



APPENDIX A1-B AEIS CONSULTATION REPORT

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Table 5-1 Newsletter overview

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1. INTRODUCTION

This report details the process, activities and outcomes of consultation conducted during preparation of the Additional Information to the environmental impact statement (AEIS) for the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project (Project). This consultation was undertaken to update stakeholders in response to matters that emerged following the public display of the EIS. Specific matters addressed included:

- The AEIS proposes changes to the length and alignment of the Nathan pipeline route to reduce negative impacts. In reducing these negative impacts the pipeline is proposed in new properties and as such impacted landholders have been consulted.
- A submission to the EIS raised that there was insufficient information about how unsupplemented water users below the proposed dam would be compensated for loss of water harvesting opportunities. Consultation about the compensation options was therefore conducted.
- The Community Liaison Group for the Project requested that a final meeting be held during the AEIS phase of the Project.

2. CONSULTATION RELATED TO PIPELINE SCOPE AND ALIGNMENT CHANGES

The AEIS proposes improvements to the Nathan pipeline length and alignment (see Part C of the AEIS) that reduces negative impacts. These improvements were developed as a result of stakeholder input during the public consultation period of the EIS, as well as on-going design studies. The changes result in the pipeline length being reduced from approximately 260 km to 150 km. Although some landholders will no longer have the pipeline within their property others now do.

2.1. Woleebee Common Section of Pipeline

The 69.4 km section of the pipeline that is common to the Woleebee Creek to Glebe Weir Pipeline Project has been removed from the Project, resulting in the pipeline no longer being within the properties of 21 landholders. SunWater sent letters to these landholders (Appendix A), informing them of this. They also received a newsletter (Appendix B) about the status of the Project.

2.2. Pipeline Relocation along a Section of the Warrego Highway

A 20 km section of the proposed pipeline has been relocated from the eastern to the western side of the Warrego Highway and Western Rail Line between Chinchilla and Warra. This relocation is due to limited space on the eastern side, negative impacts identified by the community through the EIS consultation process such as erosion due to flooding and that a majority of customers are located on the western side. This change results in the pipeline being in the properties of 13 fewer landholders on the eastern side and the pipeline being in the properties of 15 new landholders on the western side (note that some of these landholders own multiple lots).

For landholders no longer impacted by the pipeline, SunWater sent letters (Appendix C) informing them of this and the reduced impact. Included with the letter was a newsletter (Appendix B) informing them of the project status.

For landholders now affected by the pipeline, SunWater sent letters (Appendix D) advising them of this change with route maps and a consultation response form (Appendix E) with reply paid envelope. The mail-out was followed up with phone calls to ensure that the materials had been received, to discuss the proposed impacts and to offer a face-to-face meeting. One meeting was conducted and four consultation response forms returned. The main issues discussed or raised were:

- the milestones that will need to be achieved prior to the project proceeding to construction (e.g. all necessary approvals and a firm commitment from sufficient customers to take water from the project);
- confirmation that further consultation will be conducted prior to the pipeline easement being acquired;
- confirmation that landholders may elect to take stockwater from the pipeline as part of their compensation agreement (seven expressed interest in stockwater and one in irrigation water but they recognised that it may be too expensive);
- confirmation that landholder input will be sought on the location and construction of the access track;
- potential impacts on property infrastructure in the vicinity of the proposed corridor;
- land use limitations along the pipeline easement; and
- the process and timing for land acquisition and compensation.

Only one landholder expressed an objection verbally by phone, however no formal response form was returned. Their concern was focused on proponents of other projects not following through with promises – not the pipeline per se.

2.3. Pipeline Termination at Warra

Information gathered during the EIS consultation phase identified that there will be little demand for Nathan Dam water south of Warra in the short term (20-30 years), including Dalby's town water supply. On this basis SunWater has proposed in the AEIS to terminate the main trunk pipeline at Warra, resulting in a 45 km reduction in overall length and 56 fewer landholders being impacted.

SunWater sent letters (Appendix F) to all previously affected landholders between Warra and Dalby informing them of the proposed change and advising them that they are no longer impacted by the pipeline. They also received a newsletter (Appendix B) informing them of the Project's current status. None of these landholders responded with any concerns related to the proposed change.

SunWater also sent a letter to Western Downs Regional Council (Appendix G) outlining the reasons for the pipeline terminating at Warra rather than Dalby, and confirming previous verbal communication with the WDRC Mayor that Dalby would not be requiring additional water supplies from the pipeline in the foreseeable future. The letter was followed up by a phone call confirming receipt of the letter. No formal response was received from the WDRC.

2.4. Other Pipeline Route Changes

Due to further assessment of the pipeline route since the EIS was finalised, a number of localised alignment changes are proposed in the AEIS (discussed in Part C of the AEIS). These changes are predominantly to reduce impacts on remnant vegetation or public infrastructure. In view of the fact that the changes are considered to be relatively minor and further changes are likely during the final design phase, it was decided to defer further consultation with these landholders until the final design stage, when additional minor changes along the entire pipeline route will likely need to be made in consultation with landholders.

3. CONSULTATION WITH DAWSON RIVER WATERHARVESTERS

A submitter to the EIS requested detail on how unsupplemented water users along the Dawson River are going to be compensated for loss of water harvesting opportunities, and sought further consultation with water harvesters over possible compensation options.

SunWater worked with the submitter on this issue to develop a discussion paper entitled: *Proposed compensation strategy and options for waterharvesters downstream of Nathan Dam*.

The draft discussion paper was presented to a wider irrigator group at a Dawson irrigators meeting on 19 December 2013, where further input was sought from waterharvesters. The paper was then finalised and sent out to all impacted waterharvesters (see Appendix D5 to the AEIS). The processes set out in the paper would only be implemented if the project is approved and moves to construction.

