



ABERGELDIE - UP TO THE CHALLENGE

Works are close to complete on the upgrade and realignment of Shone Avenue (West Dapto, NSW) and the construction of a new road bridge. The project, which involved demolition of the existing single lane road bridge and construction of a new two lane, triple span bridge and approach road, is part of Wollongong City Council's West Dapto Access Strategy, to improve access to Horsley and planned residential expansion in the West Dapto development area.

Abergeldie Complex Infrastructure Pty Ltd is undertaking the works. The company has 20 years' experience civil infrastructure construction, targeting its focus on undertaking the more technically complex and challenging projects.

"The project has required us to redirect the course of the creek under the new bridge," said Michael Boyle, Abergeldie's Managing Director. "It was a very tricky process, mostly because of heavy rainfall we experienced. We had to install extensive environmental controls to prevent flooding of the construction area and at the same time redirect the creek flow to align with the position of the new road bridge crossing. The high level of water flow meant that the creek wanted to keep to its natural existing path and there was a risk of erosion of the banks of the new alignment until we had the new earthworks fully stabilised. We put a lot of detailed planning and supervision into the environmental management and erosion control works and were able to achieve the cut over from the old creek alignment to the new without any environmental incidents occurring," said Boyle.

This was just one of many projects undertaken by Abergeldie which have required careful environmental management. Larger environmentally sensitive projects have included cyclone damage repair works to

Queensland Sugar Ltd's 5.8km long jetty and bulk Sugar Loading facility at Lucinda, north of Townsville, for which Abergeldie won a 2013 National Civil Contractors Federation Earth Award.

Mr Boyle says that environmental management constraints were extreme at Lucinda. "The jetty and loader are within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and we were working up to 5.8 km out from the shore. Again, well planned and strictly monitored environmental risk mitigation measures ensured there were no breaches of environmental guidelines".

Road, bridge and marine works are not all the contractor does. "We have also won multiple awards for our blind bored vent shafts for underground mine operations," says Mr Boyle. "One of our more environmentally sensitive projects was for two ventilation shafts located west of Wollongong within the strictly controlled Sydney Catchment Authority water catchment area. We built an 11 km long construction access road with several bridges, a temporary electricity station, an on-site factory to manufacture shaft liner segments and bored both shafts 260m deep, all with no environmental incidents throughout the life of the project".

Abergeldie constructs civil, marine, tunnel, water and wastewater and mine infrastructure across Australia and New Zealand. The company's mission is to build the complex infrastructure needed to build better communities.



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