

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Phil Costa**  
**Minister for Water**  
**Minister for Regional Development**



**27 August 2009**

### **MINISTER OPENS ORANGE STORMWATER HARVESTING PROJECT**

Orange's award winning stormwater harvesting project will be officially opened today by NSW Minister for Water, Phillip Costa.

"NSW Government invested \$4.45 million into construction to enhance the drought security for Orange and I'm please to see these projects now online and benefiting the people of Orange," Mr Costa said.

"Like so many towns in New South Wales, the drought has made its presence felt in the city of Orange.

"This stormwater harvesting project is expected to deliver an additional 1,300 megalitres to the town annually.

"The project had its beginnings in 2007 when dam levels were falling and the Office of Water and Orange City Council joined forces to investigate a range of works to enhance the drought security of Orange.

"Since then, the project has gone on to achieved award winning status after taking home a 2009 Green Globe award - something all of Orange can be proud of."

The stormwater harvesting project's infrastructure includes:

- three separate pumping stations,
- creek flow monitoring points and advanced electronics including fibre optic cables,
- a weir on Blackmans Swamp Creek, which creates a 3 megalitre pool and the site for the first pump station,
- a 200 megalitre dam and
- two 17 megalitre batching ponds.

"I congratulate Council on completing this innovative project in a very short timeframe." Mr Costa said.

"I also congratulate the Council for developing strict water quality guidelines critical to ensuring a safe, clean drinking supply.

"This investment is part of the NSW Government's \$1.1 Billion Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program, which has so far provided financial assistance to more than 360 projects, directly benefiting over one million people in rural and regional NSW."

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