

# Wandoan Coal Project Western CSM Water Supply Pipeline

October, 2008

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Wandoan Joint Venture

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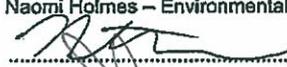
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Date: October, 2008 .....

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- Attachment A Letters to affected property owners
- Attachment B XCQ duplicate booklet and record of consultation form

## Executive summary

The Wandoan Joint Venture (the WJV) commissioned Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB) to undertake a route selection for the proposed western water supply pipeline between the Wandoan Coal Project area and the Origin and Santos coal seam methane (CSM) area, located approximately 91 km to the west at Spring Gully.

The WJV proposes to develop thermal coal resources and establish mining operations immediately west of the Wandoan township, which is part of the Dalby Regional Council area. Coal will be mined at a rate of around 30 million tonnes per annum run mine of coal. The coal will be crushed, sized and washed before being transported by rail to ports in the Gladstone area.

The objective of this pipeline project is to convey water that is the by-product of coal seam methane extraction to the proposed Wandoan Coal Mine. The handling and processing of coal will require a constant and reliable water supply. The western water supply pipeline is anticipated to typically supply a water demand of less than 8,400 ML/a, with demand peaking at 9,100 ML/a (with potential expansion to 11,400 ML/a if mine production is increased to 40 Mt/a).

Two other potential raw water supply options have been identified:

- coal seam methane associated water, sourced from gas fields associated with the Condamine Power Station, located south of the Project MLA areas, and discussed in Volume 2 of the EIS (southern water supply pipeline)
- water resulting from the raising of Glebe Weir on the Dawson River (managed by SunWater), as discussed in Volume 4 of the EIS.

An assessment of these three options will be developed by the WJV to provide long-term raw water supply to the Wandoan Coal Project, based on social, environmental and economic factors.

The western CSM water supply pipeline report forms part of the Wandoan Coal Project environmental impact statement (EIS). If mining leases are granted to the WJV for the Wandoan Coal Project, construction of the preferred pipeline will commence in time to coincide with the proposed operation of the mine in 2012.

The purpose of this report is to discuss the consultation activities that were carried out as part of the investigations to assess the viability of a western CSM water supply pipeline.

The community consultation process included:

- contacting directly affected property owners and stakeholders via phone call and letters
- conducting one-to-one meetings with affected property owners and stakeholders.

The most common issues and concerns raised by directly affected property owners included:

- potential spread of parthenium weed
- impact to community bores

- perceived lack of communication between the WJV and Origin
- material of pipe
- air valves
- impact on future irrigation operations.

Following feedback received, it is recommended the WJV reviews and implements appropriate parthenium weed management protocols along the western CSM water supply pipeline corridor, if the pipeline is selected as the preferred water supply pipeline option.

Impact to community bores should be considered and minimised during the detailed design process.

The establishment of a stakeholder management group and a specific on-the-ground person will help identify and manage stakeholder and property owner issues. Regular and on-going communication between the WJV, property owners, stakeholders and the community will promote trust and confidence in the Wandoan Coal Project and preferred water supply pipeline corridor.

The communication of technical information once the preferred water supply pipeline is announced will ensure property owners remain informed.

# 1. Introduction

The Queensland Government promotes productive reuse of water extracted as a by-product of coal seam methane (CSM). As extracted water is unsuitable for many direct beneficial uses, the management of this water is a key component of CSM development. The WJV proposes to use this water to aid in coal processing and mining activities such as coal washing and dust suppression.

The proposed pipeline from the Origin and Santos CSM area at Spring Gully is located approximately 100 km to the west of the Wandoan Coal Project (the Project) mining lease application (MLA) areas. A desktop review and field reconnaissance was undertaken to develop a potential pipeline route. A community consultation program and further environmental and technical investigations were conducted prior to the selection of a preferred water supply route.

The proposed western CSM water supply pipeline corridor will be constructed along a 50 m easement, which may be narrowed subject to detailed design. The route is mostly located in properties immediately north of local road reserves and crosses a number of rural properties.