A number of waterharvesters responded to the discussion paper. In response, SunWater provided assistance to waterharvesters to show how to determine medium priority conversion. SunWater also responded to general questions regarding the Project's status and queries related to the timing of negotiations regarding compensation.

4. COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

At its sixth meeting during the EIS public consultation period, the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Community Liaison Group (CLG) requested that a final CLG meeting be held at the time of the AEIS. To this end, a final (seventh) CLG meeting was organised and occurred on 27 August 2013 in Taroom (Appendix H – letter of invitation). The minutes of the CLG meeting are provided in Appendix I.

The following topics were discussed at the meeting:

- The Supplementary EIS process (now AEIS);
- Project update / proposed changes;
- Supplementary studies / significant updates;
- Finalisation of the Supplementary EIS (now AEIS).

The main issues raised by CLG members during the meeting were as follows:

- Relationship between CSG water and Nathan Dam water in terms of short and long-term water supply provision within the region;
- Impacts of the dam on wetlands and riparian vegetation;
- Potential for increased mosquito populations;
- Flora and fauna management within the dam area;
- Viability of offset strategies;
- Local jobs and potential reduction in rates for the council;
- Impacts of the dam on flooding (above and below the dam).

5. WIDER COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES

5.1. Project Newsletter

Two project newsletters (Appendix B) were developed and distributed to more than 520 stakeholders during the AEIS development phase. The newsletters were also made available on SunWater's website.

Table 5-1 provides an overview of these newsletters distributed in July 2013 and November 2014.

Table 5-1 Newsletter overview

Newsletter	General topics covered	Issue date
Edition 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Project update ■ Environmental approvals ■ EIS process ■ Revised pipeline route ■ Project fast facts ■ Integration with the Woleebee Creek to Glebe Weir pipeline project ■ Background on SunWater ■ Project timeframes ■ Contact details 	July 2013
Edition 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Project Background ■ Project Update ■ Project Fast Facts ■ Groundwater Field Work ■ EIS Process ■ Project Timeframes ■ Contact Details 	November 2014

5.2. Website Information

SunWater's website was updated in line with developments and changes to the project during the AEIS phase. The new Project newsletters and CLG minutes were added to the previously available materials, including newsletters, CLG minutes and the full EIS document.

5.3. Public Presentation

To support the consultation during the AEIS preparation SunWater attended and presented at the Taroom Industry Day on 27 March 2014 held at the Taroom Town Hall. The presentation focused on general project information and also provided an update of the Projects status.

6. CONCLUSION

Project-stakeholder interactions have continued during the preparation of the AEIS. The various consultation activities were targeted at involving parties that responded to the public display of the EIS or were affected by refinements to the project.

The key matters progressed through this consultation included:

- Changes to the length and alignment of the Nathan pipeline route to reduce negative impacts;
- How unsupplemented water users below the proposed dam would be compensated for loss of water harvesting opportunities; and
- A final meeting of the Community Liaison Group for the Project.

With regard to meeting the requirements set out in Section 1.9 and Section 12.3 of the ToR, consultation during the preparation of the AEIS has continued to:

- provide opportunities for community involvement and education;
- enable people with a disability, families and carers to participate through a range of appropriate communication modes;
- identify broad issues of concern to local and regional communities and interest groups and addressed issues from project planning through to commissioning and project operations; and
- document detailed results of the consultation process.



APPENDIX A Letter to landholders no longer impacted – Woleebee Pipeline section



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ACN 131 034 985

Our ref: 07-008748/001 #1423397
Contact Name: Bill Stephens
Telephone: 1800 158 651

26 July 2013



Dear 

NATHAN DAM AND PIPELINES PROJECT – PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO PIPELINE ALIGNMENT

SunWater is investigating the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project, which aims to provide a long-term, reliable water supply for customers in the Surat Basin and the Dawson-Callide areas.

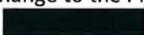
The enclosed newsletter provides information on the current status of the project, which comprises Nathan Dam on the Dawson River and the Nathan Pipeline from the dam to the Surat Basin.

The newsletter includes an update on the status of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project. A Supplementary Report to the EIS is currently in preparation, the purpose of which is to consider:

- issues raised during the EIS consultation phase;
- issues raised by agencies or the public in submissions to the EIS; and
- additional information that has become available since preparation of the EIS.

As part of the Supplementary EIS process, SunWater is proposing a number of changes to the Nathan Pipeline route. These changes are also covered in the enclosed newsletter.

One of the main proposed changes is to remove from the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project the section of the Nathan Pipeline that is common with the Woleebee Creek to Glebe Weir Pipeline Project, which is currently under construction and runs alongside Nathan Road. As Nathan Dam is not expected to be required until the supply of CSG associated water has diminished, it is proposed that the Woleebee Pipeline will be used as the initial section of the Nathan Pipeline when required. SunWater does not expect that an additional pipeline will be necessary through this section.

Should this proposed change to the Project be accepted as part of the Supplementary EIS review process, your property  will no longer be impacted by the Nathan Pipeline.

MAKING WATER WORK

On behalf of SunWater I'd like to thank you for your assistance with the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project investigations. Should you require any further information about the Project, please either visit our website: www.sunwater.com.au/future-developments/nathan-dam, call our project freecall number: 1800 158651 or email: nathandam@sunwater.com.au .

Yours sincerely



Bill Stephens
Project Manager, Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project



APPENDIX B Project Newsletters no. 5 and 6



Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project

July 2013

PROJECT UPDATE

The proposed Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project is a major initiative aimed at providing long-term, reliable water supplies to mining, power, urban and existing agricultural customers in the Dawson-Callide and Surat Basin areas of Queensland.

