

Mitiamo and district domestic and stock pipeline newsletter

Proposed pipeline well supported at open day

Thank you to those who attended our Mitiamo and district domestic and stock pipeline open day on Tuesday 8 November 2016 at the Mitiamo Football Clubrooms.

About 50 people attended the open day. GMW staff, an existing GMW-managed pipeline customer and members of the community-led Mitiamo Reticulated Water Supply Committee were all on hand to talk about how we will develop the pipeline business case and to provide information on aspects that are typical of other existing schemes.



The open day allowed us to gain a great insight into the community's view on the project and how they want to be involved in developing the business case.

We heard there was strong support for the development of a business case for a reticulated domestic and stock supply for the Mitiamo district.

We also heard the community wants more information about things such as service and infrastructure.

We appreciate people giving up their time to attend the open day and we will continue to consult extensively during the development of the business case.

If at any time you would like to speak with a member of the project team or provide input please see the contact information on the back page.

The feasibility of a piped stock and domestic system will depend on the costs and benefits and the willingness of customers and investors to fund the project.

The development of the business case is crucial to formalise these aspects of the system, identify potential benefits and to inform customers and investors of the requirements to implement such a scheme.

The business case into upgrading and expanding the network of pipelines which deliver water to stock and domestic properties in and around Mitiamo is being developed with funding of \$1.2 million from the Victorian Government.

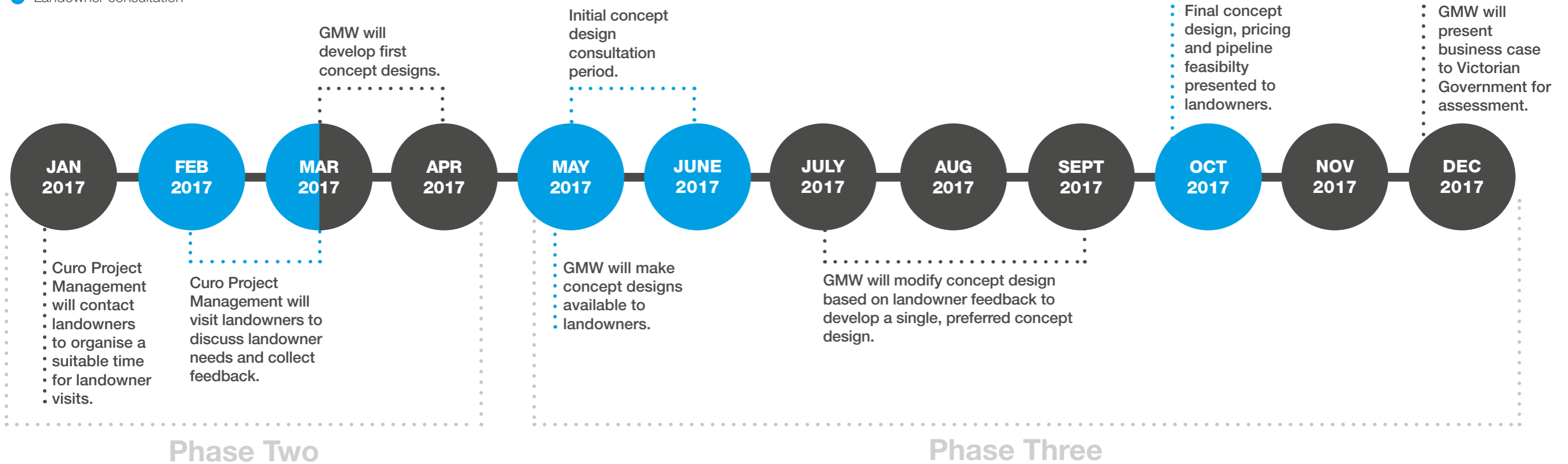
This study is supported by funding from the Australian Government National Water Infrastructure Development Fund, an initiative of the Northern Australia and Agricultural Competitiveness White Papers.

