

Temporary shutdowns test water mains

LOCAL CONTRACTORS Landholdings Ltd have completed the Te Mato Vai project ring main, which is now "live".

This means the old ring main is no longer needed, so the Te Mato Vai Project Management Unit (PMU) will need to shut it off.

Before they can do this, the project management unit (PMU) will investigate which presently unknown residential properties are still directly connected to the old ring main.

A team from PMU and Infrastructure Cook Islands will begin an island-wide investigation to find out which properties remain connected. Properties connected directly to the old water ring main will need to be connected to a sub-main to receive water from the new ring main.

The team will be travelling around the island, starting in Arorangi.

It is important that during each investigative shutdown period, residents within that section of the island should check their house, water tank and any nearby vacant properties to see whether water is being supplied. These shutdowns will range from two to three days per section of the island, to give residents time to check whether they are receiving water.

The PMU will place public notices in the local newspaper, radio, and on the Te Mato Vai and Rarotonga Community Facebook

pages to let residents know when the PMU will investigate each section of the island.

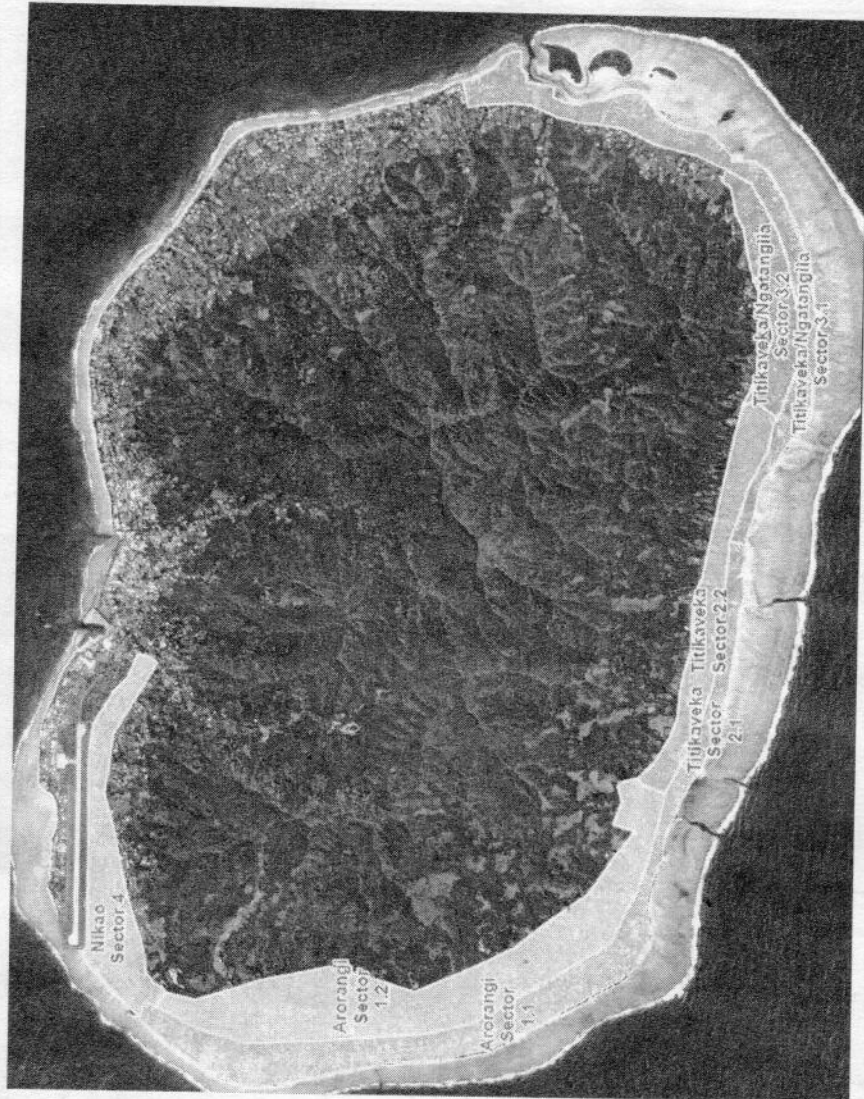
Anyone who discovers they are not receiving water will need to call the PMU office on 28851 to confirm this. The PMU will work with residents who are not receiving water and do not have a back-up water supply, to ensure they have water to use until the temporary shutdown period of that section of old ring main is complete. The PMU will need to shut down specific sections of old ring main for the whole timeframe prescribed, to maximise the opportunity to find the unknown connections to the old ring main.

The PMU will use the results of the investigations to scope the work to connect these properties to a sub-main later in the year. This work will be tendered, and will begin once the contract is awarded.

To find out more details about the investigation work and how you might be affected, please call the PMU on 28851.

The water improvement project is the largest infrastructure project in the history of the Cook Islands and a Cook Islands water partnership with the government of New Zealand and the People's Republic of China. It aims to improve the standard of living for the people of Rarotonga by providing a reliable and safe supply of water to all.

■ Matariki Wilson



This map of Rarotonga shows the different sections where the old water ring main will be shut off in order to determine which properties are still connected to the old network. 18062320