Invercargill
CITY COUNCIL

Wednesday, July 2 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ATTENTION: CHIEF REPORTERS
CIVIC REPORTERS

Bluff users asked to urgently conserve water

Two failures on the Bluff water supply line in the last 24 hours are prompting calls from the City Council for Bluff residents and businesses to urgently conserve water.

The Invercargill City Council's Water Manager Alister Murray said the first failure happened at approximately 11am on Tuesday in the beach area between Greenhills and Bluff. Repairs to the pipeline were complicated by tidal movements yesterday but were successfully started on Wednesday morning.

The initial failure meant that there has been no water flowing into the Bluff Reservoir since 11am Tuesday, leading to lower levels in the Reservoir as Bluff people continue to consume water. "We had demand, but not supply."

"The situation was further complicated by a second failure of the pipeline in the Woodend area at approximately 9.30am today (Wednesday). This has led to further delays in re-establishing the water supply to Bluff.

"As a result of this we are asking Bluff residents and businesses to conserve water at least for the rest of today and tomorrow (Wednesday and Thursday) to enable Reservoir storage to recover.

"Council has already contacted the major industrial water users in Bluff, asking them to rearrange their schedules to limit their water use today and tomorrow.

"We are also asking residents to do their bit and conserve water. For example, to please consider how often they flush the toilet, quick showers instead of long ones, and delaying clothes washing until Friday.

"I appreciate the help of the community in dealing with this unexpected situation and apologise for the inconvenience," Mr Murray said.

ENDS.

Inquiries, please contact Water Manager Alister Murray, (0274) 357 491.

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