

HUGHENDEN

OFFSTEAM WATER STORAGE

SIMPLE | PRACTICAL | ACHIEVABLE



WHAT IS THE PROJECT?

Council currently owns 8,200ML of river licenses, however currently has no capacity to store and effectively use this water. The Hughenden Offstream Water Storage project will be delivered in two stages. Stage one is a 7,000ML storage facility, including pumping infrastructure and infrastructure and approximately 7km of pipeline, with a project cost of \$60 million.

The Hughenden Offstream Water Storage project has been a priority of the Council as an enabling project to support the ongoing development of the 15 Mile Irrigation Development Project, and the proposed Hughenden meatworks and feedlot.

WHY IS THIS PROJECT NEEDED?

In 1961, the Flinders Shire population was 3,953, a stark difference to our current population of 1,522 people. During the 1960s, the Flinders community was booming, but has since rapidly declined.

Council aims to develop and diversify industry in the Shire, and water security is key to unlocking this potential.

The project will support existing industry and attract new profitable and sustainable enterprises, for a prosperous future for our community and surrounding areas.

Once operational, this project has the potential to support 4-5 farms or industries that are job intensive and can create 400-500 jobs.



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY?

Key benefits of this project include:

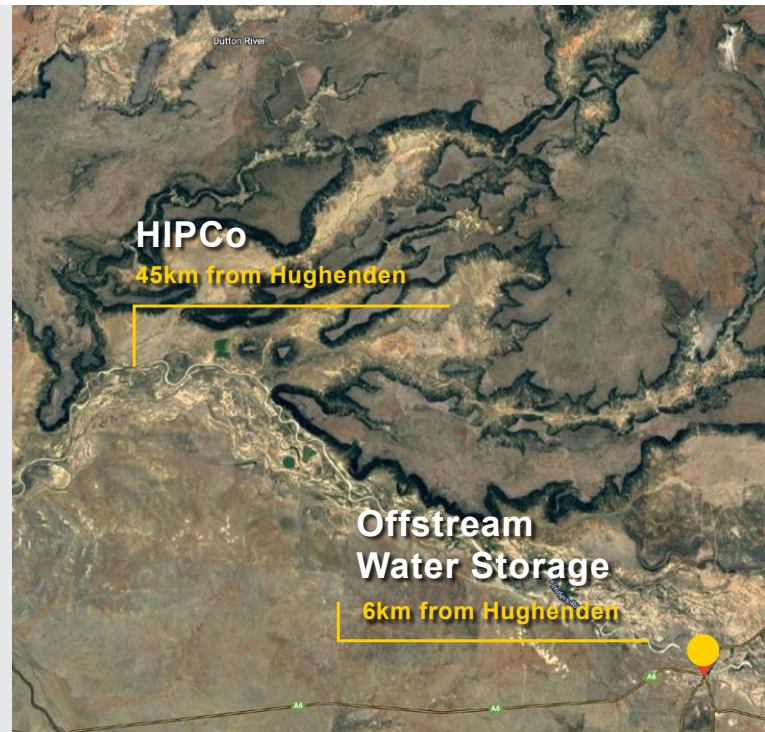
- For every \$1 spent on this project, returns \$1.33 in economic benefit to the community
- Increased regional employment opportunities
- Optimised utilisation of existing natural resource base (land and water resources)
- Improved financial sustainability and rate base
- Community resilience and sustainability

Flow on benefits of this project include increased access to a variety of essential services such as health, aged care, child care and education.

HOW DOES THIS PROJECT FIT WITH THE LONG-TERM VISION FOR THE FLINDERS RIVER WATER STRATEGY?

Hughenden Offstream Storage will be commissioned by 2025, bringing the new agricultural market to the region and establishing a supply chain, skills and resources.

Hughenden Offstream storage is a prototype for significant projects like Hughenden Irrigation Project Corporation, which is a 150,000ML dam 45km north-west of Hughenden. The success of this project will provide confidence to the major projects, investors and industry.



WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

This project is shovel ready, with reference design and business case completed. Next steps for the project include:

- Securing funding for Stage 1 – the project has received State Government approvals and \$25.6m funding commitment. Awaiting funding commitment from the Commonwealth;
- Expression of Interest to be released in October 2022 for construction of Stage 1, with tender to be released early 2023;
- Pending funding approval, project can commence from May 2023.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
ON THE HUGHENDEN
OFFSTREAM WATER
STORAGE PROJECT, VISIT:**

www.flinders.qld.gov.au



**SHIRE OF
FLINDERS**