



PRESS RELEASE – SEPTEMBER 2004



COE DRILLING AUSTRALIA SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES BRISBANE RIVER CROSSING

In Early 2004, Leighton Contractors Pty Limited awarded the HDD River Crossing Subcontract to Coe Drilling Australia Pty Ltd on the Australian TradeCoast Sewer Project.

Project Background

Brisbane City Council, working with Brisbane Water and a team of specialist construction and design companies led by Leighton Contractors is delivering the \$13 Million Australian TradeCoast (ATC) sewer Project which will include 12.5KM of new pipeline, three new pump stations, and upgrades to four existing pump stations.

This significant investment in critical wastewater infrastructure will increase the TradeCoast precinct's attraction for commercial and industrial tenants as a rapidly growing regional trade hub, and enhance the wastewater network's performance for local residents.

The Australia Trade Coast precinct is already home to over 7,600 businesses and is achieving the highest business expansion growth rates in Australia. It is expected to contribute \$4.9 Billion and 51,000 jobs to the south-east Queensland economy by 2009/2010.

Project Delivery HDD River Crossing

The Brisbane River Crossing installation was always going to be a difficult and trying project. Critical to the overall success of the Australia TradeCoast Sewer Project, Stage Two construction involving a Crossing of the Brisbane River using Horizontal Directional Drilling Technology. The Drilling and Pipeline installation was part of a challenging and highly complex project. The project team developed and implemented a detailed engineering design and execution methodology to minimise potential drilling and pipeline installation risks.

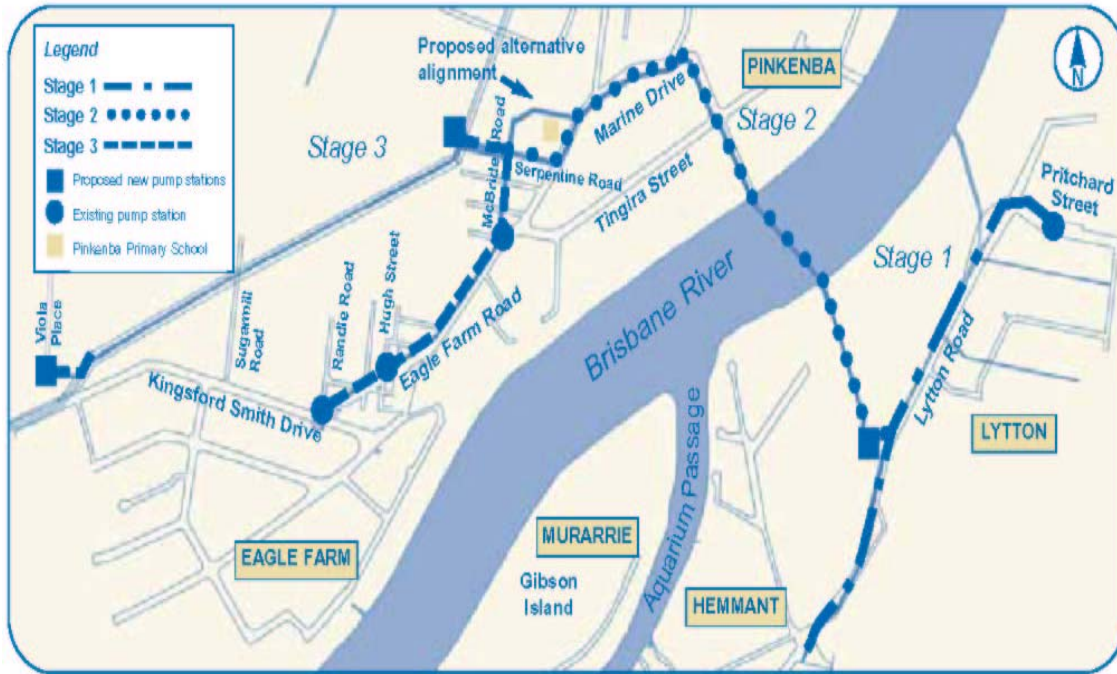


Top: Drilling Operations at Yarra Street Pinkenba.

The geology to be encountered for the project indicates that the subsurface lithology to the depth of the investigation is relatively consistent, comprising Quaternary age alluvial deposits overlying weathered rock associated with the Tertiary age Petrie Formation. Each of the six boreholes intersects the interface between these two geological units within a narrow level range between RL -34.4m AHD and RL -39.6m AHD over a distance of approximately 600m. The overlying Gravels presented the challenge to ensure all drilling activities and pipeline installation operations could be carried out continuously providing a successful installation. Casings were used to allow drilling to proceed within the gravels until bedrock was encountered as planned.



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CoeDrill 550 Rig Spread.

The crossing was drilled from a site on the North Side of the Brisbane River at Yarra Street using 9 7/8" TCI Drill Bit driven by a Wenzel 6 3/4" Mud Motor. A Tensor Steering Tool using Tru-tracking provided magnetic guidance for the 762m River Crossing, which included a compound curve with a 26 Degree alignment change.

The product pipeline was a DN 400 HDPE 100 PN 20 pipe prepared, welded and tested by Leighton's on the North side of the Brisbane River. Once all Pilot Hole, hole opening and hole conditioning had been completed the CoeDrill 550 Rig Spread was mobilized to the South Side of the River at Lytton for the Pipeline Installation Operation, which allowed the pipeline to be pulled through the longer open section of Gravels before entering the Basalt Bedrock and back up through a shorter section of gravel on the South side.

Work commenced on site in Mid June 04 working on a 24 hour a day basis. The pipeline installation operation was completed in Early August. The ultimate success of the Brisbane River Crossing reinforces Coe Drilling Australia Pty Ltd's position as a leading Australian supplier of engineered Horizontal Directional Drilled Crossings.

PROJECT DATA:
Owner: Brisbane Water
Main Contractor: Leighton Contractors Pty Ltd
HDD River Crossing Contractor: Coe Drilling Australia Pty Ltd
Pipe String Length: 762m
Pipe Specification: DN 400 HDPE 100 PN 20

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Top: Pipeline Installation Operations at Yarra Street Pinkenba.