

# Burdekin to Moranbah Pipeline

Securing water supply for local mines



## Project Need

Queensland's damaging drought was beginning to inhibit coal mining operations in the Moranbah region. As export coal mining boomed, the Queensland Government understood the urgency of the situation and the potential damages a reduction in water supply may have on the industry and on the local economy.

## Solution

The project had a critical timeframe applied by the low level of the Eungella Dam and Gattonvale Offstream Storage, as water supplies to existing mines were severely limited. The project supplements the existing water supplies drawn from these sources in the event that repeated future wet seasons fail to replenish dam levels; and it will also enable the Queensland coal mining industry to better plan for future expansion. A decision was made by the Queensland Government to construct a 218km pipeline from Burdekin falls dam to Moranbah. This \$270 million dollar pipeline would transfer water from Burdekin falls dam to Moranbah. Recognised by many for its difficulty, construction workers constantly battled extreme heat, rugged terrain and isolation.

SunWater called upon the services of Steel Mains to construct one of Queensland's largest pipelines, effectively ensuring continued prosperity for the local people and industry. Steel Mains supplied 172km of 813mm OD SINTAKOTE<sup>®</sup> FBMDPE CML pipe in both welded steel Spherical Slip Joint and SINTAJOINT<sup>®</sup> steel rubber ring joint pipe.

The fast installation speeds associated with Steel Mains' proprietary SINTAJOINT<sup>®</sup> steel rubber ring joint pipe enabled SunWater to drastically reduce on-site construction time.

All steel pipe and fittings were supplied with the quality, lead times and total project management supply commitment those within the industry have come to expect from Steel Mains.

## Achievements

Steel Mains' manufacturing plant supplied 5.5km's of pipe per week. This enabled SunWater to complete the pipeline a full month ahead of requirements. The support and reliability Steel Mains was able to offer SunWater throughout construction, demonstrates unequivocal commitment to those areas of Australia desperately requiring water. As the Burdekin to Moranbah pipeline would benefit the local economy, Steel Mains was motivated to exceed supply requirements and contribute to this projects success.

[www.steelmain.com](http://www.steelmain.com)

**Project:** Burdekin to Moranbah Pipeline

**Principal:** Sunwater

**Location:** West of Mackay Queensland

**Completion:** August 2007

**Supplied:** 172km of 813mmOD Sintakote<sup>®</sup> Steel Pipe, Fittings & Valves