

media release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Water project to create jobs, but details in the pipeline

It is anticipated that between 60 and 80 jobs will be created during the construction phase of Gladstone Regional Council's Agnes Water/Seventeen Seventy Integrated Water Project.

But the Project Manager is urging people looking for work to wait until the civil and piping contractor is appointed at the end of June before making enquiries about employment.

The project, which will provide a long-term community water and sewerage management solution to the Agnes Water and Seventeen Seventy region, will begin in July with the construction of a sealed road from Springs Road to Chinaman's Beach at Agnes Water.

Council's appointed contractor United Utilities Australia (UUA) will oversee the \$40 million project which involves the construction of a desalination plant, sewerage treatment plant upgrade, water and sewerage reticulation and a reservoir to Seventeen Seventy.

UUA Project Manager Matthew Miller said his company, whose expertise is in providing sustainable water solutions, was aiming to appoint a major civil and piping contractor within the coming five to six weeks.

He said UUA expected total contractor employment would be in the vicinity of 60 to 80 personnel, but "it would ultimately be up to the contractor to determine the final number of employees needed and the methodology involved to meet schedule".

"Bundaberg, Gladstone and the Discovery Coast are considered local, in this instance, and we expect all employees are secured based on skills and qualifications."

However, Mr Miller added that UUA would encourage major contractors to employ local to Agnes Water and outlying district, although it would not be a contractual requirement.

Mr Miller urged people to visit Council's website www.gladstonerc.qld.gov.au for updates on the project. Employment details will be uploaded to the site once the major contractor is appointed and its staffing requirements assessed.

**MEDIA INFORMATION: For further information contact Council's Manager
Water and Sewerage Phil Boshoff on (07) 4970 0700.**