



Modelling Symposium

30 years of water supply modelling

Presented by
Marcel Bear



Hello

Interesting networks

Technical topics:

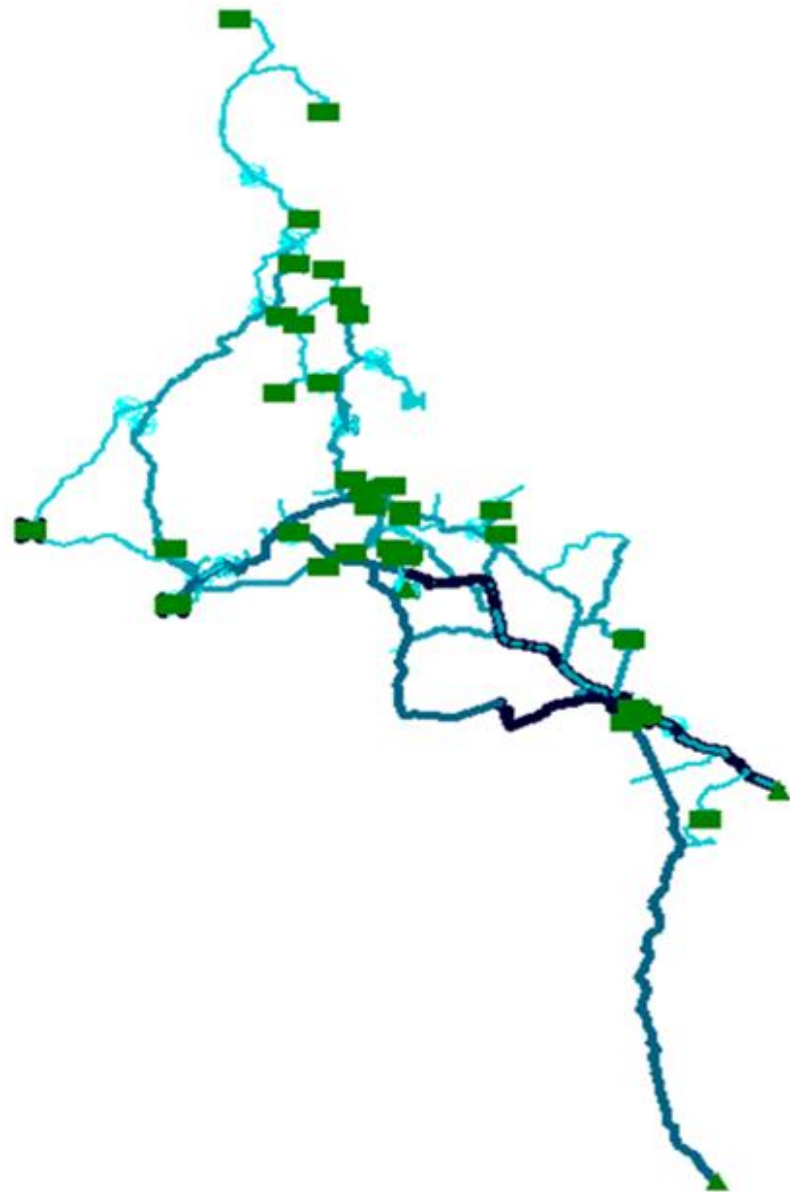
- Model Purpose
- Design
- Decimal places
- Peak factors
- Leakage

