



Media Release

Friday, 2 November 2007

RAPID BAY JETTY - ONE STEP CLOSER

The construction of the new Rapid Bay jetty has moved one step closer with the final stage of geotechnical work starting on site this week.

DTEI's Executive Director of Major Projects and Infrastructure, Rod Hook said the geotechnical work would not only aid in determining final jetty design but be an impressive sight to onlookers.

“As part of this work a 50 tonne floating crane arrived at Rapid Bay on Wednesday and work will continue over the coming days, weather permitting,” Mr Hook said.

“The crane will be used to install test piles to facilitate the investigations under the seabed that will provide invaluable information on how the new jetty will be designed.”

“The same piling equipment has been used on the \$178 million Port River Expressway Project.”

“A key focus of this project has always been to keep the impact on the existing environment minimal and to protect marine animals from the work and the equipment is designed to do this.”

The piling will be undertaken in accordance with an environmental management plan and includes protocols to protect marine animals from the work.

To identify the best places to undertake the test piling a number of test holes have already been drilled on the foreshore to get physical information on the rock structure beneath Rapid Bay.

In the lead up to this work sonic testing was performed to determine how deep the layers of sand and rock are and the density of the rocks.

The geotechnical investigation will ensure impenetrable rocks are not encountered along the chosen alignment of the new jetty.

Bardavcol and Maritime Constructions are undertaking the geotechnical investigation.

The involvement of the community reference group will ensure the new design meets the needs of all jetty users.

More detailed design work will be undertaken in the next few months before a tender process delivers a successful contractor.

Construction of the new Rapid Bay jetty is expected to begin in Autumn 2008 to take advantage of favourable ocean conditions.