

MEDIA RELEASE



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25 years on, Thomson Dam builder to deliver Victorian Desalination Project

Thiess, one of Australia's largest and most trusted construction and services companies, has been awarded the \$3.5 billion Victorian Desalination Project as part of the AquaSure consortium.

The Victorian Desalination Project is the biggest infrastructure project in that state's history, and will provide the single largest boost to Melbourne's water supply since Thiess built the Thomson Dam, commissioned 25 years ago today.

Over the past 75 years, Thiess has completed more than 80 major dams and has been involved in the provision of critical water infrastructure across Australia. Through its Thiess Services business, it has extensive and long term contracts for the provision of water utilities in Victoria, Western Australia and New Zealand.

The company's Bundamba Advanced Water Treatment Plant, built for the Queensland Government, was delivered on budget and more than 14 months faster than the industry standard. Last year, the project was named Water Project of the Year by Global Water Intelligence.

Joining Thiess and Thiess Services in the AquaSure consortium are two other international market leaders: Degrémont (a SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT company), a world leader in desalination technology, and Macquarie Capital, one of the world's strongest and most experienced infrastructure advisors.

The Thiess Degrémont joint venture has been contracted by AquaSure to design and build the plant, which will be the largest in Australia. It will also be the biggest in the Southern Hemisphere with a capacity to supply up to 150 billion litres of fresh drinking water each year – more than a third of Melbourne's annual water needs - with the possibility of future expansion to 200 billion litres.

Thiess Degrémont will also deliver an 84-kilometre transfer pipeline and the Victorian Government's preferred underground power option, to deliver first supplies of desalinated water by the end of December 2011.

Following construction and commissioning of the plant, the Degrémont-Thiess Services Joint Venture will operate and maintain the plant for the remainder of the 30-year project term.

Acting Managing Director, Nev Power, said it was a tremendously proud day for Thiess. "Once again, Thiess has been entrusted with the responsibility of securing an infrastructure project that is critical to Australia's future."

"The solution our team came up with is visionary and will deliver the most technically advanced, environmentally sensitive and energy efficient desalination facility in Australia."

According to Mr Power, this contract once again confirms Thiess as a market leader and showcases the company's various divisions including Thiess Process, Thiess Tunnelling and Thiess Services.

The project will be one of the largest Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects in the world.



The Victorian Desalination Project is the centrepiece of the State Government's Water Plan, designed to secure Victoria's future water supply independent of rainfall.

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[Contact us](#) for more information

For the past 75 years Thiess has been helping to build our nation. The Snowy Mountains Scheme, Sydney Harbour Tunnel, Lane Cove Tunnel, Melbourne's \$2.5 billion EastLink project and Brisbane's Airport Link are just a few iconic projects to bear the Thiess brand. A commitment to delivering great outcomes for clients has allowed the company to expand internationally and become one of Australia's leading and most trusted contract mining, construction and services companies.

For further information about Thiess, please visit www.thiess.com.au