



south bank
corporation

media release

13 February 2008

\$4.6 million investment to drought proof South Bank

The State Government is to spend \$4.6 million dollars to supply South Bank's irrigation requirements from an extensive stormwater harvesting system.

The stormwater harvesting project, will provide an alternative water supply source for the maintenance of the South Bank Parklands and reduce its reliance on potable and purchased recycled water currently being trucked in.

South Bank Corporation Chairman Steve Wilson said the pursuit of the stormwater harvesting system demonstrated the Corporation's proactive commitment to environmental sustainability.

"This project is an exciting opportunity for us to develop a cost effective water source for the ongoing benefit of the precinct," he said.

"It will also showcase the potential for stormwater harvesting as a supplementary water source in other urban environments.

"South Bank's project will provide invaluable research opportunities and experience in meeting the challenges that we are all facing as a result of significantly reduced water supplies."

The project will span the South Bank urban catchment using a permanent system that includes:

- installation of a permanent stormwater harvesting system to supply water for irrigation and water features including a 2ML underground storage reservoir;
- roof water harvesting from the Suncorp Piazza for local re-use; and
- possible future supplementary stormwater harvesting from the Russell Street stormwater main.

Once complete, the new system is projected to meet 78% of the Parkland's irrigation and water feature needs and will be one of the largest projects of its kind in South East Queensland.

Stormwater run-off from South Bank is estimated at 180ML per year, presenting a valuable resource to the urban catchment area.

The project is the latest in a range of sustainability initiatives undertaken by South Bank Corporation.

Since 2001, the Corporation has reduced its water use by 68% through its Water Efficiency Management Plan including:

- environmentally sustainable building guidelines for new developments;
- use of water saving devices and water-wise landscaping;
- recycling water used for Parkland irrigation; and
- installation of six 47,000 litre water tanks for storage of recycled pool backwash water.

The Corporation has also taken steps to ensure that the pool system's maintenance, carried out since late June 2007, would immediately reduce water use.

The Corporation's holistic approach to sustainability has also seen it sign a new waste contract that will increase the recycling of rubbish with an increase in the availability of recycling bins throughout the Parklands.

Leading energy provider, True Energy has also signed up to sponsor South Bank's signature events, ensuring they are operated using 100% green power.

For further information about South Bank go to www.visitsouthbank.com.au or call the South Bank Visitor Information Centre on 07 3867 2051.

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