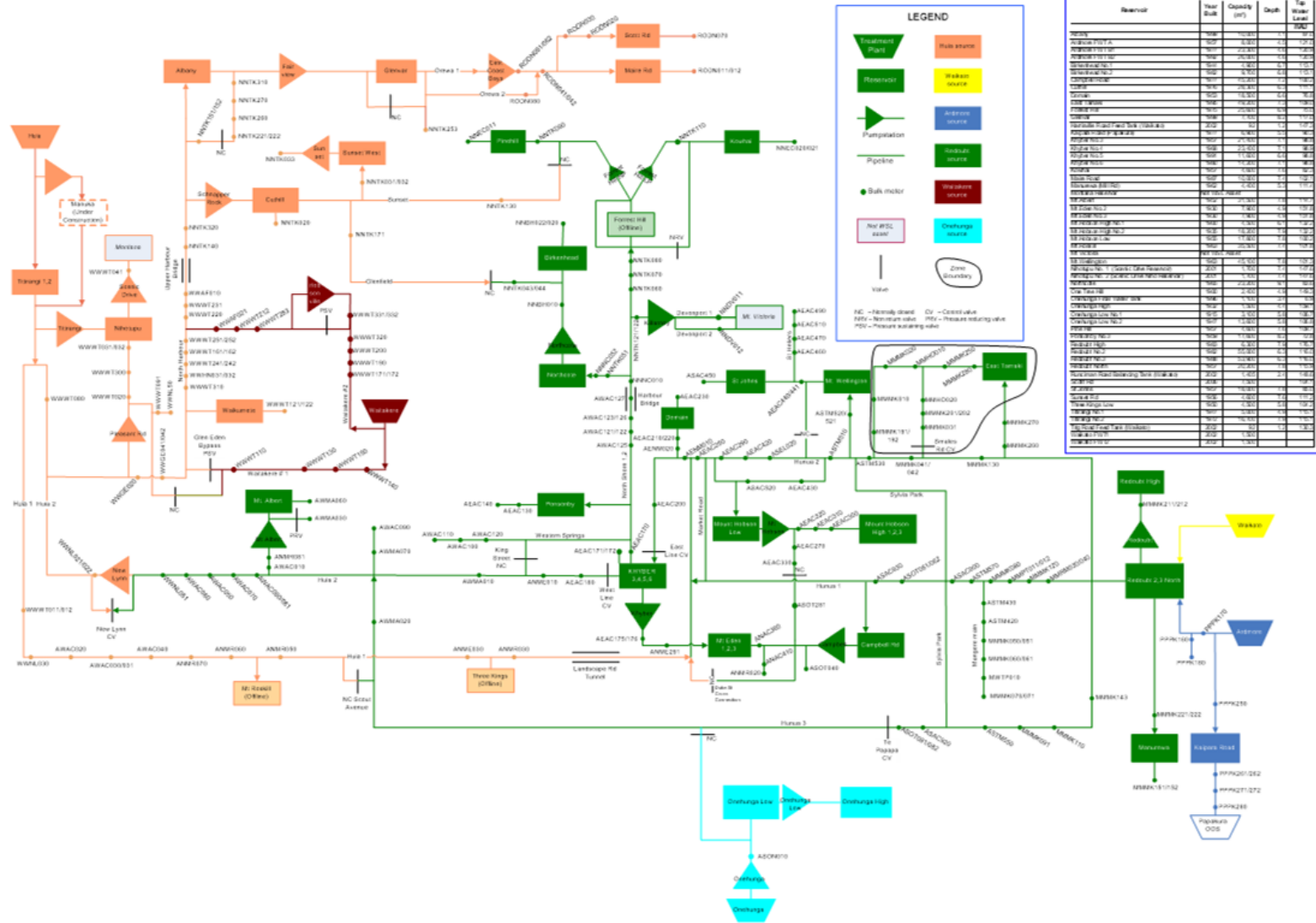
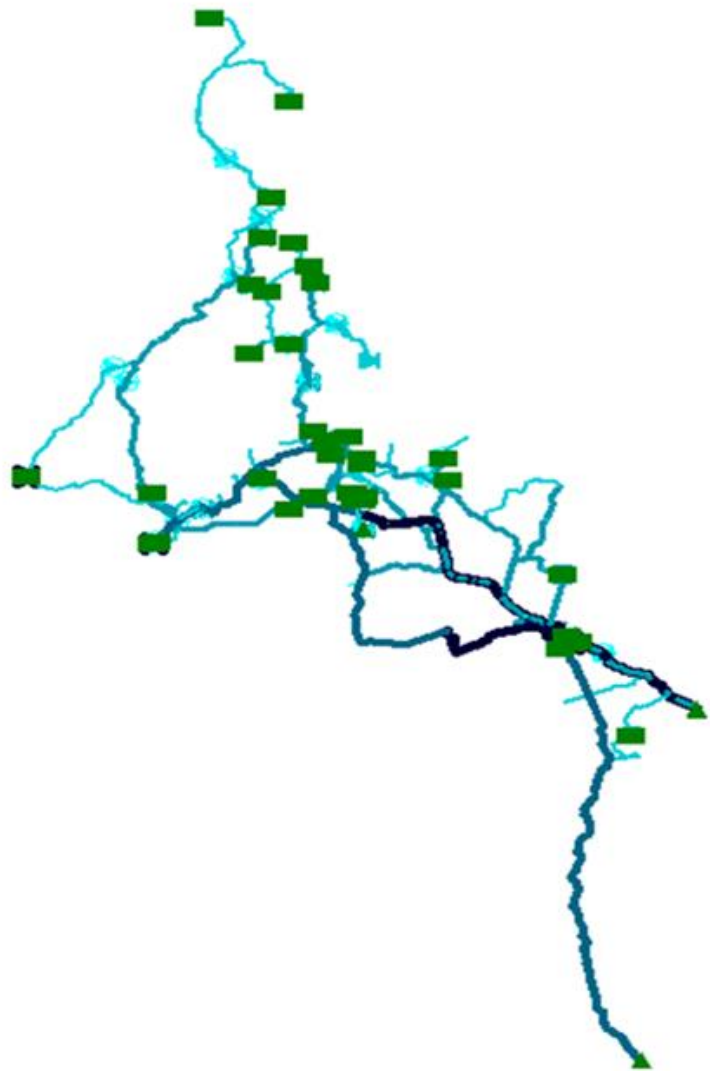
Presentation – soft skills

