

PROJECT UPDATE - August 2021

PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION COMPLETE!

Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Victorian Water Minister, Richard Wynne have jointly announced the completion of the Mitiamo Pipeline, confirming this long advocated project has been delivered on time and within budget. Goulburn-Murray Water's newest customers on the pipeline can now enjoy year-round reliable quality raw water flowing through their tapings points!

Since last month, landowners across around 58,000 hectares north of Bendigo and southwest of Echuca have had access to this reliable supply through over 300km of new pipeline. It is estimated 170 jobs have been created through project development, approvals and construction of the pipeline.

"The Mitiamo Pipeline Project is another project which sees outdated and wasteful water infrastructure replaced for the benefit for landowners and the community" says Acting Victorian Water Minister, Richard Wynne.



*The Pump Station and Lagoon supplying the Mitiamo Pipeline with year round quality raw water.
Photo credit: Max Bright & Sons*

Landowner Agreements



Cultural Heritage Plans Agreed



Pump Station Construction



Pipeline Construction



OVER \$450,000 PAID TO LANDOWNERS IN TANK REBATES

Almost all our landowners along the Mitiamo Pipeline lodged claims for over 200 tapping points under the Mitiamo Pipeline Tank Rebate Scheme before it closed in April. This has put more than \$450,000 back in landowners pockets to help offset the expenses of buying tanks in readiness to take water from the new Pipeline.

GMW and the Mitiamo Project team are thrilled to see so many landowners ready to put the pipeline to good use straight away.

Landowner Liaisons Jane and Patrick along with super-star Gail in our accounts team will be long overdue for a strong cup of tea after helping with lots of questions and processing most claim payments within a week of receiving them. Towards the end of April, this was more than 10 claims a day.

Any landowners experiencing delays with connecting their tanks due to recent wet weather should notify the team.



Ask Martin

With the pipeline complete, landowners have now started turning on the taps. We spoke the **Martin Hamilton** from **Agriculture Victoria** and asked him his thoughts on questions we are hearing from landowners:

My flow rate seems lower than I was expecting – is this normal?

The Mitiamo Pipeline is a reticulated water supply, meaning it is not operated at high head pressure typical of a normal electrical pump or a pressurised town water supply. This means the system runs continuously at a low flow rate. This design allows for better mitigation to supply during peak periods.

How long does it take to fill a tank once it is empty?

A typical 22,500 litre tank will take around 3-4 days to fill from empty if you are not drawing any water from the tank at the same time. In peak season you might need to draw water at a higher rate than it is flowing into the tank. It is therefore important to have thought about your peak demand water needs and have put in place sufficient storage

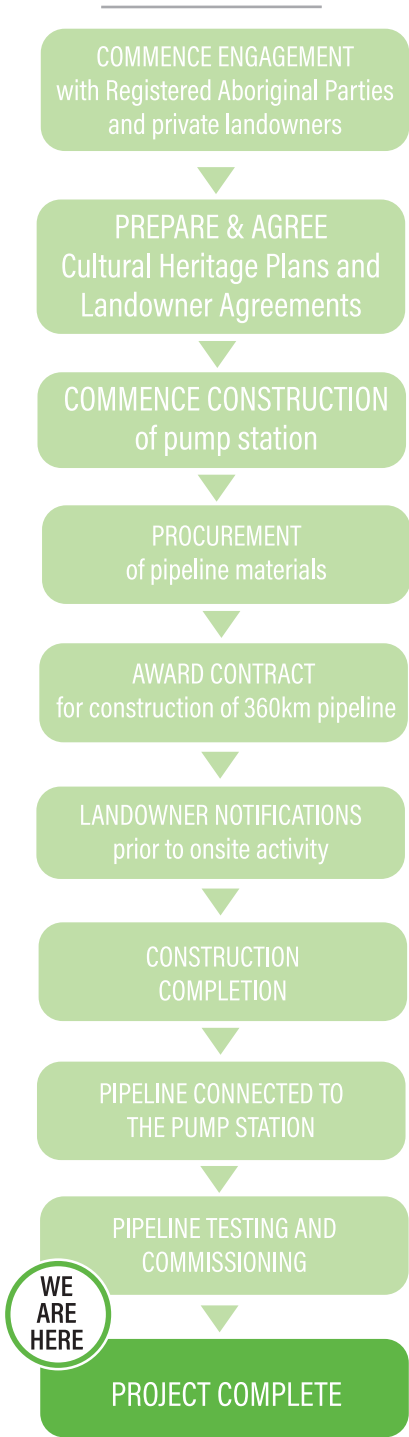
How can I check my flow rate is as agreed in my Landowner Agreement?

An easy way to check your flow rate is via a "bucket test". Run water from the pipeline flow into a bucket for 60 seconds and measure how much water you have. If you multiply that amount by 1440 (ie, 60 minutes x 24 hours) this will tell you your flow rate per day.

How can I work out whether the tank I have acquired will meet my farming business requirements?

Each farming business is different from another and this varies seasonally. It is important to set up your watering requirements factoring in both normal and out of ordinary seasonal conditions. We encourage any customers to reach out to Agriculture Victoria for help understanding your on-farm watering requirements and advice on transitioning from a dam filling operation to a piped supply service.

PROJECT TIMELINE



Fact Sheets about Flow Rates and Demand Allocations can be found on the project webpage.

FIND OUT MORE

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