

# Building our Regions

## St George Effective Effluent Re-Use Project



### Funding

<b>Total project cost</b>	<b>\$489,038</b>
BoR funding	\$467,038
Council funding	\$22,000

\* Average number of Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs supported by project construction (based on Queensland Treasury's Guidelines for estimating FTE jobs directly supported by the capital work program).

St George is located 513 kilometres west of Brisbane on the Balonne River in South West Queensland and has a strong base of irrigated and broadacre farming.

Council is establishing a system to re-use treated sewage effluent water for irrigating crops—addressing community concerns and environmental issues, and turning what is a liability into an asset for the town.

According to Balonne Shire Council Mayor, Richard Marsh the project is for the construction of a new pump and pipework system which will circulate effluent water through to a lateral irrigator which will be used to irrigate a fodder crop on land that is currently lying vacant.

“The project includes building works to establish the treatment and irrigation systems, upgrade an existing dam and the establishment of a cropping area,” Councillor Marsh said.

“Once the project is complete it is intended that the system will be operated and maintained by outsourcing to a local business.

“By reusing the effluent water we’re reducing the environmental and health risks from overflows and seepages, and potentially creating an income stream.

“In addition, unused land will be cropped and provide a local source of hay that supports the area’s agricultural businesses.”