The proposed Nathan Dam site is located on the Dawson River approximately 75 km downstream of Taroom, which is 11 km downstream of the Glebe Weir and just upstream of the Nathan Gorge.

The dam will hold 888,000 ML of water when full. Water from the dam will provide for existing water entitlements of customers in the Dawson Valley Water Supply Scheme, and will provide an additional 66,000 ML of high priority water for new customers.

Water for downstream customers will be released from the dam into the Dawson River, while water for customers in the Surat Basin will be delivered via the Nathan Pipeline.

SunWater is investigating the project, and has undertaken detailed environmental, social and economic studies in order to ascertain its overall impacts. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was completed last year and a Supplementary Report to the EIS is now being finalised.

Should all of the necessary project approvals and customer commitments to take water from the dam be obtained, and funding requirements are met, the project will then move to detailed design and construction.

The Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project is considered to be the best long-term solution for the provision of reliable water supplies to the Dawson Callide and Surat Basin areas of Queensland.

The project will also provide significant regional benefits including local employment, supply opportunities for local businesses during construction, and recreational opportunities for local communities and visitors to the region.



Artist's impression of the proposed Nathan Dam

ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVALS

The EIS for the project was released for public comment from 23 April 2012 to 5 June 2012. There were 58 formal EIS submissions from agencies, interest groups and individuals.

The Office of the Coordinator-General reviewed all submissions in detail. SunWater was then directed to prepare a Supplementary Report to the EIS to address substantive concerns raised in the submissions.

SunWater has undertaken additional field surveys and environmental monitoring to ensure that as much information as possible is available to inform the Supplementary Report.

The Coordinator-General will review the Supplementary Report and all other relevant information prior to deciding whether to approve the project. The Supplementary Report will be made publicly available.

If the Coordinator-General decides to approve the project, it will be subject to a range of conditions that will need to be complied with during construction and operation. Those conditions, a summary of the relevant EIS information and the reasons for the Coordinator-General's decisions will be contained in the Coordinator-General's report, which will also be publicly available.

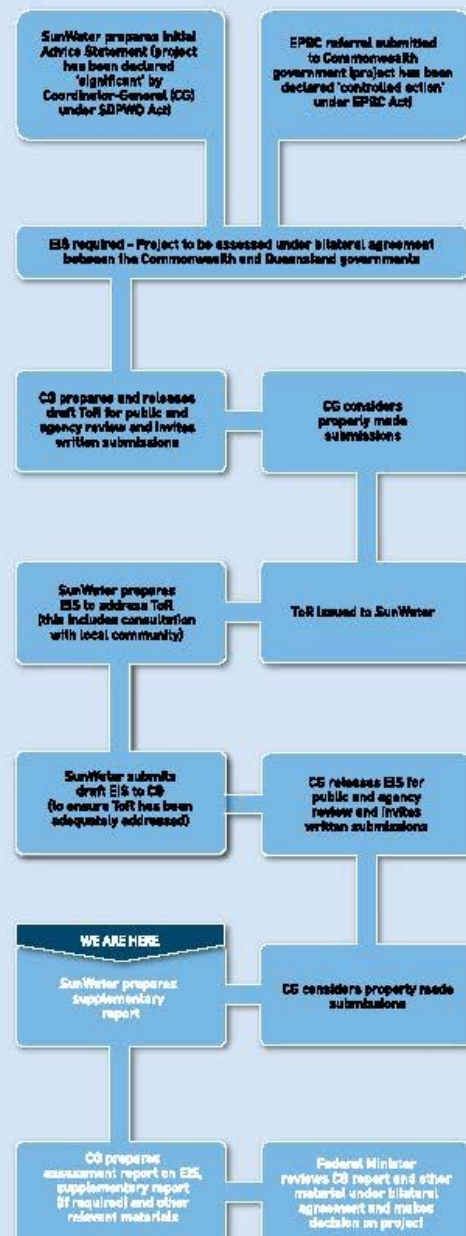
The Federal Minister responsible for the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act will review the Coordinator-General's report and any other relevant information, and make a separate decision on whether to approve the project and what further conditions may apply.

SunWater will need to meet the conditions attached to the project approvals as it develops and operates the project.



EIS PROCESS

The process for the EIS in relation to the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project is outlined in the diagram below.



REVISED PIPELINE ROUTE

Following ongoing design and feasibility studies, a number of changes to the Nathan pipeline route are likely to be proposed in the Supplementary Report to the EIS. These changes generally result in a substantial reduction of impacts, mainly due to a reduction in length of the pipeline from 260 km to 146 km. The main proposed changes are:

- The 69 km section of the pipeline that is common with the Woleebee Creek to Glebe Weir Pipeline Project has been removed from the EIS as it has already been approved for construction
- Information gathered during the EIS consultation phase indicated that there will be little demand for Nathan Dam water south of Warra in the short term. SunWater therefore proposes to terminate the pipeline north of Warra rather than Dalby as originally planned, resulting in a 45 km reduction in overall length
- It is proposed that a 20 km section of the pipeline north of Warra be relocated to the western side of the Warrego Highway in order to minimise flood-related impacts. This will avoid the need for future lateral pipelines to cross the highway

