

MEDIA RELEASE

**Minister opens \$11.1 million Stroud
Sewage Treatment Plant**

Wednesday 20 May 2009

NSW Minister for Water, Phil Costa will today officially open the new \$11.1 million Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) at Stroud.

“The commissioning of the Stroud STP marks an important step in protecting the long-term health of the Karuah River and providing the Stroud community with improved sewage services,” said Mr Costa.

“This new plant, which has the capacity to treat up to 75 million litres of wastewater from the community each year, has been designed to cater for the future growth of Stroud.”

Mr Costa said the existing sewage treatment plant has been upgraded to mitigate problems with overloading.

“I am pleased the NSW Government has been able to assist MidCoast Water with the cost of constructing this new treatment plant which represents best practice in effluent management.”

“Reclaimed water that is discharged from the new plant is of a very high standard. In fact, about 95 per cent of the treated effluent will be used for irrigating 25 hectares of pasture for dairy cattle.”

He said only a relatively small volume of the highly treated effluent that cannot be used to aid local primary production will be returned to the Karuah River under stringent environmental guidelines.

Funding assistance of \$1.2 million for the new plant was provided to MidCoast Water through the NSW Government’s \$1.1 billion Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program.

“This essential community program has so far provided assistance to more than 360 projects which have directly benefited over one million people in rural and regional NSW.”

“I congratulate MidCoast Water on delivering this important project for the Stroud community and the many environmental benefits that will result from the commissioning of this plant,” Mr Costa said.

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