

Mitiamo district domestic and stock pipeline

Frequently asked questions

Community consultation continues

In 2017, Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW) will continue to develop and finalise the business case into the feasibility of a new domestic and stock pipeline to serve the Mitiamo district.

Our consultation with district landowners has been fruitful and is ongoing. It has resulted in some new and frequently asked questions which this update seeks to address.

We will continue to listen and respond to landowners' queries, concerns and ideas as the business case progresses with our project partners: Loddon and Campaspe Shires, Coliban Water, Commonwealth Government and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

We will also continue to provide updates to these frequently asked questions. In particular we're working on your questions about water trading rules and water supply and access to the pipeline.

I want more information on the cost of a piped water service and the business rules that will apply before committing to it.

GMW understands the issue of connection and ongoing cost is critical to potential customers of a pipeline servicing the Mitiamo district.

We intend to put forward our concept design at the next Open Day planned for Wednesday 26 April at Mitiamo Football Club. With your feedback we will then develop a preferred design that will help determine all costs involved.

With respect to costs and the business rules operating in other piped water districts, we refer you to www.gmwater.com.au/mitiamo

This link to our website includes information on pricing, tariffs and rules that apply in other similar, established pipeline districts.

Can GMW provide clarity on business rules for unserviced properties, dam fill schemes and those in existing water syndicates?

Customers who are currently serviced by the GMW operated dam fill schemes will be provided with a service as part of the new pipeline.

GMW intends to meet with each existing private syndicate to discuss their specific water requirements and access to the pipeline.

Unserviced property owners may have an initial capital cost to be connected to any future pipeline.

Will there be any compensation for customers who used the dam fill scheme?

No. While appreciating the annual dam fill scheme has long fulfilled an important need for participating landowners, it would become redundant if the new pipeline is constructed.

Could the pipe run along a property's south boundary rather than the north boundary, for example?

GMW will consider, consult and review any landowner's request for the pipeline's proposed location to be altered. If there are negligible costs involved in relocating a section of the pipeline, it will be favourably considered.

However GMW, in the interests of all stakeholders and building a viable business case, is committed to keeping costs down wherever possible. This will be reflected in the preferred location of the pipeline.

GMW will present concept design plans for the pipeline at the next Open Day, 10am to 7pm at the Mitiamo Football Club on Wednesday, 26 April 2017.

Can the landowner tap directly into the pipeline so that an on-farm pump is not required?

No. New piped water district customers will receive a service tap to the farm gate that will meet engineering and cost requirements.

The landowner must connect an on-farm tank with a minimum of 4 days storage or minimum 9000 litres.

Can there be blank tapping points included for future use?

We appreciate some landowners may want one or more “blank” tapping points to the pipeline along different sections of their property. This would allow access to water from that connection point in the future. Water supply arrangements, including the required water to service these points, would require further discussions with GMW.

GMW will consider such requests on a case-by-case basis.

If the pipeline were to be built, there would be an upfront infrastructure and labour cost to the landowner for installing blank tapping points. This cost is yet to be determined.

Can landowners connect in the future?

Yes, although this would be subject to available capacity. However, for the same reason as previously noted, it will be more expensive to install the infrastructure to connect to the pipeline once it is complete and in the ground.

Water supply arrangements, including the required water to service customer needs, would require further discussions with GMW.

If the business case for a Mitiamo district domestic and stock pipeline is successful, the cheapest connection cost will be at the commencement of the project's construction.

What if I need more information?

For more information about the business case for a domestic and stock pipeline in the Mitiamo district, visit www.gmwater.com.au/mitiamo or phone our Project Manager, Jamie Cowan, on 1800 013 357.