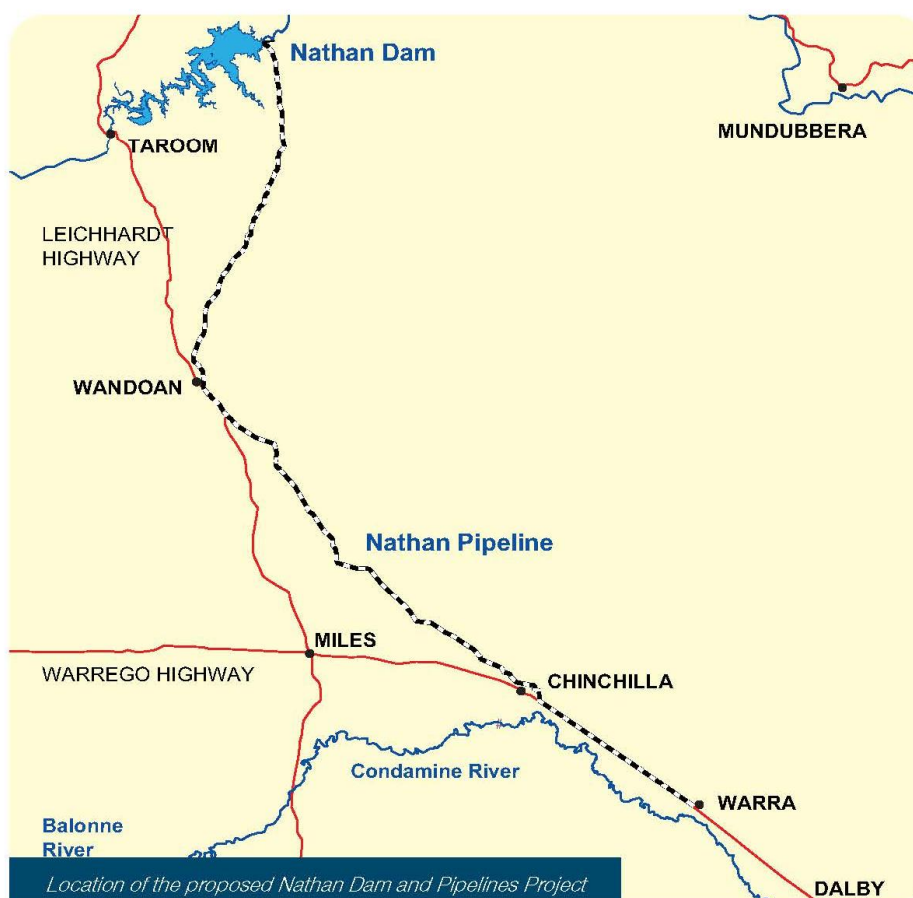
and railway, as most of the identified customers are on the western side

- Some additional minor changes are also planned to avoid other infrastructure conflicts, minimise the number of impacted properties and reduce the need to clear vegetation.

Although the net effect of the above changes will substantially reduce the number of affected landholders, some new landholders will now be affected by the pipeline route. SunWater will be consulting with these landholders as part of the development of the Supplementary Report to the EIS, and they will be given the opportunity to discuss any concerns or issues they may have.

Should the project be approved, SunWater will undertake additional consultation with all affected landholders to finalise the pipeline route. SunWater's overall aim is to determine a pipeline route that is commercially viable and minimises impacts on the environment, landowners and the community.

If you would like more information on this process, please contact us using the details on the reverse of this page.



PROJECT FAST FACTS

- The dam will have a capacity of 888,000 ML, an inundation area of 13,508 ha (with an additional 316 ha of islands created) and a catchment area of 23,185 km²
- Water yield will be approximately 66,000 ML/pa (high priority)
- The Nathan Pipeline will be approximately 1000mm in diameter and deliver reliable water to the Dawson Callide and Surat Basin areas of Central Queensland
- The project will provide short-term employment, training and procurement opportunities for local communities and businesses during construction, peaking at about 390 workers

INTEGRATION WITH THE WOLEEBEE CREEK TO GLEBE WEIR PIPELINE PROJECT

SunWater is currently and separately delivering the Woleebree Creek to Glebe Weir Pipeline Project, which is expected to be completed during 2014. The pipeline will deliver treated coal seam gas (CSG) water to users along the pipeline route and in the Dawson Valley Water Supply Scheme.

This treated CSG water supply will have a short term peak, following which, supply will then diminish. SunWater plans to construct the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project to provide a long-term reliable water supply for the region when the treated CSG water is no longer available in large quantities.

A 69 km section of the Woleebree Creek to Glebe Weir Pipeline will be used as the initial section of the Nathan Pipeline.

ABOUT SUNWATER

SunWater, a Queensland Government Owned Corporation, is the proponent for the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project. For more than 80 years, SunWater has specialised in the investigation, design, construction, management and operation of water infrastructure.

SunWater owns and operates more than \$7 billion worth of bulk water storages and distribution infrastructure throughout regional Queensland and provides bulk water supplies to rural, urban and industrial customers.

PROJECT TIMEFRAMES

EIS Supplementary Report completed and submitted to the Coordinator-General	Late 2013
Coordinator-General's report received	Late 2013
Federal Ministers decision	Early 2014
<i>Timelines if business case is approved</i>	
Design and procurement completed	2016
Construction commences	2018
Construction completed	2020

FOR MORE INFORMATION

SunWater is committed to working closely with stakeholders throughout the project. Please contact the project team via the following:

Phone: 1800 158 651

Email: nathandam@sunwater.com.au

Visit: www.sunwater.com.au

Write to: Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project Manager
Reply Paid 15536
City East Brisbane QLD 4002

ID0213



Nathan Dam & Pipelines Project

November
2014

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project aims to provide long-term, reliable water supplies to mining, power, urban and existing agricultural customers in the Dawson-Callide and Surat Basin areas of Queensland.

The proposed Nathan Dam site is located on the Dawson River approximately 70 km downstream of Taroom. Water from the proposed dam will be distributed via a trunk pipeline that terminates just north of Warra.

The Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project is considered to be the best long-term solution for the provision of reliable water supplies to the Dawson-Callide and Surat Basin areas of Queensland.

