



Friday June 5 2009

MEDIA RELEASE

Pipeline paramedic service to help communities

A new paramedic service for the Sugarloaf Pipeline is providing an additional life-saving service for local communities from Yarra Glen to Yea.

The service, which is initially based at Glenburn, is providing immediate support for workers on the project but is also available to back up existing community emergency services.

Alliance spokesperson, Denise Hurley, said the service could prove critical if any serious accidents occur along the Melba Highway.

“While the service has been established for the workers, it is also linked into the public ambulance despatch,” she said.

“It may be called upon by despatch if the nearest public ambulance is unable to attend or our service can get there quicker and help save lives. It also has four-wheel drive capability to access more difficult terrain.”

Ms Hurley said that safety was of paramount importance on the project and the service would ensure workers received immediate and dedicated care. It will also provide the workers with training - such as confined space and breathing apparatus training - and injury management support.

The service, supplied by Life Aid, will be based in the Glenburn area for the next few months until pipe laying is completed, and will then relocate to Yea.

The Sugarloaf Pipeline Project remains on budget and ahead of schedule.

The new service will be launched at Glenburn on Friday June 5 at 10 am.

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