The proposed pipeline will be approximately 600 mm in diameter and will be buried with approximately 0.6 m to 1 m depth of cover, subject to site-specific risk assessments. Property owners will not have access to the water supply and will not be able to build directly on top of the pipeline. Grazing and ploughing operations will not be affected by the pipeline. However, driveway access and fencing may be temporarily affected during the construction period.

## 1.1 Project background

The success of the WJV's proposed mining operations is contingent upon the co-ordination of supporting infrastructure to ensure optimum operation of coal mining activities.

The WJV engaged PB as the lead EIS consultants in 2006 to prepare and undertake pre-feasibility investigations for the EIS, due for release in November 2008.

In December 2006, PB conducted a conceptual water supply study, investigating suitable options for water supply to the proposed mine. The study identified three water supply options:

- Glebe Weir on the Dawson River
- CSM-associated water pipeline from Spring Gully and Fairview gas fields to the west of the MLA areas
- CSM-associated water pipeline from Berwyndale and Talinga gas fields to the south of the MLA areas.

Following route selection studies, the community consultation process for the western CSM water supply line began in July 2008. A broader community engagement and consultation program is also being undertaken as part of the Project. Consultation for the western CSM water supply line is expected to continue until the announcement of a preferred water supply pipeline by the WJV in early 2009.

Ongoing consultation activities include:

- letters to directly affected property owners
- phone calls to directly affected property owners
- one-to-one meetings with directly affected property owners and stakeholders
- phone calls to directly affected property owners confirming property access for study surveys.

## 2. Community consultation scope

The consultation process commenced in July 2008 with the aim of informing and obtaining input from affected property owners and stakeholders about the proposed western CSM water supply pipeline.

This section outlines key activities conducted during the consultation process.

The findings from these activities are discussed in Section 4.

### 2.1 Consultation key messages

The following key messages were developed to be used during consultation activities carried for the proposed western CSM water supply pipeline:

- as part of its prefeasibility studies for the Project, the WJV has identified and is investigating a western CSM water supply pipeline corridor to supply water to the proposed coal mine
- the proposed pipeline would transport water extracted from coal seam methane gas production sourced from the Spring Gully (owned by Origin) and Fairview (owned by Santos) to the west of the Project MLA areas.
- The proposed western CSM water supply pipeline is one of three options being investigated to provide water for the proposed mine. The other two options include raising Glebe Weir on the Dawson River (managed by SunWater) and using coal seam methane-associated water sourced from Berwyndale (owned by Queensland Gas Company) and Talinga (owned by Origin) to the south of the Project site
- the majority of the pipeline will follow established road reserves to minimise impact to private properties and the environment
- technical studies including flora and fauna, and cultural heritage will be conducted along this proposed corridor
- the Project team will contact property owners before any technical studies are conducted on the potentially affected property to discuss the planned activities and any issues or concerns property owners may have
- PB understands that there are many projects under development in the region, so will continue to work closely with other project teams to ensure two-way communication between all parties.

## 3. Consultation approach

A consultation process was designed to obtain feedback from property owners who are potentially directly affected by the proposed western CSM water supply pipeline project.

A project team was formed to meet with property owners and stakeholders to inform them of the Project and collate key information and feedback. A civil engineer, an environmental and community adviser and community engagement consultant formed the Project team.

The project team identified 19 directly affected property owners. Those properties situated within a 50 m assessment corridor were identified as being potentially directly affected by the pipeline corridor.

The outcomes of the consultation approach are discussed in Section 4, Community consultation findings.

### 3.1 Consultation objectives

The broad objectives of the consultation process for the western CSM water supply pipeline were to:

- ensure the early identification of all potentially affected property owners and stakeholder issues, assess the potential impacts and implement appropriate strategies to mitigate these
- facilitate an open and transparent public consultation and community involvement process
- encourage and obtain comment from potentially affected property owners to help inform the WJV's decision making process regarding the proposed western CSM water supply pipeline
- provide potentially affected property owners and stakeholders with information on the current proposed consultation phase and future pipeline development
- design and implement communication activities to support the consultation process, with key messages consistent across all Project stages
- ensure the outcomes of the planning and preliminary design process reflected community values and respond to consultation process feedback
- ensure all consultation activities were aligned with the WJV's community engagement policies, principles, standards and guidelines
- improve community confidence in the WJV and the proposed western CSM water supply pipeline.