The project will also provide significant regional benefits, including local employment, supply opportunities for local businesses during construction and recreational opportunities for local communities and visitors to the region.

PROJECT UPDATE

SunWater finalised and released the project's environmental impact statement (EIS) for public comment in 2012. A total of 58 formal EIS submissions were received. SunWater are now finalising a supplementary EIS report that will address the substantive concerns raised in the submissions.

Significant additional work has been undertaken for the supplementary report since the last Project Update, including additional field surveys and groundwater field work.

Investigations undertaken for the EIS and supplementary report have revealed new information about the Boggomoss Snail (*Adclarkia dawsonensis*) that inhabits the region.

The Department of the Environment and Heritage Protection are currently undertaking a review of the recovery plan for the Boggomoss Snail to reflect this new scientific knowledge. Once the review is complete, SunWater will finalise and submit the supplementary report. It is anticipated that the supplementary report will be submitted to the Coordinator-General by mid-2015.

PROJECT FAST FACTS

- The proposed dam site is located just upstream of Nathan Gorge on the Dawson River, approximately 70 km downstream of Taroom and 315 km upstream of where the Dawson and Fitzroy rivers meet.
- The dam will have a capacity of 888,000 ML, an inundation area of 13,508 ha (with an additional 315 ha of islands created) and a catchment area of 23,185 km².
- The dam wall will consist of an earth and rockfill embankment spanning 1240 m. The main spillway will be situated on the right abutment.
- Water yield will be approximately 66,000 ML/annum (high priority water).
- The Nathan Pipeline will be approximately 215 km in length, extending from Nathan Dam through the Dawson-Callide and Surat Coal Basin area to Warra.
- The project will provide employment, training and procurement opportunities for local communities and businesses, including up to 390 workers during its construction.



MAKING WATER WORK

GROUNDWATER FIELD WORK

SunWater undertook an additional field investigation in the proposed Nathan Dam area to address EIS submissions.

In 2013, SunWater obtained the required approvals and permits to install five new groundwater monitoring bores and refurbish two existing bores in the vicinity of the proposed reservoir boundary. The bores were installed or refurbished in May and July 2013.

The bores were located and designed to intersect the different aquifers present in the region and geological information was collected for each site. On completion of the drilling, each bore was developed and sampled to determine the water quality. The resulting data will be utilised for the supplementary report.

Over the long-term, the bores may be used to provide information regarding variation in groundwater pressures and seasonal variation in water chemistry, allowing comparison between groundwater and spring systems.



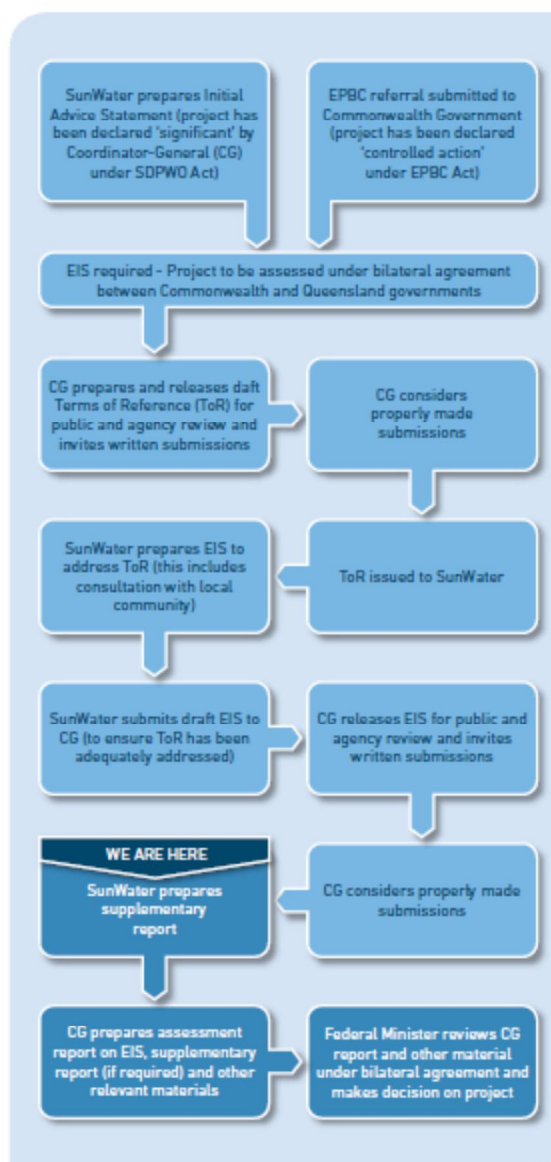
The drilling operation at the Nathan Dam site as part of the groundwater works

PROJECT TIMEFRAMES

EIS Supplementary Report completed and submitted to the Coordinator-General	Mid 2015
Coordinator-General's report received	Mid 2015
Federal Minister's decision	Mid 2015
<i>Timeline from when business case and funding is approved</i>	
Design and procurement	1 to 2 years
Construction commences	~ 2 years

EIS PROCESS

The process for the EIS in relation to the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project is outlined in the diagram below.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact the project team via the following:

Phone: 1800 158 651

Email: nathandam@sunwater.com.au

Visit: www.sunwater.com.au

Write to: Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project Manager

Reply Paid 15536

City East Brisbane QLD 4002

EWIS07 14



APPENDIX C Letter to landholders no longer impacted – Warrego Highway 20 km section

(Note that SunWater acknowledges the letter incorrectly referred to the Leichhardt Highway however the location between Chinchilla and Warra was correct).



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Telephone: 1800 158 651

26 July 2013



Dear [REDACTED]

NATHAN DAM AND PIPELINES PROJECT – PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO PIPELINE ALIGNMENT

SunWater is investigating the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project, which aims to provide a long-term, reliable water supply for customers in the Surat Basin and the Dawson-Callide areas.

