

The Regional Councillor for the Environment visits the pipe laying works part of the SANEA Plan in the town of Las Rozas de Madrid

Canal de Isabel II is Preparing a Major Renovation of the Sewerage Networks In 91 Municipalities In the Region

- Martín: “Our region will have the most modern and efficient sewage system in Spain.”
- Canal de Isabel II has identified possible actions worth more than €1500 million under the SANEA Plan.
- It will be the municipalities, as owners of the networks, who will make the decisions about the proposed investments.
- The public company will advance the initial cost of this plan and assume the financial costs of the operation.

03FEB2020 – Madrid’s Regional Government is working on projects that will put the region at the forefront of wastewater and sanitation management. Canal de Isabel II has identified and budgeted for the improvements that 91 municipalities, with which it has sewerage management agreements, should undertake to optimise their sewerage networks. According to these reports, the public company would advance the €1500 million cost.

The SANEA Plan is one of the ten star projects of Canal de Isabel II’s business strategy for the 2018-2030 period and is in line with its cooperation with the municipalities. It aims to improve the sewerage network of the Madrid Region to make it Spain’s most efficient and modern, to ensure the correct transport and treatment of wastewater, ensure the condition of the receiving channels and reduce both the risk of flooding and the risk of blockages and odours.

Ten town councils in the Region have already formally signed up to this plan: Las Rozas de Madrid, Torrejón de Ardoz, Torres de la Alameda, El Escorial, Soto del Real, San Fernando de Henares, Valdilecha, Navalcarnero, Valdemoro and Perales de Tajuña. Together, they have planned works for a total of €83 million.

The first municipality to begin these actions to improve its municipal network was Las Rozas de Madrid, which today was visited by the Councillor for the Environment, Land Management and Sustainability, Paloma Martín, accompanied by the mayor, José de la

Uz, and by the executive vice-president of the public company Canal de Isabel II, Rafael Prieto.

The Councillor said, “the SANEA Plan is a strategic priority for *Canal* whose objective is to consolidate its management model, which is unique in Spain, and its cooperation with the municipalities of Madrid. This will give our region the most modern and efficient sewage systems in Spain”.

In the specific case of Las Rozas de Madrid, the SANEA agreement provides for 27 sewerage network renovation actions, all of them priority 1, for a total cost of €25.5 million. One of these actions is currently being carried out in Monte Urgull Street and will make it possible to ensure the quality of the drainage in the Arroyo del Caño area.

Although Canal de Isabel II manages about 15,000 km of sewage networks, these are usually under municipal jurisdiction. There are 111 shareholder municipalities with 93 networks owned by the city councils but managed by *Canal*. In many cases, these networks have either had technical shortcomings since they were built or have not been properly adapted to serve new developments, or have been poorly maintained for long periods, and these problems will be very expensive to resolve.

93 MASTER PLANS SUBMITTED AND EXECUTED BY 2022

Canal de Isabel II has set itself the objective of preparing detailed surveys of the municipal sewerage networks it currently manages, to offer each municipality a list of possible projects to solve current and future problems with these networks. So far, 91 of the 93 planned before 2022 have been prepared. For municipal councils that are shareholders in the public company but have not signed a sewerage management agreement with it, *Canal* is informing them about how to assess whether to switch to this model and receive their corresponding master plan.

The public company will make an extraordinary investment over the coming years for this action plan, which will be financed by additional charges on bills over an initial 30-year period. *Canal* will also assume all the financial costs for this investment, which will contribute both to improving the quality of life in the municipalities and to boosting economic growth and employment in the Madrid Region.

Canal de Isabel II was founded almost 170 years ago to supply water to the city of Madrid, and today it employs over 2800 people who work every day to serve more than 6 million people in the region. It is an innovative publicly owned company, a leader in its sector and recognised worldwide for its management of the integrated water cycle. It operates 13 reservoirs; 78 groundwater catchments; 17,601 km of water supply and distribution network; 131 drinking water and 133 wastewater pumping

stations; 15,083 km of sewage networks; 65 storm tanks; 157 wastewater treatment plants; and 615 km of reclaimed water network.

Nota de prensa