



Melinda Pavey
Minister for Water, Property and Housing

MEDIA RELEASE

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PROSPECTIVE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PARTNERS SHORTLISTED FOR THE WYANGALA DAM WALL RAISING

Lachlan Valley communities are one step closer to improved water security with the announcement of two prospective design and construction partners for the Wyangala Dam Wall Raising project.

After an extensive assessment process, Acciona and Seymour Whyte have been shortlisted for the main works contract, which would see the dam wall raised by 10 metres and its storage capacity increased by 53 per cent.

NSW Minister for Water, Property and Housing Melinda Pavey said both Acciona and Seymour Whyte had been selected based on their strong regional experience, as well as their expertise in dam projects and major complex infrastructure.

“During the next eight months, each partner will work closely with the project team to develop two separate potential designs for the project and provide expert construction advice for the project’s business case and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)”, Mrs Pavey said.

“The successful contractor will be announced in 2022 if the Wyangala Dam wall raising project is approved for construction.

“With regional New South Wales emerging from the worst drought in living memory, we are focused on accelerating our recovery whilst also building water infrastructure projects and other solutions to protect our communities against future drought events.

“Wyangala Dam’s storage fell as low as 9 per cent at the peak of the drought crisis during the summer of 2019-20, and even lower to 8 per cent in February last year.

“During this time, communities in the Lachlan Valley faced the problem of rationing out a dwindling supply of water with some of the severest water restrictions in the country.

“Raising the dam wall is expected to create capacity for an additional 650 gigalitres of

water – that's 53 per cent more than current storage.

“Had this project been delivered earlier, the 2016 rains would have filled the new, larger dam. A raised wall at Wyangala would have secured water for towns and farmers in the Lachlan, keeping the region strong through the last drought.

“This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to deliver critical infrastructure that will improve water security for the people of the Lachlan Valley for many generations to come.”

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