The enclosed newsletter provides information on the current status of the project, which comprises Nathan Dam on the Dawson River and the Nathan Pipeline from the dam to the Surat Basin.

The newsletter includes an update on the status of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project. A Supplementary Report to the EIS is currently in preparation, the purpose of which is to consider:

- issues raised during the EIS consultation phase;
- issues raised by agencies or the public in submissions to the EIS; and
- additional information that has become available since preparation of the EIS.

As part of the Supplementary EIS process, SunWater is proposing a number of changes to the Nathan Pipeline route. These changes are also covered in the enclosed newsletter.

One of the main proposed changes is to relocate a 20 km section of the pipeline from the eastern to the western side of the Leichhardt Highway/Western Rail Line between Chinchilla and Warra. The primary reasons for this change are:

- reduced availability of collocation opportunities on the eastern side of this section of the highway/railway;
- to address issues raised in submissions on the EIS, mainly related to flooding and erosion potential along the eastern (upstream) side of the highway/railway; and
- in recognition of the majority of potential customers for Nathan Dam water being located on the western side of the highway, thus reducing the need for future lateral pipelines having to cross under the highway/railway.

MAKING WATER WORK

Should this proposed change to the Project be accepted as part of the Supplementary EIS review process, your property [REDACTED] will no longer be impacted by the pipeline.

On behalf of SunWater I'd like to thank you for your assistance with the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project investigations. Should you require any further information about the Project, please either visit our website: www.sunwater.com.au/future-developments/nathan-dam, call our project freecall number: 1800 158651 or email: nathandam@sunwater.com.au.

Yours sincerely



Bill Stephens
Project Manager, Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project



APPENDIX D Letter to landholders newly impacted – Warrego Highway 20 km section

(Note that SunWater acknowledges the letter incorrectly referred to the Leichhardt Highway however the location between Chinchilla and Warra was correct)



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Our ref: 07-008748/001 #1353459
Contact Name: Bill Stephens
Telephone: 1800 158 651

26 July 2013



Dear [REDACTED]

NATHAN DAM AND PIPELINES PROJECT – PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO PIPELINE ALIGNMENT

SunWater is investigating the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project, which aims to provide a long-term, reliable water supply for customers in the Surat Basin and the Dawson-Callide areas.

The enclosed newsletter provides information on the current status of the project, which comprises Nathan Dam on the Dawson River and the Nathan Pipeline from the dam to the Surat Basin. The newsletter includes an update on the status of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project.

A Supplementary Report to the EIS is currently in preparation, the purpose of which is to consider:

- issues raised during the EIS consultation phase;
- issues raised by agencies or the public in submissions to the EIS; and
- additional information that has become available since preparation of the EIS.

As part of the Supplementary EIS process, SunWater is proposing a number of changes to the Nathan Pipeline route. The most significant changes are summarised in the enclosed newsletter.

One of the main proposed changes is to realign a 20 km section of the pipeline from the eastern to the western side of the Leichhardt Highway/Western Rail Line between Chinchilla and Warra. The primary reasons for this change are:

- reduced availability of collocation opportunities on the eastern side of this section of the highway/railway;
- to address issues raised in submissions on the EIS, mainly related to flooding and erosion potential along the eastern (upstream) side of the highway/railway; and
- in recognition of the majority of potential customers for Nathan Dam water being located on the western side of the highway, thus reducing the need for future lateral pipelines having to cross under the highway/railway.

This proposed change would result in a section of the pipeline route running through your property [REDACTED] (see enclosed map).

SunWater recognises that the construction and ongoing maintenance of a water pipeline is likely to have impacts, and will be negotiating appropriate easement conditions and compensation packages with impacted landholders should the project proceed to construction. SunWater will consider supplying stock water from the pipeline as compensation.

MAKING WATER WORK

In order to minimise impacts, SunWater plans to bury the pipeline, and wherever possible position it adjacent to property boundaries, existing road reserves or other easements.

The required construction width for a water pipeline is generally about 30 metres, and the permanent operational easement is generally about 15 metres wide and includes a maintenance track for access purposes. The easement area would not be fenced and much of it could continue to be used for farming operations (not including deep ripping). Some above-ground infrastructure would be required along the pipeline route, e.g. air valves, scour valves, stand pipes and surge tanks. It will not be known whether any of these structures would be necessary on your property until detailed design work is undertaken.

It is important to note that the purpose of the current phase of the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project is to finalise the EIS and obtain State and Federal approvals for construction. However, the project will move to construction only if there is a high level of customer commitment to take water and all funding requirements are met. This is not expected to occur for some time due to the current downturn in the mining industry and the availability of treated CSG water. However, SunWater aims to have EIS approvals in place to enable the project to proceed in a timely manner if/when required in the future.

Please find enclosed a response form for your completion that will assist us in identifying any specific issues/information relating to your property, and to understand any issues you may have in relation to the pipeline. A reply paid envelope is enclosed for return of the form.

A SunWater representative will be phoning you to confirm that you have received this letter and to discuss any issues you may wish to raise. We can also arrange for a face-to-face meeting with a SunWater representative should this be required. If so, please request this during the phone conversation and a mutually suitable meeting time will be arranged.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the project, or if you haven't received the abovementioned phone call within a fortnight of receiving this letter (we may not have your correct phone number or be able to call at a time when you are available), please call our project freecall number: 1800 158651 or email: nathandam@sunwater.com.au.

Yours sincerely



Bill Stephens
Project Manager, Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project



APPENDIX E Landholder consultation response form

Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project

Consultation response form

Landholder details

Name: _____

Lot/Plan: _____

Postal Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Part A – Project (please circle the appropriate responses)

1. Are you familiar with the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project?

Yes No

If yes, what most interests you about the project?

