

Mount Evelyn Water Treatment Plant Construction FAQ's

What are the project's working hours?

Works will be carried out between **7am and 6pm, Monday to Friday**. Some quiet office work or tidying up may be carried out outside of these times.

It is not expected that weekend work will be required however some Saturday works may be required to finish certain construction activities started during the week, or when the program requires (i.e. due to inclement weather). Saturday working hours are between **7am and 1pm**. Neighbours will be notified when possible of Saturday works.

How long will the works take?

Works will commence in November 2024 and are expected to be completed in late 2026/early 2027.

Will the works be noisy?

Construction noise will be inevitable during the build of the new water treatment plant. Sources of noise to nearby residents will include:

- Tree and vegetation removal: Noise from chainsaws will be experienced for approximately one week (weather permitting). A wood chipper/mulcher will also be on site to recycle limbs and branches.
- Earthworks: Noise from excavators, rollers and other heavy machinery will be experienced while earthworks are underway. This will include when clearing and grading the new site in preparation for building works and while new access roads are being constructed.
- Traffic: there will be several truck movements a day along the alignment while earthworks are underway. To minimise this impact, trucks will park with their engine off.

Will the works be dusty?

Dust can be expected during construction. To minimise this impact, a water cart will be on site to wet down dusty areas. Shade cloth will also be used where possible on temporary fencing to minimise this impact.

Will the works cause vibration?

Some vibration may be experienced during construction. The project team will manage vibration by varying work activities to provide respite.

How will the project protect local wildlife during vegetation removal?

Ecology experts were engaged by the project team and have undertaken an Ecological Impact Assessment. An experienced fauna handler will conduct a pre-clearance survey before vegetation clearing and undertake activities to safely rehome any fauna if found onsite. If necessary, they will also be present to observe the vegetation removal process.

Vegetation removal is expected to take up to two weeks to complete subject to weather. Residents can expect noise from chainsaws and wood mulchers.

Will there be any power outage during the power-line relocation?

The utility owner, AUSNET, has advised Melbourne Water that some power outages will occur during the relocation of the powerline. A total of two days (not consecutive) power disruption is expected. AUSNET will notify affected customers in advance of any expected power outages.

The utility owner has instructed the project team that the high voltage cable (power lines) cannot be installed underground due to limited network capacity.

Have you considered the Powerful Owls during construction?

The Powerful Owl is a vulnerable species and of importance to the Mount Evelyn area. Powerful Owl assessments will be undertaken annually during the project life as advised by our ecologist.

Assessments during 2024 have informed our construction and environmental plans. Our next survey will be in April/May 2025 to determine if powerful owls are in the area.