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MEDIA RELEASE

BETTER WATER NOW FLOWING

The quality of our water affects everyone. Safe drinking water is essential to sustain life and every effort must be made to ensure that consumers have drinking water that is safe to use.

The latest Council initiative in this space has dramatically improved the quality of water at the Coonamble Water Treatment Plant.

The attached two photographs were taken from the same point six weeks apart, the first being 2 August 2024 and the second on 13 September 2024. The pictures show the results of the major upgrade works on sedimentation lagoon number 2 at the plant.

This has been a major legacy issue as the infestation of the reeds has intensified over the last 10 years. Manual removal was tried in the past but it was virtually impossible to remove it all.

Lining with Geofabric was used for the first time, and this treatment has proven to be highly successful in eliminating most of the plant material growth within the lagoon. By reducing this plant material, the lagoon's operation will be optimised.

In addition to the lining works the team mixed a coagulant into the raw water which significantly improved the turbidity of the water throughout the settled water process.

The dosing of this coagulant helped remove suspended particles from the water. This achieves not just a major improvement in this part of the treatment process but throughout the subsequent processes of filtration and disinfection as well.

The water will be cleaner now with better disinfection and less natural organics within the water supply.

Acknowledgements are due to Mr Jay Lamb from the Department of Primary Industries for his assistance during the treatment process.

General Manager Paul Gallagher said, "The treatment process and water quality improvements are part of a vital initiative for the community. I want to acknowledge council's water and sewer team for a job very well done."

"We all experience the quality of our drinking water every day and people should now start to notice a difference because the water will have an improved taste and odour, as well as being softer."

Paul Gallagher
GENERAL MANAGER