## 3.2 Community consultation process

The table below details completed and future consultation activities carried out for the proposed western CSM water supply pipeline.

**Table 3-1: Community consultation process**

Date	Activity	Rationale
July 2008	Letters to sent to potentially directly affected property owners.	Letters were sent to potentially affected property owners introducing the study and project team. A map was also attached to the letter detailing the proposed pipeline corridor and potential impact to each property.
July 2008	Telephone contact with directly affected property owners.	Following letters, calls were made to answer any initial questions and arrange one-to-one meetings with the project team.
July/August 2008	One-to-one meetings with directly affected property owners and stakeholders.	One-to-one meetings were conducted between directly affected property owners and the project team. This provided an opportunity for the project team to explain the need for a water supply source, proposed construction and operation timeframes, the potential impact to properties and future study requirements.
August/September 2008	Follow up phone calls with directly affected property owners regarding property access for study surveys.	Property owners were contacted to inform them of studies being carried out along the proposed corridor. The project team confirmed access permission and arranged specific dates and times for studies to be conducted as requested by property owners.
Ongoing	Continuation of study contact points.	Project contact points will continue to remain open to answer any questions about the proposed water supply line.

## 3.3 Stakeholder meetings

Two meetings were held between the WJV and key stakeholders in June and August 2008.

Representatives from the WJV met with a Dalby Regional Council (DRC) representative in June 2008 at the Council's Chambers in Dalby. The project team also met with a senior engineer (water management) from Origin Energy on 8 August 2008.

The purpose of the stakeholder meetings was to provide these stakeholders with a Project overview, including information about the proposed pipeline design, project timing, staging and construction. The proposed consultation process was also discussed during the stakeholder meetings. The meetings provided the WJV with the opportunity to record and collate stakeholder feedback for inclusion in technical studies.

Additionally, the purpose of the meeting in August was to provide Origin with an overview of feedback received to date from property owners. Clarification was also sought about Origin's Expression of Interest (EOI) which invited property owners to submit a business case to use reverse osmosis (RO) water from Spring Gully.

Outcomes of the stakeholder meetings are listed in Section 4.1.

## 3.4 Contact with property owners

Communication with directly affected property owners was initiated and maintained through written correspondence, phone calls and emails during the consultation process.

### 3.4.1 Letters to property owners

A letter was distributed to 15 directly affected property owners on 8 July 2008.

Letters mailed to the directly affected property owners included:

- a project overview
- potential route alignment that may directly affect their property
- projected water usage and water quality
- intention for a project team member to contact property owners to arrange one-to-one meetings
- freecall project information number
- a plan showing the potential impact to each property was also attached to this letter.

Four potentially directly affected property owners did not receive written correspondence about the western CSM water supply pipeline. The WJV confirmed its intention to make direct contact with these remaining property owners as they included commercial organisations and one privately-owned property.

A copy of this letter is included in Attachment A.

### 3.4.2 Calls to property owners

Calls were made to 15 directly affected property owners. Property owners were provided with a brief overview of the proposed project and any immediate questions were answered. One-to-one meetings were also arranged between the property owners and project team.

## 3.5 Property owner meetings

One-to-one meetings were conducted with property owners during July and August 2008.

The majority of meetings were held at the property owner's residence. However, some meetings were conducted in mutually convenient locations and in PB's Brisbane offices. Meetings were informal and the project team encouraged property owners to ask questions and discuss any potential issues and concerns about the western CSM water supply pipeline.

The project team provided property owners with an overview of the western CSM water supply pipeline and its relationship to the Project MLA areas. Other pipeline options under investigation were also outlined and an A0 sized poster showing the proposed western CSM water supply pipeline corridor was presented at each meeting.

A duplicate booklet was used to record meeting notes of each meeting and a copy of the notes was handed to each property owner following the meeting. The project team asked each property owner to verify the accuracy of the notes by signing the booklet.

Information collated during these meetings was inputted into the project database to be used for social impact and consultation reporting purposes.