We are committed to working with all stakeholders to ensure this business case is not only accepted by landowners and the community, but strongly supported. It must reflect the community's input and be based on credible information about costs and infrastructure.

A well developed, strongly supported business case provides the best opportunity to seek the funding necessary to implement the project.

Timeline

● Landowner consultation



Questions from the open day

We understand you have many questions about service and costs and we will continue to provide information about this as we develop the business case.

In the meantime – here are the answers to some of the things you asked about at the open day.

Can you define the project boundary?

At the recent open day we were asked many questions about the project's boundary – who will be included in the business case and who won't.

Unfortunately an exact definition on the boundary is not possible at this stage.

Just as this business case is driven by the community so will the boundary of the pipeline. The proposed pipeline boundary will be driven by landowner participation and support of costs, service and infrastructure.

What can I expect next?

To help us develop this business case we have appointed an external consulting firm, Curo Project Management, to lead the consultation. A member of the Curo team will phone you in coming weeks to organise a suitable time to meet with you to gather your thoughts and feedback and work through your requirements.

These appointments will be made at a time that suits you.

Can you tell me more about the process?

There are three steps we'll work through as we develop our business case. In each of these phases, we'll be calling on landholders, stakeholders and the community to have input and share their thoughts.

Phase one

Included in the first phase (November 2016) was:

- informing landowners, the community, water users and stakeholders about the business case through letters to landowners, information in local media and an open day at the Mitiamo Football Clubrooms, and
- establishing a reference committee that represents all members of the community and all stakeholder interests.

Phase two

The second phase of this project will run from January to April 2017. In this phase we will be:

- talking to the community, landowners, water users and stakeholders to develop a design for the proposed pipeline

- seeking to further understand the community's water needs and support for the pipeline.
- talking to landowners about pricing and tariff structures with the aim of seeking majority support on this important area of the project, and
- determining the initial feasibility of a pipeline.

Phase three

The final phase of the project will run from May to December 2017. During this phase we will be:

- consulting with landowners, the community and stakeholders to determine a preferred option for the proposed pipeline
- explaining to the community how we established this option and how their input, knowledge and advice helped us develop the preferred option, and
- presenting the business case to the public.

Project Reference Committee

Our Project Reference Committee has now been finalised. We were impressed by the number of nominations we received from the public and welcome three community members and a third member of the Mitiamo Reticulated Water Supply Committee to the group.

Members were appointed to ensure representation across all customer groups and we now have six community representatives.

The committee consists of:

- Community-led Mitiamo Reticulated Water Supply Committee members Neil Allen, Geoff Thomas and Jonathan Leech
- Community members Peter Tuohey, Jenny Emonson and Ron Mitchell
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)
- Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR)
- Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW)
- Coliban Water
- Loddon Shire Council
- Campaspe Shire Council
- North Central Catchment Management Authority

The community members will provide us with information and feedback from the community.

The Project Reference Committee will ensure all aspects of the project are informed and tested against community knowledge and expectations.

Contact your community representative

If you would like to discuss the development of the business case for a domestic and stock pipeline in the Mitiamo district with a community representative, you can contact them on the phone numbers below:

Neil Allen	0428 590 285
Jenny Emonson	0407 595 603
Jonathan Leech	0429 450 590
Ron Mitchell	0428 100 711
Geoff Thomas	0429 182 959
Peter Tuohey	0428 952 425

Your community representative will present any questions or concerns you may have at the next Project Reference Committee meeting.

Unsubscribe

If you would like to unsubscribe from receiving information about the development of the business case for a domestic and stock pipeline in the Mitiamo district, please contact our Project Manager, Jamie Cowan, on **1800 013 357**.

More information

For more information about the development of the business case for a domestic and stock pipeline in the Mitiamo district:



Phone our Project Manager, Jamie Cowan, on **1800 013 357**



Visit our website **www.gmwater.com.au/mitiamo**



Drop into our Customer Service Centre
24 Barber Street, Pyramid Hill
between 9.30am to 2pm Monday to Friday.



Email **info@gmwater.com.au**