(e.g. construction impacts, employment/business opportunities, access to water)

2. Do you have any suggestions as to how the project can contribute positively to the community?

Yes No

If yes, please specify and provide more detail

Part B – Land (please circle the appropriate responses in relation to your property – see enclosed property map showing the proposed pipeline route)

3. What is the land in the vicinity of the proposed pipeline impact area used for?

Grazing Dryland cropping Irrigated cropping Hobby Farm

Other: _____

4. Are any future land use changes contemplated for the proposed impact area?

Grazing Dryland cropping Irrigated cropping Hobby Farm

Other: _____

5. Is there any existing buried or surface infrastructure in the proposed impact area? (e.g. buildings, cattle yards, water pipelines, irrigation head ditches, irrigation pumps, bores etc.)

Yes No

If yes, please advise type of infrastructure and location

6. Are there any plans for the installation of additional infrastructure/services in the vicinity of the proposed impact area in the future?

Yes No

If yes, please advise on proposed type and location

7. Do you know of any instability or other issues in the proposed impact area?
(e.g. erosion, swelling soils, mine-related instability)

Yes No

If yes, specify details

8. Do you know of any weeds on your property or in the general area?

Yes No

If yes, specify details of type and location

9. Do you store, or have you ever stored any pesticides (herbicides, insecticides etc.), other chemicals (fertilisers, chlorine, etc.) or oils and fuels in the vicinity of the proposed impact area?

Yes No

If yes, provide details

10. Are you aware of any pollution or spills in the vicinity of the proposed impact area (e.g. dumps, oil/fuel spills, cattle dips etc.)?

Yes No

If yes, provide details

11. Do you have any specific information or other requirements in regards to the proposed development?

Yes No

If yes, provide details

Additional comments/further information required

Please return your completed response form to SunWater using one of the following options:

1. *Use the enclosed reply paid envelope*
2. *Scan the completed form and email to: nathandam@sunwater.com.au*
3. *Fax the form (attention Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project Manager), to fax no. 3120 0242*



APPENDIX F Letter to landholders no longer impacted – Warra to Dalby



SunWater Limited
PO Box 15536 City East
Brisbane Queensland 4002
www.sunwater.com.au
ACN 131 034 985

Our ref: 07-008748/001 #1423412
Contact Name: Bill Stephens
Telephone: 1800 158 651

26 July 2013



Dear 

NATHAN DAM AND PIPELINES PROJECT – PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO PIPELINE ALIGNMENT

SunWater is investigating the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project, which aims to provide a long-term, reliable water supply for customers in the Surat Basin and the Dawson-Callide areas.


The enclosed newsletter provides information on the current status of the project, which comprises Nathan Dam on the Dawson River and the Nathan Pipeline from the dam to the Surat Basin.

The newsletter includes an update on the status of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project. A Supplementary Report to the EIS is currently in preparation, the purpose of which is to consider:

- issues raised during the EIS consultation phase;
- issues raised by agencies or the public in submissions to the EIS; and
- additional information that has become available since preparation of the EIS.

As part of the Supplementary EIS process, SunWater is proposing a number of changes to the Nathan Pipeline route. These changes are also covered in the enclosed newsletter.

One of the main proposed changes is to terminate the pipeline just north of Warra. Information gathered during the EIS consultation phase indicated that there will be little demand for Nathan Dam water south of Warra within the short-term.

Should this proposed change to the Project be accepted as part of the Supplementary EIS review process, your property  will no longer be impacted by the pipeline.

On behalf of SunWater I'd like to thank you for your assistance with the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project investigations. Should you require any further information about the Project, please either visit our website: www.sunwater.com.au/future-developments/nathan-dam, call our project freecall number: 1800 158651 or email nathandam@sunwater.com.au.

Yours sincerely



Bill Stephens
Project Manager, Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project

MAKING WATER WORK



APPENDIX G Letter to WDRC



SunWater Limited
PO Box 15536 City East
Brisbane Queensland 4002
www.sunwater.com.au
ACN 131 034 985

Your ref:
Our ref: 08-002187/001
Contact Name: Bill Stephens
Telephone: (07) 3120 0015

28 June 2013

Phil Berting
CEO
Western Downs Regional Council
PO Box 551
DALBY QLD 4405

Dear Phil

**NATHAN DAM AND PIPELINES PROJECT SUPPLEMENTARY EIS – PROPOSED PIPELINE
TERMINATION AT WARRA**

As part of the Supplementary EIS phase of the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project, SunWater is proposing a number of project scope changes that aim to:

- address issues raised during the EIS consultation phase;
- address issues raised in submissions to the EIS; and
- further refine the project in light of other information that has become available since preparation of the EIS.

Information gathered during the EIS consultation phase has indicated that there will be little demand for Nathan Dam water south of Warra in the medium term.

The Western Downs Regional Council Mayor indicated to SunWater (at a Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project community information session) that Dalby would not require additional water supplies for probably 30 years.

As SunWater has not identified any other significant potential customers between Warra and Dalby, our proposal is to reduce the scope of the Project EIS by terminating the pipeline just north of Warra. This will result in a 45 km reduction in the overall length of the pipeline and 56 fewer landholders being impacted.

EIS approvals have a normal lifespan of only 4 years prior to project commencement, meaning WDRC would likely need to commit to being a foundation customer of the pipeline within this timeframe if the Warra/Dalby section was to be retained in the Nathan project.

MAKING WATER WORK

SunWater believes that any future pipeline from Warra to Dalby would be more appropriately treated as a lateral pipeline (as for other customers) with approvals sought through the Sustainable Planning Act. This is in line with the EIS, wherein the Project seeks approval only for the main trunk pipeline.

