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Works continuing on alternative water supply for Coonabarabran

Preparation of alternative water sources for the Coonabarabran water supply is continuing with investigations underway in to the establishment of a number of new bores.

Warrumbungle Shire Council Mayor, Councillor Peter Shinton says that, "Council is currently undertaking drilling, step testing, and three (3) day pump tests on the proposed bore sites in and around Coonabarabran. This will indicate whether the proposed sites will supply the necessary quantity of water required to provide an ongoing supply of water for Coonabarabran."

"These tests include geophysical logging of the bore holes to determine the most appropriate screen to be inserted into the bore and the location of the screen within the bore. Each bore will encounter numerous aquifers at various depths, and the location of the screen is important as it will determine which aquifer will be accessed", said Cr Shinton.

"The depth at which these bores are being drilled and logged is deep enough to receive a good indication of how many aquifers are below the surface. The aim of this investigation is to ensure that Council does not access the same aquifer being accessed by surrounding private bores", said Cr Shinton.

Cr Shinton says that "at this stage two (2) bores have had the necessary testing completed, as required by NSW Department of Industry – Water. This means that Council has now been able to lodge an application to receive a license to convert these bores into production bores. Proposals for all bores that are to be converted to production bores will be advertised for public comment, by the NSW Department of Industry – Water, for a period up to 28 days."

Cr Shinton said, "as well as these two (2) bores, there are a further five (5) bore sites which Council is investigating. Council is currently at the stage of test drilling and logging of these bores with a three (3) day pump test to commence at one (1) of the sites this week. A second application has already been submitted to the NSW Department of Industry – Water to have these bores converted in to production bores if appropriate."

"Council is extremely grateful for the funding received from the NSW State Government and for their assistance and support of this project. Council has also made an application for further funding to fit out the bores to enable them all to get to the production bore phase to meet the water demands of the town", says Cr Shinton.

"The Coonabarabran community is an extremely resilient one and I'm sure that the establishment of this alternative water supply will provide positive outcomes for the community both now and for many years to come" concluded Cr Shinton.

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