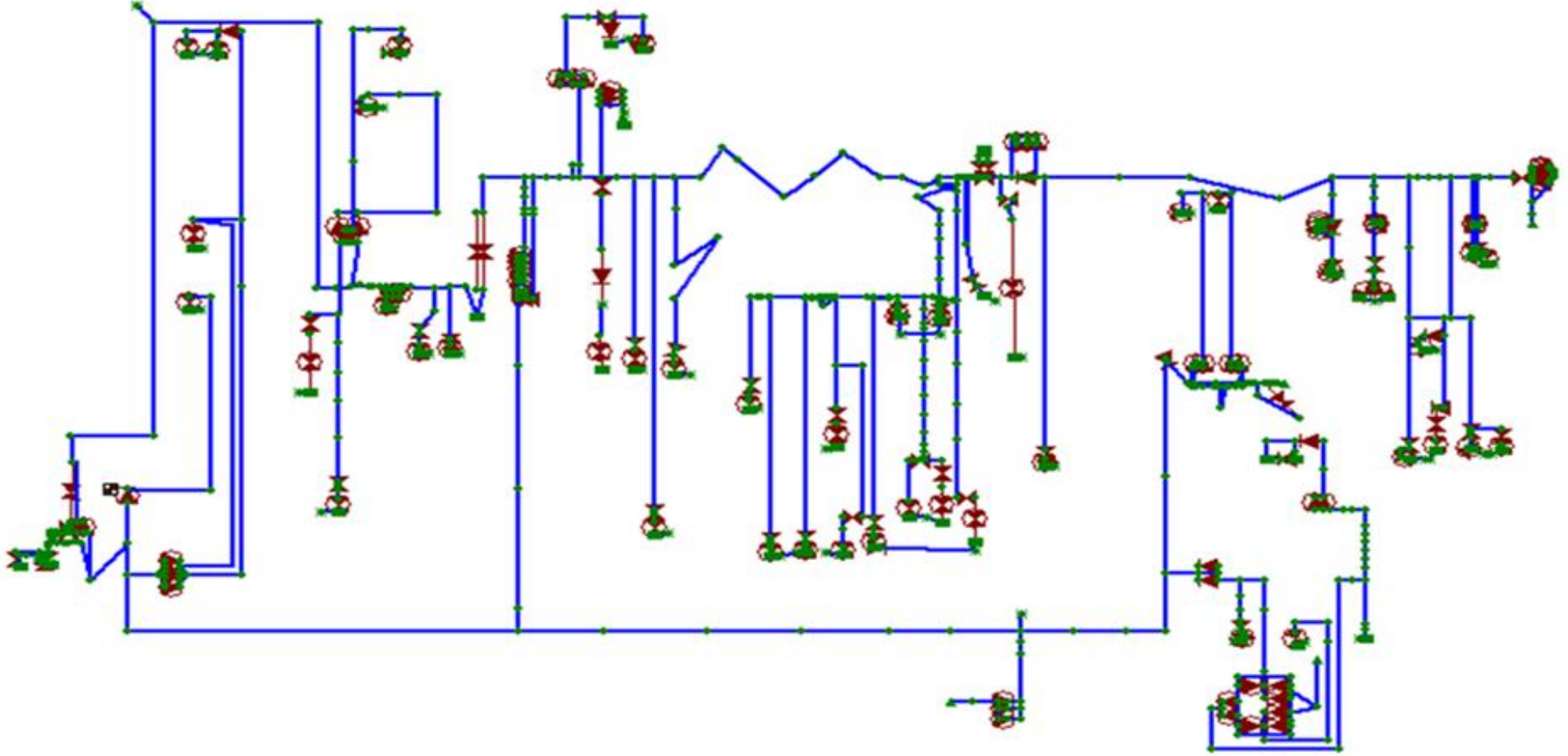
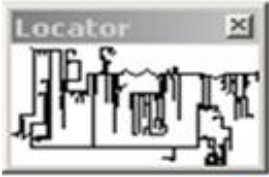
Philosophy of work (life)

