

MEDIA RELEASE

NSW Government funds \$400,000 for Lithgow and Oberon's town water supplies

Tuesday 9 June 2009

NSW Water Minister Phil Costa today announced the Rees Government would provide Lithgow Council with \$400,000 in funding to help ailing water supplies in Oberon Dam.

Mr Costa said the funding will allow emergency work to be carried out to connect the Lithgow villages of Marrangaroo, Wallerawang, Portland, Rydal, Cullen Bullen and Glen Davis to the Lithgow town water supply.

"This will reduce demand on Oberon Dam and effectively enhance Oberon's drought security for up to two years," Mr Costa said.

"The villages have a yearly allocation of more than 2 billion litres. This water will now be available for the town of Oberon and other water users who rely on that system.

"The villages will also benefit from a permanent connection to Lithgow's city water supply," he said.

Bathurst MP Gerard Martin said Lithgow City Council will construct a 500 metre pipeline and associated pumping infrastructure to connect the villages to the Lithgow supply.

"I thank the Minister for recognising the urgency of the situation and allocating funds from the NSW Government to meet the entire cost of the project," said Mr Martin.

"I also congratulate the two Councils – Lithgow and Oberon – for working together to achieve this outcome.

"It's a good outcome for not only the town of Oberon, but also the Lithgow villages," he added.

Mr Costa said that the funding is being provided 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 340 projects, directly benefiting over one million people in rural and regional NSW," Mr Costa added.

More information on the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program is available on the Department of Water and Energy's website - www.dwe.nsw.gov.au

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