

SCOTTSDALE IRRIGATION PROJECT

DICL Pipelines

Date: Jul 2019 - Oct 2019

Principal: VEC Civil

Project Value: \$3.0M

TASK

The Scottsdale Irrigation Project was another Tasmanian Irrigation Project commissioned in 2020. VEC Civil engaged Shaw Contracting to perform the DICL (ductile iron concrete lined) installation component of the project due to previous experience and success from the Winnaleah Irrigation Project.

There was 16.8km of DICL pipes in varying diameters 750mm, 500mm, 450mm, 375mm, 200mm and 150mm. DICL pipe was chosen for high pressure section of the pipeline. DICL pipe was all rubber ring jointed pipe. The installation was through farmland, forest areas and areas containing endangered flora and fauna.

CHALLENGES

Due to the high pressure all changes in direction required significant concrete structures for bends, sockets, bulkheads, valves and encased on major streams. This required ingenuity from Shaw to pour concrete in remote areas and engaged a sub-contractor to use concrete bowls on the back of tractors to cart from the nearest access point.

Shaw hired vacuum lifters to load, unload and stockpile pipes. This significantly improved OHS risk through eliminating personnel accessing top of pipe stacks. At the end of the project Shaw also provided VEC an experienced fit off crew to complete air/scour valves and property outlets.

Works were conducted through the Winter period. This required scheduling of work in areas of limited accessibility so activities to minimize ground impact and maintain access was a priority. Some areas of swamp required a combination of container bases and gravel to maintain access.

Works were re-scheduled to stay out of a wedge tailed eagle sensitive areas during breeding season. Creek crossings that contained giant freshwater crayfish meant relocation as per the environmental license requirements.

OUTCOMES

Work was completed ahead of schedule with no adverse environmental impact.

