

## Speedy upgrades help "Fix" Sydney sewers

SewerFix, a \$2 billion program to improve Sydney, Australia's, sewerage system, is underway and rapidly advancing, in part because of CH2M HILL upgrades to 42 pumping stations. The Energy, Environment and Systems and Water business groups worked in concert to complete the work in an unprecedented six months.

A typical sewage pumping station upgrade, depending on age, size and condition, can take up to a year to complete.

"We had to meet this aggressive timeframe on live systems without allowing any overflows of sewage," said Rob Salisbury, senior project manager. "CH2M HILL faced these challenges while achieving outstanding performance in safety, environmental management, community relations and quality."

The firm continues work with Sydney Water to upgrade more than 200 additional pumping stations. "This successful project has strengthened our reputation for quality and will hopefully generate continued new business in the region," Salisbury said.

## \$6.5 million international lab contract won

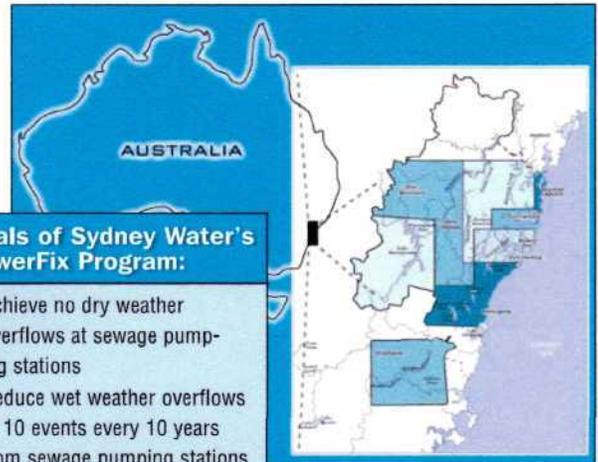
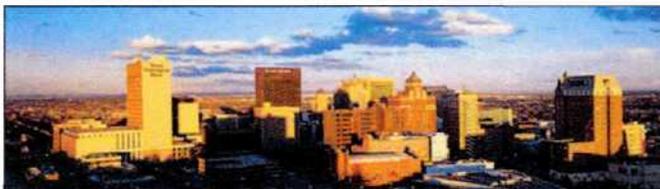
CH2M HILL recently won a \$6.5 million contract to design and construct the International Water Quality Laboratory for El Paso Water Utilities in Texas.

The state-of-the-art lab will test water quality in both water and wastewater treatment facilities for the City of El Paso. It will also test river water from the Rio Grande for the International Boundary and Water Commission. Potential clients include Juarez, Mexico, and federal and state agencies along the U.S.-Mexico border.

The lab will replace and greatly enhance testing previously performed by four area labs, while achieving more stringent standards for drinking water, including those for arsenic, which occurs naturally in much of the Southwest's groundwater.

"This is a truly unique project. It will be the first facility of its kind in this part of the country," said Regan Giese, project manager.

The team is currently in the site selection phase of the contract. Once a site is approved, the design process will begin.



### Goals of Sydney Water's SewerFix Program:

- Achieve no dry weather overflows at sewage pumping stations
- Reduce wet weather overflows to 10 events every 10 years from sewage pumping stations in the Blue Mountains
- Reduce the frequency of chokes to less than 60 per 100 kilometers of pipe
- Reduce the volume of wet weather overflows by 80-90 percent
- Reduce the total volume of all overflows by 50 percent
- Reduce the number of odor complaints from each sewage asset to three per year

"It is loud and clear that we have delivered safely, respected and protected our environment, teamed brilliantly with the community, commissioned within time and budget and will achieve practical completion with a quality product."

Chris Browne,  
SewerFix Pumping Stations  
Program Manager

## USAID project in Jordan will serve 100,000

Tom Phillips, of Williamsburg, Va., moved with his family this past July to Amman, Jordan. He's managing the development of a USAID-funded wastewater treatment plant and reuse application project in Mafraq, a city of 100,000 residents.

His team is now working with Jordanian Consulting Engineers on a request for proposal to find a design/build/operate contractor. "The selection process is key," Phillips said. "I must avoid the common trap of 'over-designing' the plant at this stage. Instead, I must outline only the pertinent criteria. We want comparable and competitive bids."

CH2M HILL is also conducting environmental and geotechnical investigations, and providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Water and Irrigation and the Water Authority of Jordan.

