peaurore

£½m water supply scheme in pipeline

A £500,000 scheme to safeguard county water supplies during times of drought will soon be coming on stream.

Engineers from Severn Trent Water will link a new two-mile stretch of main to an existing water pipeline to provide extra supplies to 13 villages around the Stroud area.

Tens of thousands of people will benefit from the link, which runs from Birdlip to Climperwell.

It will pump additional water to Eastcombe, Oakridge, Far Oakridge, Tunley, Water Lane, Bisley, Camp, Lypiatt, Sheepscombe, Slad, Bussage, Sudgrove and Miserden.

A team of Severn Trent workmen carried out the crucial mains connection overnight.

Villagers could lose some water supplies during the operation.

Work started on the link last November, and water should be Villagers will feel the benefit in the summer heat 9

- Bob Symcox, Severn Trent's district manager

gushing through the new length of main by the end of May.

Severn Trent's district manager for the county Bob Symcox said: "In an attempt to minimise disruption to our customers, we carried out this work in the middle of the night, when the demand for water is at its lowest.

Mr Symcox said the new link was being established in the wake of recent hot and dry summers when groundwater sources, such as natural springs, had struggled to keep up with water demands from consumers.

"Villagers will feel the benefit in the summers heat," he said.