

# Wilcannia Weir Replacement Project

## Project status

Work is still progressing on the Wilcannia Weir Replacement Project, with both the Australian and NSW Governments committed to delivering the project and its benefits for the local community.

Unfortunately, persistent rainfall, high river flows and wet site conditions are hampering the new weir's pre-construction site-based activities and investigations.

Further geotechnical studies are needed to complete the detailed design of the new weir. These investigations cannot be undertaken properly or safely given the current river, weather, and site conditions.



We will have a clearer idea of the construction timeline once the detailed design and the Environmental Impact Statement approval process are further progressed over the coming months.

Image: Wilcannia township.

## Environmental Impact Statement process

The public exhibition of the new weir's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) finished in mid-August 2022. Over 50 submissions were received from the community and government agencies.

We are now assessing the issues raised in the submissions, developing responses and identifying where further studies are required. This includes workshops with relevant agencies to work through proposed actions as well as putting together a response to submissions report.

## Community drop-in sessions

Our project team is coming to Wilcannia at the end of November 2022 to update the community on the progress of the project.

Two drop-in sessions will be held at the Wilcannia Community Hall (corner of Woore Street and Myers Street) on:

- Tuesday 29 November (10 am to 1 pm)
- Wednesday 30 November (3 pm to 5 pm).

Feel free to drop by at these times to have a yarn with us. There's no need to register beforehand.

## Other projects we are delivering in Wilcannia

The Wilcannia Weir project is more than just the construction of the new weir itself.

Despite the impact of the weather and site conditions on the new weir pre-construction activities, there are several other works potentially being progressed in the meantime including:

- installing the stormwater mitigation system needed to protect the new weir pool, which could start from mid-2023 (a contract for these works is expected to be awarded by the end of 2022)
- completing Stage One of the Union Bend Road upgrades which were unexpectedly halted earlier in 2022 due to the ongoing wet weather
- delivering a Community River Place in 2023.

## Employment training opportunities

Our priority is to build local capacity for the project and improve opportunities for Wilcannia residents to gain employment across other projects and industries in the region .

Water Infrastructure NSW, in partnership with TAFE NSW, the Regional Enterprise Development Institute (REDI.E) and Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly, is looking to identify and progress with future training packages to complement those already completed.

Importantly, we have funding available to provide local community members with more employment training.

Meetings are being held with TAFE NSW and REDI.E to put together training packages for 2023.

We will keep you updated as these opportunities become available.



Image: Wilcannia residents completing civil construction machinery training in 2022.

## More information

For more information about the project:

- visit [dpie.nsw.gov.au/wilcannia-weir](http://dpie.nsw.gov.au/wilcannia-weir)
- email [wilcannia.weir@dpie.nsw.gov.au](mailto:wilcannia.weir@dpie.nsw.gov.au)
- phone 1300 081 047.