

# Leanyer Sanderson Waste Stabilisation Ponds



\$16.2 million inlet works

**Power and Water is always maintaining, repairing and upgrading our wastewater system to help protect public health and the environment.**

Desludging is an important routine action that is required to maintain and improve wastewater treatment processes. This is carried out periodically on all ponds.

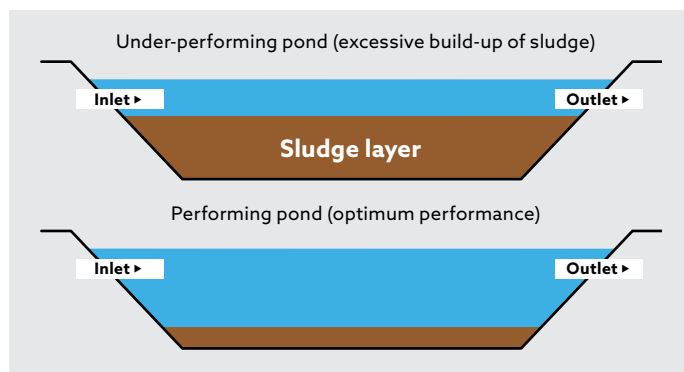
Sanderson Ponds 4 and 5 are scheduled for desludging over the coming months.

A build-up of sludge over many years reduces the ponds' treatment capacity. This can lead to poor water quality being discharged in Buffalo Creek and generation of odours.

The desludging works may create some odour and we're making every effort to reduce the impact on the neighbouring areas.

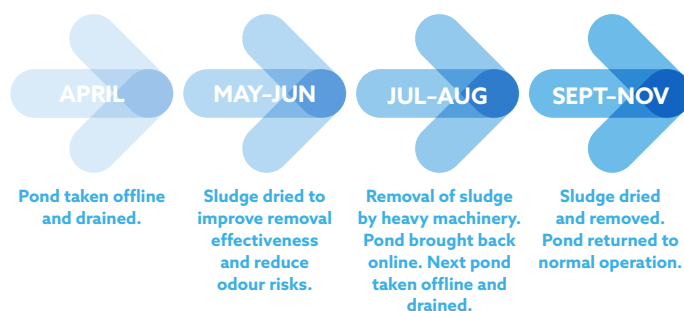


Once dried, sludge is removed by heavy machinery



## Desludging benefits

- Improves water quality discharge
- Allows pond to operate at its original designed capacity
- Reduces odour through improved treatment process



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## What you can do

Most people know that only the three Ps – pee, poo and paper should be flushed down the loo.

Yet we remove hundreds of tonnes of bathroom products, and especially wet wipes, from the Leanyer Sanderson Water Treatment Plant every year!

This monster of a problem impacts the environment and creates surface scum at the ponds, which restricts the natural treatment process, and in turn causes increased odour.

To stop feeding the monster, remember to keep a bin in the bathroom for wipes and other rubbish.



## Focus on improvement

Power and Water is committed to maintaining, repairing and upgrading the Leanyer Sanderson Waste Stabilisation Ponds to generate better outcomes for the environment and the community.

Every year Power and Water spends around **\$1 million** towards ponds maintenance and repairs and **\$2 million** will be invested this year to implement continuous improvement projects.



Power and Water contractors regularly remove surface scum, which is caused by discarded bathroom products such as disposable wipes that impact the environment and cause increased odour

- Since 2010, **over \$1 million** has been invested towards undertaking research in conjunction with Charles Darwin University and other organisations to the treatment ponds system and progress improvements to wastewater discharge to Buffalo Creek.
- **A \$5 million desludging program** has been actioned since 2010 on the Leanyer set of five ponds to improve the wastewater treatment process.
- Desludging of the primary pond of the Sanderson pond was completed in 2018 with the other four ponds being progressively desludged as part of an ongoing program of maintenance.