Work Underway to Boost the Top End’s Water Supply

The Top End’s future water supply will receive a major investment with work underway to raise the level of the Darwin River Dam.

Minister for Essential Services Rob Knight today inspected the start of works being undertaken by Power Water Corporation, which will see the dam raised by 1.3 metres.

“The Territory Government knows the demand for power and water will continue to grow as our population increases and we are planning for the future,” Mr Knight said.

“We are investing $1.4 billion into Power and Water over five years on capital works and repair and maintenance programs.

“$15 million has been committed to raise the Darwin River Dam’s yield by 20 per cent to ensure our increasing water supply demands are met.”

Work to be undertaken includes:

- raising the existing concrete spillway by 1.3 metres;
- modifying the existing embankment with installation of a wave wall;
- modification of the dam intake tower and outlet works; and
- upgrades to the Darwin River Dam pump station.

“This work is about growing the Territory’s services, investing in water supply and delivering real results for Territorians,” Mr Knight said.

“While the Top End is fortunate to have consistent wet seasons and rainfall to fill the dam, we also have the highest water usage per capita in the country.”
“Territorians use up to three times more water than people living in other capital cities, putting stress on our water supply.

“If we can achieve even a small reduction in our personal water use, it will help ease the pressure on our water resources.”

Work on the embankment is expected to be complete by the end of the year.

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