



12 March 2020

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## **Digital Connectivity Project Update #4**

The backbone stages 1, 3 and 4 of the Balonne Digital Connectivity Project are well under way. The 12 points of presence are expected to go live by the end of April 2021.

## **All Backbone Towers Have Connectivity**

Field Solutions Group, the appointed network operator for the Balonne Digital Connectivity Project, has erected all seven new 45m network backbone towers with every backbone tower now having connectivity. Work is underway on the five asset re-use sites with the St George Water Tower and Queensland Cotton Thallon Road Gin site now complete.





## Sunwater Tower Goes Live: First Customer to Benefit from the Backbone Project

The completion of the internet backhaul for the Balonne Digital Connectivity Project has enabled the new tower at Beardmore Dam (erected by Sunwater) to go live. The Beardmore Dam tower will result in a more timely and reliable transmission of data with increased reliability during major weather and flood events to ensure the dependable transfer of information and critical decision-making data.

# Retail Plans, On-farm Internet Assessment and Next Steps

- 1. Field Solutions Group will be visiting Balonne between 15 26 March 2021.
- 2. For all enquiries and to book an appointment contact Greg McCormack at Field Solutions Group T: 0428 495 342
- E: greg.mccormack@fieldsolutions-group.com

## **Stage 5 – Funding Announced**

Funding to connect across the border to NSW and expand connectivity around Mungindi has been approved by the NSW Cross Border Commissioner

The grant provides three additional towers on the Qld-NSW border in cooperation with Moree Plains Shire Council and allows both Councils to access each other's internet source as a back-up.

Stage 1 is proudly funded by the Queensland Government's Building Our Regions program. Stages 3 and 4 have been made possible with funding by the Australian Government under the Murray–Darling Basin Economic Development Program.



This Murray—Darling Basin Economic Development project received grant funding from the Australian Government.









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