### **3.6 Communication tools**

The Project's freecall information number, project email and postal address were included on all information provided to property owners. Project contact points were monitored throughout the consultation period and contact from property owners and stakeholders was recorded and inputted into the consultation database.

A copy of the duplicate booklet and 'Record of Consultation' form used to record all contact is included in Attachment B.

## 4. Community consultation findings

This section outlines the findings from the consultation process. These findings were gathered from one-to-one meetings with affected property owners.

The majority of property owners conveyed a positive response to the proposed use of CSM water and were pleased to learn that the water would be used effectively.

All feedback, reported in Section 4.1 Stakeholder contact and 4.2 Property owner contact, was received via one-to-one meetings.

### 4.1 Stakeholder contact

On 8 August 2008, the project team met with a Senior Engineer (Water Management) from Origin Energy. This meeting followed several initial contacts by the Project team, to organise meetings with key representatives. Due to staff being off-site the meeting was not able to be held before property owner contact had been made.

In the lead up to property owner contact the Project team provided Origin with a copy of the letter proposed for distribution and details of the information being discussed. Following property owner meetings the Project team communicated feedback to Origin which included positive responses regarding the recycled use of this water to ensure water is not wasted.

The Project team communicated to Origin the concerns of three property owners that their application to use Spring Gully's RO water was in direct competition with the WJV's western CSM water supply pipeline proposal. Origin's stance was clarified and it was confirmed that no commitment on the allocation of RO water had been made to property owners by Origin.

Origin expressed concern regarding the consultation process undertaken and indicated that despite the WJV contacting their on-site staff and providing copies of consultation materials, they had not been adequately involved in the consultation process with property owners. These concerns were noted by the Project team.

### 4.2 Property owner contact

Meetings were conducted with 14 property owners (as one property owner owned two affected properties). No letters or hotline calls were received from property owners during the July and August 2008 consultation period.

### 4.3 Summary of feedback via contact method

The table below summarises feedback received following one-to-one meetings with affected property owners.

Feedback has been collated into five broad areas of concern:

- environmental and infrastructure impacts
- design and access
- other issues and questions raised about the project
- timing
- cost and legalities.

Major issues and concerns raised during the one-to-one meetings are summarised in further detail below.

**Table 4-1: Summary of feedback via contact method**

<b>Feedback</b>	<b>No. times raised</b>
<b>Environmental and infrastructure impacts</b>	
Potential spread of parthenium weed	6
Environmental impacts if pipe leaks	1
Impact to fauna	1
<b>Design and access</b>	
Impact to property's community bore pipelines	5
Material of pipe	4
Impact on future irrigation operations	4
Questioned the power line corridor	3
Impact to fences during construction	3
Questioned construction methods	2
Soil erosion from construction	2
Construction impact on cattle	2
Impact to cropping	2
Impact to dams	2
Impact on stock route	2
Impact livestock may have on the pipe's air valves	2
Questioned the maintenance of the access road	1
Questioned rehabilitation after construction	1
Questioned design of air valves	1
<b>Other issues and questions raised about the project</b>	
Positive response to water being used and not wasted	5
Poor communication between XCQ and Origin	4
Request for project updates	3
Potential damage to property when studies are being carried out	1
Questions about the location of coal	1
Location of mine facilities	1
Negative response to resumption of land for corridor	1
Favourable towards western pipeline project	1
<b>Timing</b>	
Questioned project timing	1
Questioned mine life	1
<b>Cost and legalities</b>	
Compensation for studies and time	1
Ownership of land in pipeline corridor	1

The potential spread of parthenium weed was a key issue raised by six property owners. Three property owners confirmed the presence of parthenium on their property and three property owners have sighted the weed along the Roma-Taroom Road. As the Wandoan area is classified as a Parthenium free area, it is important that Project protocols (i.e. weed management plans) are followed to limit the spread of the weed.

Established community bores transport water for domestic and stock purposes through local pipelines. Five property owners were concerned about the impact the western CSM water supply pipeline may have on bore pipelines and water supply as the pipeline network is established along road easements and property boundaries. Property owners raised concerns that segments of the community bore pipeline network may be situated within the proposed western CSM water supply pipeline corridor.

Five property owners communicated their support for the productive use of Spring Gully's waste water. As water is a scarce resource in the area, property owners were pleased to learn that water would be managed effectively.

