - solids collection, transfer and digester heating and mixing systems
  - biosolids dewatering, storage and out-loading facilities
  - ocean outfall raw sewage pumps
  - fresh air and foul air ventilation systems and odour control facilities
  - electrical equipment and control systems
  - upgrade of administration buildings and offices
  - refurbish and upgrade mechanical, civil and geotechnical structures.

Our planning work will look at upgrading the above and underground areas of Bondi WRRF.

To find out more visit

<https://www.sydneywater.talk.com.au/bondiwrrf>

or scan the QR code.



SCAN ME



Overview of the underground plant and caverns of the Bondi WRRF

## Purified Recycled Water Discovery Centre now open

Sydney Water is exploring the potential use of purified recycled water as a future water source. Our new Purified Recycled Water (PRW) Discovery Centre at Quakers Hill (near Blacktown) is open to the community.

Sydney Water is offering free tours to learn about where our water comes from, the challenges we currently face in Greater Sydney and our vision for the future, including the role of PRW.

Learn all about PRW and see the technology in action.

Scan the QR Code for more information.



SCAN ME



Quakers Hill purified recycled water discovery centre

## If you are experiencing odour issues, let us know

using a short online form via this QR Code. This is the quickest way to submit your experience and for us to respond.

You can also let us know when there is no odour present.

This is valuable information too.

## Reporting odour issues

Open the QR Code reader on your smart device. Hold your device over the QR Code to scan it.