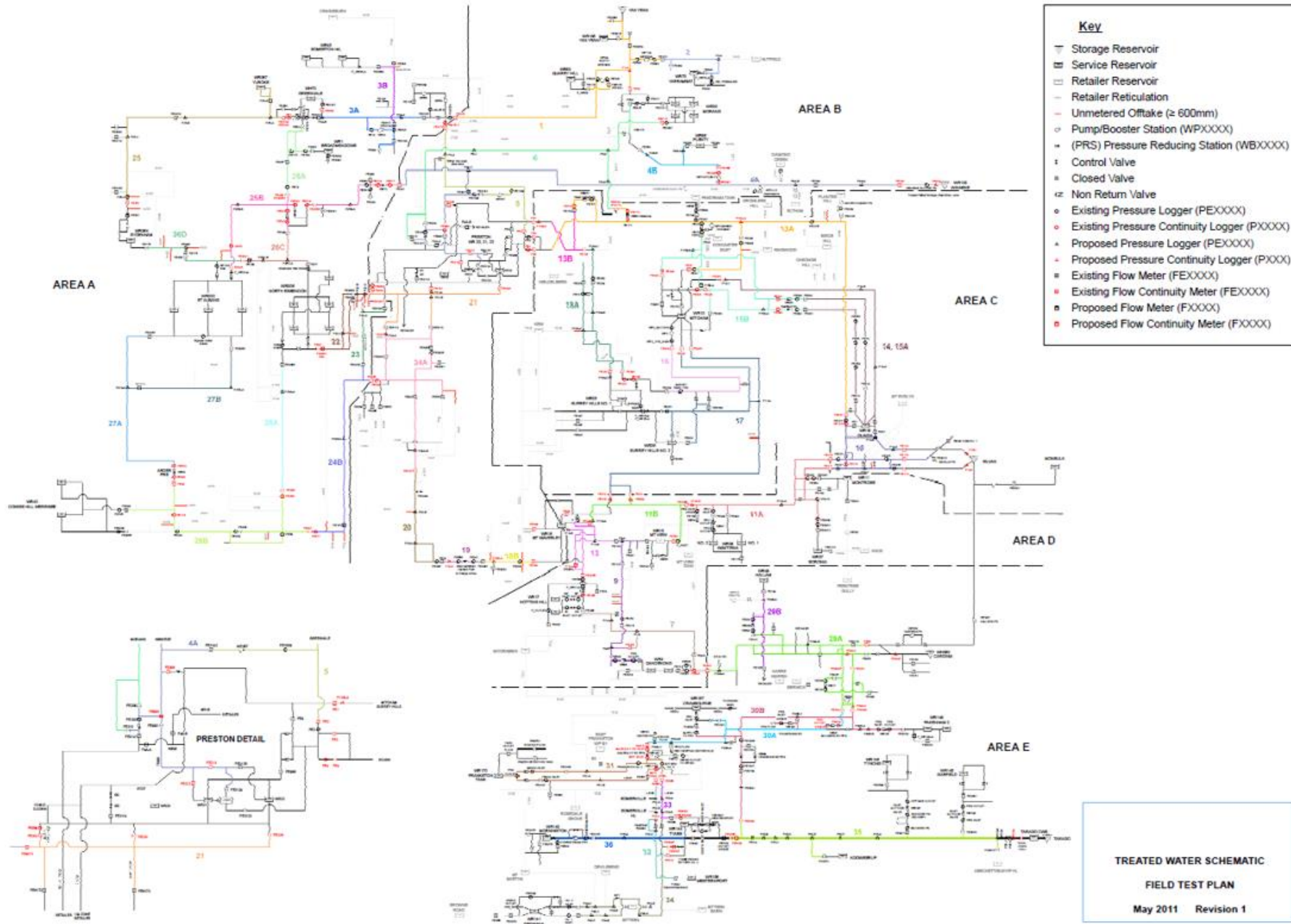


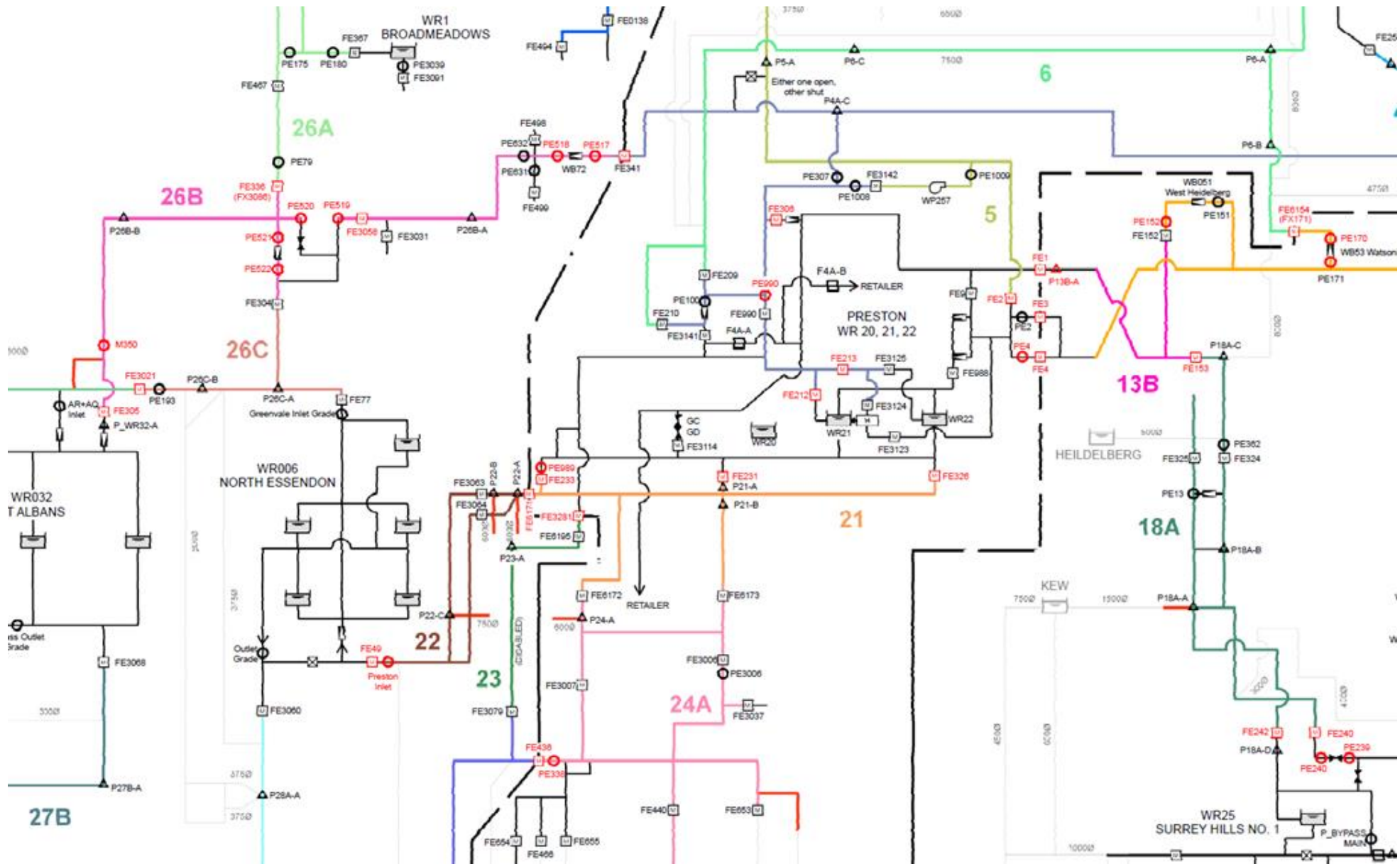
Guess the network location

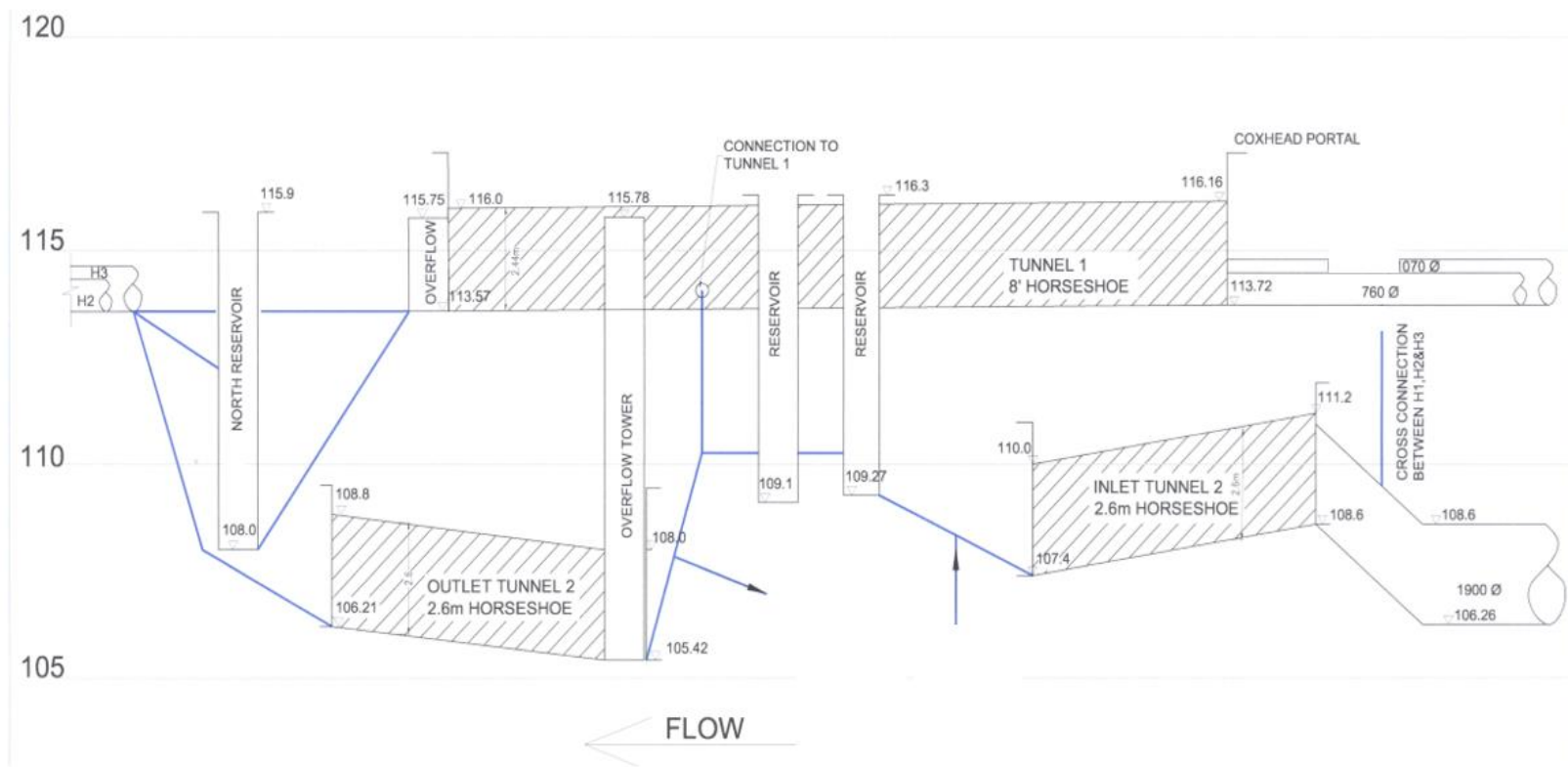
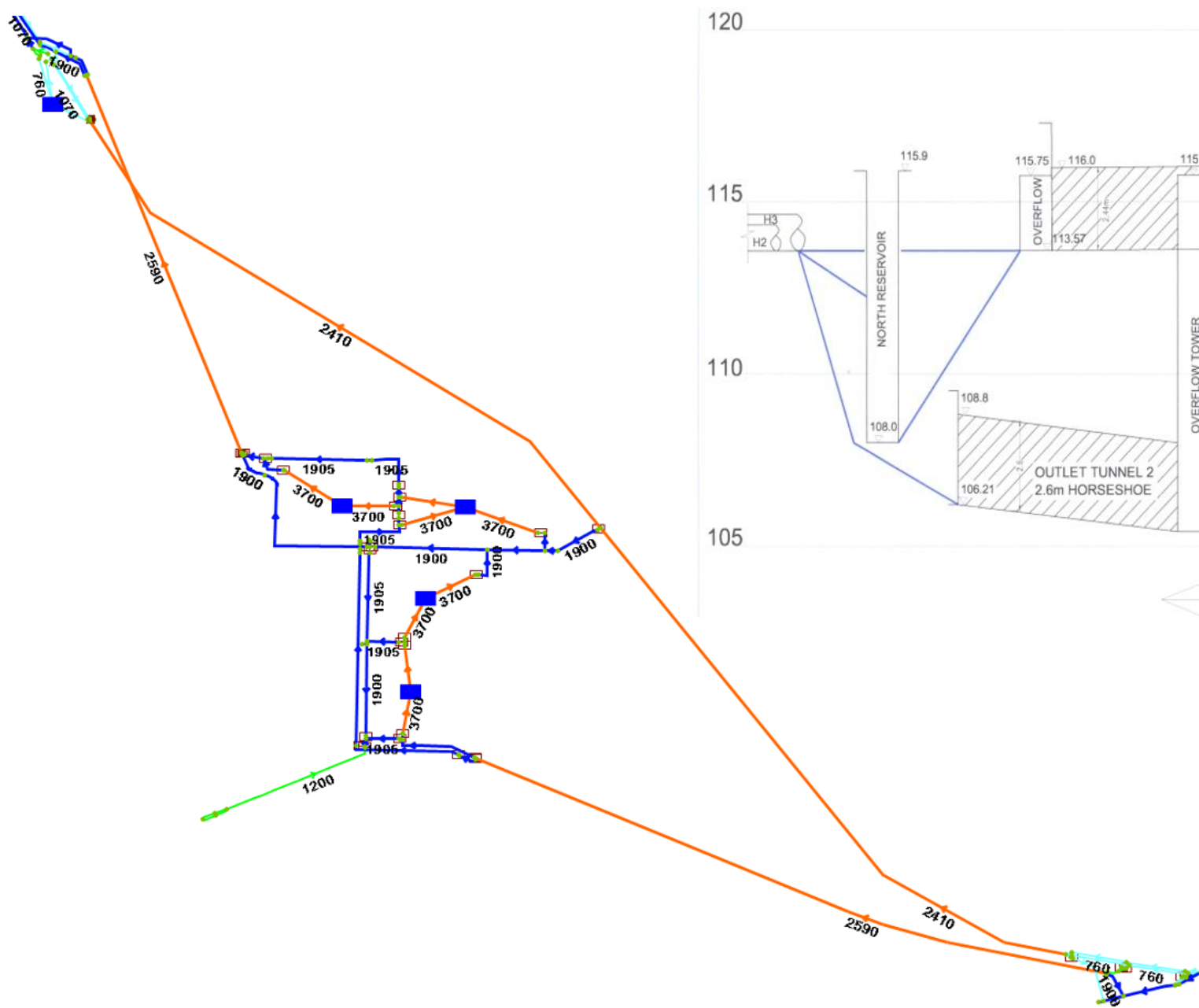












Model Purpose-drives model build effort

Scale of networks

- City, suburb, lot level, town and rural

Purpose

- Planning – growth, greenfields, brownfields network design checking
- Operational – shut downs – planned or emergency

Model purpose drives level of detail and accuracy needed

Be careful when stretching model outputs beyond its original intended use

Network Design

Complete loops

- Redundancy
- Avoid dead ends

Consistent diameters

- Capacity – future you will be thankful for it

Keep it simple

Follow the code – it's there for a reason-headloss criteria especially as this give consistent capacity relative to flows



Decimal Places

The model will give you as many decimal places as you want, and then lots more

- The number of decimal places that are reported implies the accuracy of the result
- ie reporting 35.617m pressure implies we know the pressure down to the millimetre. Quoting a demand of 1.43 l/s implies we know the demand down to 10 millilitres/second (2 teaspoons/second)

Think about the other model uncertainties behind the result:

- Yield – crystal ball gazing – sure to be different in reality
- Ground level
- Pipe size (nominal or actual)
- Network operation – closed valves, unusual demands (someone fills a swimming pool)

