

## Water Security Improvements

Yedikba (Emerald River) – ID 572

### BACKGROUND

Groote Eylandt has nine permanently and seasonally funded Homelands. As the Homelands Service Provider, AHAC's maintenance team visit all permanently occupied Homelands at least twice a week and consult regularly with all residents on repairs and maintenance and future improvements.

Homelands residents, and the wider community, have expressed a strong desire to improve the housing standards and supporting infrastructure in the Homelands to allow for future growth. Families want to return to their Homelands, enjoy a closer connection to family and country, and assist with reducing overcrowding and anti-social behaviors in larger communities.

With support from the Anindilyakwa Land Council (ALC), AHAC have completed the first survey of all funded Homelands as part of our healthy housing program. The inspections focused on the Nine Healthy Living principals and assisted with planning substantial infrastructure upgrades and housing improvement projects in each Homeland. The ongoing Homelands Housing and Infrastructure Program (HHIP) funding allows AHAC to deliver these projects in an accelerated timeframe, achieving positive outcomes for the Homelands residents, and the wider communities in the Groote Archipelago.

AHAC work closely with Groote Eylandt based ABE contracting companies to deliver all community housing repairs and maintenance, housing upgrades and infrastructure projects. The secure pipeline of works encourages the contractors to resource appropriately and provide meaningful training and employment opportunities to traditional owners.

### DESIRED OUTCOME

To provide ongoing water security to residents in the Homeland. The Homeland water supply relies on a solar bore pump which experiences reduced capacity during extended wet weather periods. Installation of a remote fill point allows safe and easy delivery of potable water when required. Water tank stand repairs and safety upgrades offer safe access for maintenance works when required.

### PROJECT SCOPE AND INCLUSIONS

- Supply and installation of remote fill point to existing tank and stand.
- Supply and installation of new tank stand deck, including new platform, safety barriers and access ladder.



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## BUDGET



## ISSUES/CONCERNS DURING THE PROJECT

- New tank stand deck and ladder were prefabricated in Darwin before being shipped to Groote Eylandt via barge. There were some delays in delivery to Groote Eylandt, however this is not unusual, nor unexpected.
- Existing poly water tank was to be retained and reused. When contractors removed the tank there was concern it may not retain its structural integrity. Tank was replaced.
- Vehicle accident on main council controlled gravel access road damaged a single lane bridge, rendering it impassable for 6-8 weeks where repairs were completed. Inability to access Homeland during repairs delayed installation of tank stand deck and ladder.
- Major weather event related to Tropical Cyclone Megan caused major damage to gravel access road and bridge. Homeland was inaccessible for a further four weeks delaying completion inspection and handover.

## WORKS COMPLETED

- 03 February 2024

BEFORE AND AFTER PHOTOS

Before:



During:



After:

