

Roger Wrigley

Pipeline planning

Roger Wrigley became passionate about the Wimmera Mallee Pipeline Project after moving to Horsham in mid-2003 to work for project consultant Connell Wagner.

“In the position I was enthusiastic about working with the community to deliver a project which met their expectations. It has the potential to be a significant development for the future of the region,” he said.

Roger was released from his role with the University of Melbourne’s Dookie Campus to work on the project. He was involved in preparing conceptual design, the business case and the first 25 percent of pipeline planning.

Roger’s role was to liaise with urban and farming communities, primary industry, community groups, the Victorian Farmers Federation, water authorities, catchment management authorities, councils, government departments, politicians and the Country Fire Authority. His liaison role was on behalf of Connell Wagner, the project planning group and community steering committee.

He also developed a network of contacts and worked with project manager Dr John Powell to keep people up-to-date with the project as well as providing feedback to the consulting team.

Roger’s engineering, environmental and agricultural experience meant he was able to provide technical information to help deliver an integrated project.

He had previously worked as a civil engineer, geotechnical engineer and soil scientist with farmers before moving into academic research and education.

Roger said he really enjoyed his 18 months in the Wimmera.

“I really enjoyed listening to landowners and learnt a lot about the region from them,” he said.

“I attended hundreds of meetings to share information on the pipeline project. We had lots of detailed technical reports and concepts which I had to deliver to audiences in a more easily understood form.”

Roger said a key part of his role was to listen to people who had concerns about different aspects of the pipeline and to help design a system which would meet the region’s needs.



- > Roger has returned to work with the University of Melbourne, operating from both its Dookie and Parkville campuses. He lectures and is involved in research projects on soil and water management and irrigation systems.