The number of DPs reflects your confidence in the answer – allowing for ALL uncertainties

Demand peak factors

The bigger the network – the more averaging – the lower the peak factor

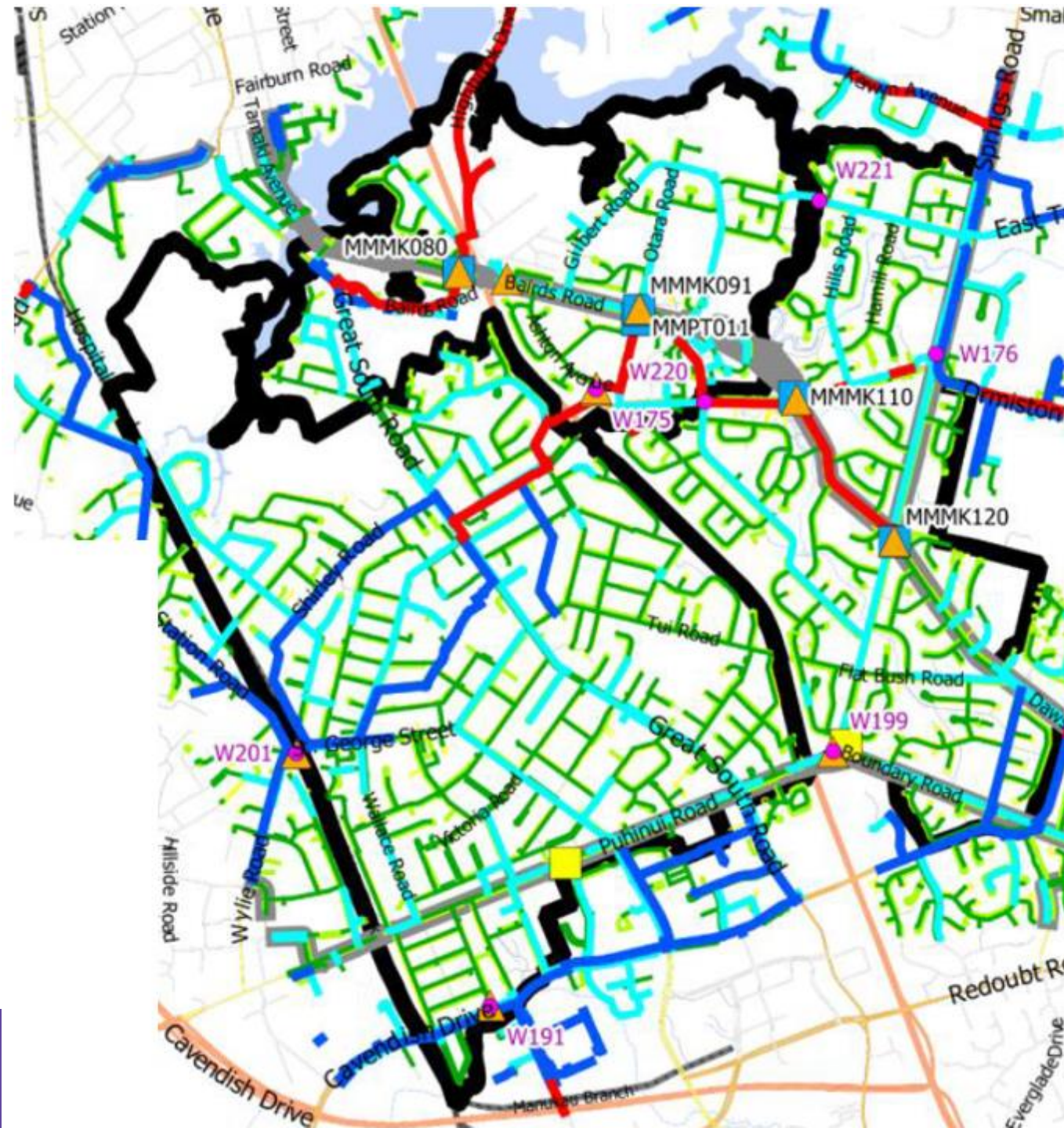
Typical code excerpt:

- (a) PF = 2 for populations over 10,000;
- (b) PF = 5 for populations below 2,000.
- (c) Interpolated between 2 and 5 for populations between 10,000 and 2,000

The network size is based on:

- The supply zone
- Not the area being designed

Sub-areas with higher flows within a homogeneous zone are a fiction



Leakage - the silent assassin

All pressurized systems leak – from a bike tyre to water network

Often unseen – ignore at your peril

The science of leakage analysis well developed – IWA (International Water Association) extensive literature, guides and analysis software

