



Nqpetro: 5 Islands Tank Replacement Program



Our technicians travelled to five remote communities in the Torres Strait Islands to replace five dilapidated 6000-litre ULP tanks with new state-of-the-art models. This large-scale project also included re-piping and rectification modifications.

The locations on our itinerary included Masig (Yorke Island), Iama (Yam Island), Warraber (Sue Island) and the Moa Island communities of Arkai (Kubin Community) and Wug (St. Paul's Community).

We had several challenges to overcome in order to accomplish our goal of providing a newer, more consistent fuel supply to these communities. The islands are remote and difficult to reach. ULP is a hazardous substance that's risky to handle. Due to limited access to health facilities, the risk of Covid transmission had to be minimised as much as possible. In order to handle the harsh weather conditions of the Strait, we needed to abrasive blast the tanks with marine coating. We also needed to coordinate our work with the events and needs of each community, while cutting off the fuel supply for the shortest period of time possible and minimising down time.

NQPetrol rose to the challenge. We engaged a local company called Carpentaria Contracting, who assisted with a barge and ancillary equipment to solve logistical issues. All installation personnel adhered to strict Covid measures. We supplied all meals and accommodation on the barge, which minimised contact with local communities and as a result, significantly reduced any risk of transmission.

Two weeks before we set out, we notified all the necessary authorities including CEQ (Community Enterprise Queensland) and TSIRC (Torres Strait Regional Council). We approached workshop fabrication in a systematic way, ensuring the scope of each island could be completed as fast as possible to minimise fuel supply disruptions to the community.

Technicians with high levels of knowledge and experience carried out all the tasks that needed to be done. We supplied an above ground self-bunded fuel tank to each island, fabricated and welded stainless steel pipes, disconnected and reconnected electrical components in hazardous areas and commissioned and calibrated fuel dispensing systems. NQPetro completed the project on time and within budget in alignment with community expectations and needs.

NQPetro have completed major works on island and marine environments throughout Australia, including Rottnest Island, Daydream Island, Hayman Island and multiple marinas. From islands to marinas and more, we aim to always uphold our reputation as reliable fuel suppliers for environments of all descriptions.

SOLUTIONS OFFERED:

- Above-ground, self-bunded fuel tank supply
- Fabrication and pipe welding of stainless-steel piping
- Transport and installation of new tanks
- Removal and disposal of old tanks
- Electrical disconnection and reconnection in hazardous areas
- Commissioning and calibration of fuel dispensing systems