



BUSSELTON WATER

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MEDIA RELEASE

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RF Meters Save Water

Over 2,400 new RF meters have been installed by Busselton Water under its Radio Frequency (RF) Meter Reading Retrofit Project since commencement in mid July 2010.

Busselton's CEO Keith White said "that while some backflow issues have been detected, by far the most staggering result has been the detection of water loss."

"For example, since mid January 759 RF meters have been installed; of those installed 36% have registered continuous flow over a 24 hour period at a rate greater than 2 litres per hour."

"This might not sound like a significant amount of water and in some cases could simply mean someone has left a tap on, but when the data is analysed to determine how long that loss has been recorded for, 12.8% have been identified as potentially significant."

"We've actually had customers thank us after finding a leak, following advice received from Busselton Water that there was potentially water loss on their property."

"Currently we are receiving data from the RF meter when they are first commissioned, which is shortly after installation. Following commissioning meters are read three times per year (February, June and October), on each occasion the RF data collected will be analysed and Busselton Water will notify the customer should a potential water loss be detected."

"If you do receive notification that water loss may have been detected, it is essential that you read the enclosed information to determine possible causes and solutions. Please ensure you read this first prior to engaging the services of a licensed plumber as some internal losses can be rectified by the owner eg. faulty tap washes, leaking hoses and garden reticulation."

"During the retrofit we're also checking each and every connection to make sure it is operating as it should be and where needed, carrying out any maintenance work required."

“When your new meter is installed you will receive an information brochure explaining what it’s all about and further updates will be provided as the retrofit project progresses,” said Mr White.

The retrofit commenced on 19th July, 2010 and will be completed by 30th June 2012. Upon completion over 10,000 RF meters will be in operation in Busselton.

The project is partially funded by Busselton Water and the Australian Government’s Water for the Future initiative through the National Water Security Plan for Cities and Towns.

Ends

Media enquiries are to be directed to the Manager, Customer Services on 9781 0506 or julie.rawlings@busseltonwater.wa.gov.au