



RICK WILSON MP

Federal Member for O'Connor



MEDIA RELEASE

\$734,000 to protect Australia's national heritage in the Goldfields

22 May 2015: The historic Goldfields Water Supply Scheme running from Mundaring to Kalgoorlie will receive just over \$734,000 in funding under the Australian Government's Protecting National Historic Sites programme.

Federal Member for O'Connor Rick Wilson MP announced today the National Trust of Australia (WA) will receive \$734,290 over three years for conservation and interpretation of the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme (GWSS).

Mr Wilson said the objective of the project is to undertake conservation works to the Number 8 Pump Station, update and install interpretation material along the length of the pipeline and develop an online public education and learning program.

"The GWSS is an amazing feat of engineering and at the time of its opening was regarded internationally as being the largest engineering undertaken of its time," Mr Wilson said.

"It's important we continue to protect and maintain the historic value of the pipeline, and the other historic places recognised on Australia's National Heritage List. I'm particularly happy that rural and regional heritage is being recognised through this grant.

"The National Heritage List sites help tell the story of our unique and diverse heritage, which is something all Australians should learn about."

National Trust of Australia (WA) CEO Tom Perrigo said the shared responsibility for managing this important national heritage place is both a challenge and a privilege.

"The investment in this National Trust initiative is not only welcomed by the Trust but by the community alongside the pipeline," Mr Perrigo said.

"This investment will provide jobs in rural Western Australia and the outcomes will be maximised by the flow on of tourism and educational programs."

The GWSS is one of 103 places on Australia's National Heritage List recognised for helping to define our nation's natural, historic and Indigenous heritage.

Australian Environment Minister, Greg Hunt said this important conservation work would enhance visitor understanding of and access to this National Heritage listed site.

"It is important that future generations have the opportunity to visit places on the National Heritage List and I am pleased that the Government is providing funding to help maintain and develop this important historic site," Mr Hunt said.

Further information about Protecting National Historic Sites is available at:
www.environment.gov.au/heritage/grants-and-funding/protecting-national-historic-sites

ENDS

Media contact

For Mr Wilson

Jamila Savoy-Soubotian

0403 003 238

Jamila.savoy-soubotian@aph.gov.au

For National Trust of Australia (WA)

Tom Perrigo

tom.perrigo@ntwa.com.au