Four property owners indicated their interest in the materials that would be used to manufacture the pipe to be laid in the ground. The project team were unable to answer these questions as further investigations were being carried out on the quality of water at Spring Gully. The project team discussed various pipeline materials that could be considered and assured property owners that pipelines would be tested and maintained throughout the life of the mine to monitor any damage or corrosion to the pipeline.

Four property owners outlined their concern about their perceived lack of communication between the WJV and Origin. Property owners were concerned that Origin did not appear to be aware of the western CSM water supply pipeline project and were concerned their (the property owners') application for RO water was in direct competition with the WJV's proposal for water.

A total of three property owners also raised questions about air valves along the western CSM water supply pipeline corridor, their purpose and design. Property owners asked about the impact air valves may have on cattle and if cattle were at risk of falling into or knocking over air valves.

Three property owners were concerned about the impact the western CSM water supply pipeline could have on future planned irrigation operations. These property owners recently submitted EOI proposing to use RO water from Origin's Spring Gully fields. The project team explained that water required for coal washing and dust suppression would be raw water and it was doubtful the Project would require all of Spring Gully's available RO water.

Two property owners asked questions about the construction process. The project team explained the construction staging and timing schedule to property owners. Following the selection of a preferred water supply pipeline, a detailed design and construction tender process will be carried out before construction starts on the pipeline corridor. The project team confirmed the pipeline would be operational to support the commencement of mining operations in 2012.

Soil erosion was another concern raised by property owners who asked for erosion management practices to be applied during construction of the pipeline.

Property owners were concerned about the potential impact to cattle, crops and dams as a result of the pipeline corridor. Property owners were seeking assurances that further consultation and communication would be conducted prior to detailed design and construction so property impacts are managed.

Two property owners also raised a point regarding stock routes. The proposed pipeline corridor follows part of an established stock route. The impact the pipeline may have on stock routes will need to be considered. Further investigations will need to analyse potential impacts stock may have on the water supply pipeline and air valves.

Three property owners made enquiries about a historical project they were consulted on three to five years ago. That project involved a proposal for a powerline that followed a similar corridor to the proposed western CSM water supply pipeline corridor. Property owners asked if there was any connection between the powerline and the western CSM water supply corridor. The project team confirmed that to their knowledge there was no intention to construct a power line along the same corridor.

Three property owners were concerned about the potential impact to their fence lines during pipeline construction. The project team reassured property owners that temporary fences would be erected during construction and contact would be made with property owners to ensure fences are constructed in suitable locations at appropriate times. Two of the property owners were particularly concerned about fences due to requirements to separate stud cattle.

## 5. Conclusion

The community consultation process for the proposed western CSM water supply pipeline project was planned and implemented with the objective of facilitating an open, transparent communication process between the project team, affected property owners and stakeholders.

The community consultation process has identified the key concerns and issues of property owners and stakeholders. The consultation process has assisted the WJV in gaining a better understanding of these issues and input from these groups will be considered in the selection of a preferred water supply pipeline corridor.

Key consultation activities conducted as part of the consultation process included:

- letters to directly affected property owners
- phone calls and emails to directly affected property owners to arrange meetings
- one-to-one meetings with directly affected property owners and stakeholders.

Key issues and questions raised during the consultation process by affected property owners included:

- the spread of parthenium weed
- impact to community bores
- perceived lack of communication between the WJV and Origin
- pipeline materials
- air valves
- impact on future irrigation activities.

Property owners voiced concern about the spread of parthenium and potential impact the weed may have on their stock and livelihood. Weed control and management protocols will need to be followed during site visits and pipeline construction. Property owners were satisfied with the WJV's weed management protocols. Weed management guidelines will need to be reviewed and implemented in the ongoing maintenance and management of the pipeline.

The impact to community bores will need to be managed during the design phase of the project. If there is a potential impact to community bore pipelines during construction, property owners should be notified. Maintaining regular contact with affected property owners will promote a relationship of mutual respect and trust.

Property owners were also concerned about the perceived lack of communication between the WJV and Origin. Regular contact and updates between the WJV and stakeholders will ensure consistent messages are communicated to the community.