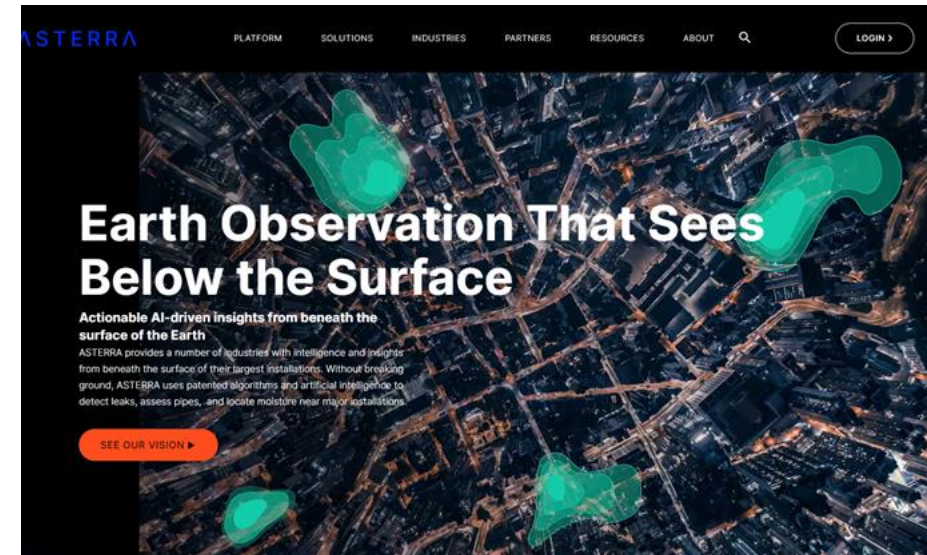
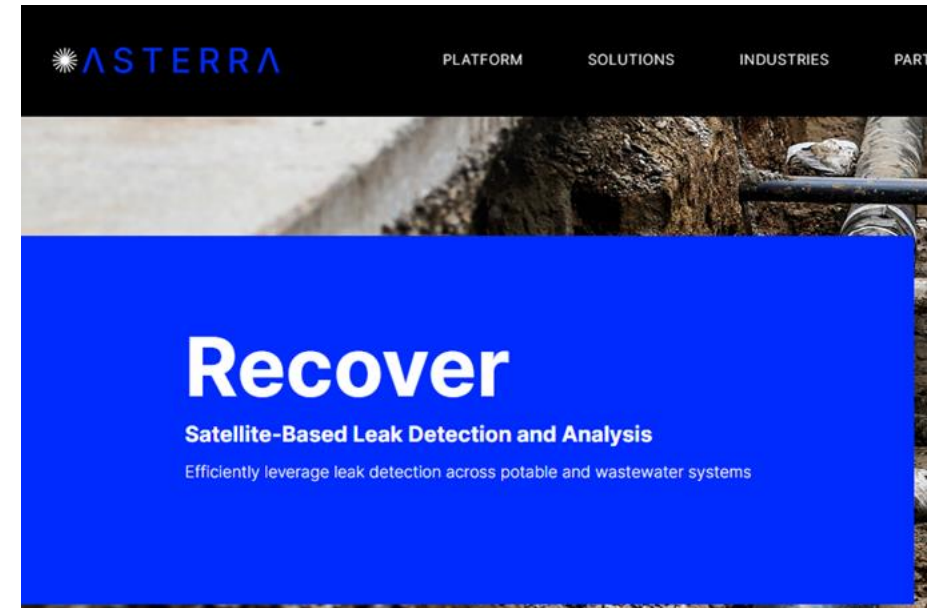
Reducing leakage requires:

- Small, well understood and controlled supply zones (DMAs PMA's)
- A team devoted to managing and maintaining the DMAs
- 'Smart' leakage detection
- Quality leak repairs



Satellite leakage detection

- Uses Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) from satellites - developed to find water on Mars.
- Can locate underground water. Algorithms interpret the data to separate potable leaks from groundwater/wastewater.
- Covers a wide area at once (city scale)
- Repeated passes at intervals 'train' the algorithm and track leakage change
- Can be used to direct repairs in conjunction with traditional detection (noise correlators/listening sticks)



Presentation/Reporting skills

Know your material

Don't read the slides out - your audience can do this

Practice and refine

Capture them at the beginning and keep their interest - finish strongly

Be grateful for the time and attention the audience is giving you - interact

Reporting - put yourself in the readers shoes

There is always a bigger picture

What are they interested in knowing?

Refine, rewrite and check again

Two presentation tips I use

Tell them what you are going to tell them

Tell them

Tell them what you told them

Load

Aim

Fire

Reporting – how I go about it

Put yourself in the readers shoes

There is always a bigger picture –find out about it

What are they interested in knowing. How best to convey it?

- Be clear on the client's objective
- Summary up front: Usually the result, the cost, the timing, the implications on surrounding area
- Use pictures in preference to words

Write when you are clear on what to say – get clear –use the writing process

Get the idea down on paper/screen -flow state – then return for spelling, format etc

Write refine rewrite check write again

Approach to engineering

Two things have been invaluable to me:

Approach to engineering 1

Always assume the other guy/gal is right

If I find a 'mistake' in calculations/reporting/drawings etc, I always stop and try to see where I have gone wrong:

- In my reading of what is shown
- In my interpretation
- In my calculations

The chances are the work is correct and its my mistake.

Saves a lot of embarrassment and is good learning

If there is an error, be kind.

"Kind words and kind deeds can shift heaven" Dogen, 13th C monk

Approach to engineering 2

Modelling Symposium

Thank you

Questions
Patai

