

Goldenfields Water Strategic Business Plan

New South Wales, Australia

Goldenfields Water County Council (GWCC) is a regional water utility operating in the Riverina region of New South Wales, north of Wagga Wagga. It supplies water to retail customers in the local government areas of Bland, Temora, Coolamon and Junee as well as the northern part of Narrandera and the rural areas of Cootamundra. It also supplies bulk water to Cootamundra, Young and Harden councils.

GWCC was established in 1997 through the integration of South West Tablelands Water Supply and Northern Riverina County Council.

As part of its commitment to achieving best-practice management in accordance with the NSW government guidelines, GWCC commissioned HydroScience Consulting to prepare a strategic business plan and to review its pricing structure.

HydroScience prepared the strategic business plan that is the blueprint for the management, operation and development of GWCC over the next 30 years. It formalises the levels of service, identifies major issues and sets performance targets. The plan then develops strategies and action plans to address the issues and achieve the targets. A key component of the strategic business plan is a long-term financial plan. The financial plan identifies strategies for funding the operation and capital expenditure over the next 30 years and demonstrates the financial sustainability of the business.

Reviewing Goldenfields Water's pricing structure was particularly challenging and included setting both bulk and retail tariffs.

Approximately 40% of the water produced by GWCC is sold in bulk to councils who in turn retail the water to their customers. Further, GWCC has a large proportion of rural customers, characterised by long pipelines and consequent high servicing costs.

HydroScience completed a through analysis that resulted in recommending a tariff structure that is best-practice compliant, equitable, and provides GWCC with sufficient income to fund its future operation. These recommendations were implemented by GWCC from July 2009.



Project Overview

Highlights

- ❖ Best-Practice Management
- ❖ Strategic Business Plan
- ❖ Financial Plan
- ❖ Retail and Bulk Pricing

Details

Completion Date: 2009

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