Once the preferred water supply corridor has been selected and detailed design commences, the project team will need to confirm technical aspects of the pipeline design and construction (including the type of pipe materials, expected maintenance required on the pipes, breathing hole design, frequency of maintenance and expected pipeline lifetime) to affected property owners.

## 6. Recommendations

It is recommended the WJV continues open communication with directly affected property owners, stakeholders and the broader community. Future community consultation activities suggested are:

- additional one-to-one meetings with affected property owners
- continuation of freecall Project information hotline.

Proactive communication and contact should be made with project stakeholders. This will ensure that clear and consistent messages are delivered to the affected property owners and the community. Early and ongoing contact will also help identify potential stakeholder issues.

Parthenium weed control and management practices should be reviewed and communicated to property owners, stakeholders and the community. A long-term commitment to managing and reducing parthenium weed will promote trust and respect in the community.

Air valves constructed along the pipeline will need to withstand cattle movement and should be visible and designed to avoid damage to cattle.

Further investigations will need to consider the impact stock may have on the pipeline in areas where stockroutes run adjacent to the CSM water supply pipeline.

The location of community bore pipelines should be considered during further route investigations and impact on these pipelines will need to be considered during design and construction. Affected property owners will seek assurances that bore water supplies will be maintained and impact to the community pipeline network will be minimal. Ongoing contact with property owners will help in the early identification and management of issues and concerns.

The continuation and development of community consultation processes is essential for ensuring that all participants involved in the project are kept well informed of all developments and have the opportunity to provide input and discuss issues.

A specific on-the-ground contact person could act as the first point of contact for all project related questions. A stakeholder management group involving Origin, contractors and the WJV would also assist in the early identification and management of issues.

On-going and regular communication between the WJV, affected property owners, stakeholders and the community will promote trust and confidence in the Project and approval and construction process for the western CSM water supply pipeline.

## **Attachment A**

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Letters to affected property owners



Our reference: CSM water property owners

8 July 2008

Dear

**RE: WANDOAN COAL PROJECT – COAL SEAM METHANE WATER PIPELINE CORRIDOR SELECTION**

As part of its prefeasibility studies for the Wandoan Coal Project, a proposed open-cut coal mine near the town of Wandoan, Xstrata Coal Queensland (XCQ) is investigating and identifying a corridor for a new underground pipeline to transport Coal Seam Methane water from the vicinity of Origin Energy's Spring Gully coal seam gas plant to the proposed mine site at Wandoan. The water is a by-product of the gas extraction process. It is not potable and is too highly-mineralised to be suitable for many agricultural and commercial uses.

The proposed corridor currently being examined potentially affects your property as shown on the attached plan. As the option being considered in this study will have the potential to directly impact your property, we would like to meet with you to discuss the proposed corridor and ensure any chosen alignment minimises impacts on your property.

The Project team will contact you by telephone in the next few days to answer any immediate questions you may have about the proposed corridor and organise a one-to-one meeting. If you wish to immediately arrange a meeting to discuss any issues with the Project team, please telephone 1800 052 797 to arrange a time.

An XCQ representative will accompany our technical consultants PB to provide information, maps and other materials.

If you have any queries regarding this information, please contact the Project team on 1800 052 797.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bill McKinstrey'.

**Bill McKinstrey**

Wandoan Coal Project Director

## **Attachment B**

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XCQ duplicate booklet and record of  
consultation form

# Wandoan Coal Project



## Property Owner Field Notes

Team members: \_\_\_\_\_ Date/Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Conversation/meeting with: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address: \_\_\_\_\_

Property address/directions: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### About project

- About Xstrata Coal
- Reason for project
- Timing of project
- Location

- Maps
- Consultation process
- Valuation process
- Compensation process

- Easement width
- Timing of pipeline approval and construction
- EIS/Approvals process

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Permission to enter to conduct

- Easement survey
- Fauna and flora survey
- Cultural and heritage survey
- Valuation follow-up

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Additional comments

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Property owner/s signature

Project team signature

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Follow-up actions: \_\_\_\_\_

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Entered in database \_\_\_\_\_ Submission No \_\_\_\_\_