Should a lateral pipeline from Warra to Dalby be required in the future, more time will be available to establish the most appropriate pipeline route, construction and rehabilitation methods over this heavily farmed floodplain area via an alternative mechanism to the Nathan EIS.

SunWater would be happy to further discuss with the Council this proposed change to the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project. Should this be required please contact Bill Stephens, Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project Manager, by email: bill.stephens@sunwater.com.au or by phone on 3120 0015.

Yours sincerely



Russell Paton
A/GENERAL MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT



APPENDIX H CLG – Letter of invitation to 7th meeting

Our ref: 07-008748
Contact Name: Erica Chittick
Telephone: (07) 3120 0167



SunWater Limited
PO Box 15536 City East
Brisbane Queensland 4002
www.sunwater.com.au
ACN 131 034 985

9 August 2013

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

NATHAN DAM AND PIPELINES PROJECT CLG MEETING

I'm writing to you in your capacity as a member of the Community Liaison Group (CLG) for the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project.

As a project stakeholder you should have recently received a Nathan project newsletter, an additional copy of which is enclosed. The newsletter provides a progress summary and outlines the current status of the EIS, which is now at the Supplementary Report stage.

At the last CLG meeting (21 May 2012) it was agreed that a final CLG meeting would be held at the time of the Supplementary EIS. To this end, I propose a CLG meeting in Taroom on Tuesday 27 August 2013.

Discussion items at this meeting will include:

1. The Supplementary EIS stage – Process, progress and expected completion dates
2. Project Update – Proposed changes to the project
3. Additional Studies Undertaken Post-EIS – Reasons required and outcomes
4. Conclusions and expectations (timelines etc.)
5. Specific Issues – As raised by CLG members

If you would like to formalise any specific items on the meeting agenda, please contact me on 3120 0015 to arrange this.

The outcomes of the meeting will be included in the post-EIS consultation report, which will be an appendix to the Supplementary EIS.

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Details of the meeting are as follows:

Venue: Taroom Town Hall
Date: Tuesday 27 August 2013
Duration: 10 am to 1.00 pm
Lunch: Leichhardt Hotel after completion of the meeting

Please confirm whether you will be attending the CLG meeting by contacting:

Erica Chittick (SunWater Project Administrator)
Email: erica.chittick@sunwater.com.au
Phone: 3120 0167
Address: PO Box 15536, City East Brisbane Q 4002

SunWater will fund any travel and living expenses required to attend the meeting. Please discuss your requirements with Erica and (if required) make your accommodation bookings ASAP.

A meeting agenda and a list of confirmed attendees will be circulated prior to the meeting.

I sincerely hope that you can attend the meeting.

Yours sincerely



Bill Stephens
NATHAN DAMS AND PIPELINES PROJECT MANAGER
SUNWATER

Enc(s)



APPENDIX I CLG – Minutes of 7th meeting

Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project EIS
Community Liaison Group
Minutes of meeting



Meeting number: 7

Date: Tuesday, 27 August 2013

Time: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Attendees	Vaughn Becker (Banana Shire Council) Cecily Brockhurst (Murilla Community Centre) Adam Clarke (Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland, Upper Dawson Branch) Jeanie Conachan (Fitzroy Basin Food and Fibre) Michael McCabe (Capricorn Conservation Council) Rob Hutchinson (Dawson Valley Irrigators) Sam Jerrard (Taroom Lions) Mark & Kathy Liddle (Landholders) Charisse Edwards (Dawson Catchment Coordinating Association) Warren Phelps (Taroom Lions) Sam Rathbone (Landholder) Douglas Adam (Taroom District Development Association) Bill Stephens (SunWater) Steve Murton (SKM)
Apologies	Nigel Parratt (Queensland Conservation Council) Stephen Hegedus (Western Downs Regional Council) Rebecca Kirby-Cummins (Office of the Coordinator-General)

Agenda Item	Discussion
Welcome/ introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bill Stephens thanked CLG members for their attendance. He introduced himself as the new Project Manager for the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project, and Steve Murton as the SKM Project Manager for the Nathan Supplementary EIS (SEIS). CLG members then introduced themselves. The meeting agenda was displayed and accepted as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Supplementary EIS process Project update / proposed changes Supplementary studies / significant updates Finalisation of the Supplementary EIS Questions / discussion Close / lunch
Supplementary EIS process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steve Murton provided an overview of the SEIS process, the current status of the SEIS and the expected timelines for completion. This 7th CLG meeting was confirmed as part of the SEIS process, and the outcomes will be included in a consultation report appended to the SEIS. The SEIS is expected to be submitted to the Coordinator-General for his consideration in September (<i>Note that this has now moved to the end of October in view of the expected timeframe for SEWPaC negotiations on MNES issues.</i>). The C-G's approval decision is expected late this year and the Federal Gov't decision on Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) is also expected late this year depending on whether more information is required. Steve confirmed that the SEIS has been prepared in response to submissions (58 received), legislative changes and further design and technical studies. The final SEIS will be made available on the Office of the Coordinator-General (OCG) and SunWater websites. A CLG member requested that a hard copy of the SEIS be provided to the Taroom

Agenda Item	Discussion
	<p>Library. Others requested that SunWater notify CLG members when the SEIS is available on the OCG and SunWater websites. Both requests were agreed to by Bill Stephens.</p>
<p>Project update/ Proposed changes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill Stephens confirmed that the Project will be constructed only if approvals are obtained and sufficient customers commit to taking water. SunWater takes a 'foundation customer' approach, through which financial support for the development phase is sought from committed customers. CSG water has potential to delay Nathan, but a positive business case decision for a mine to proceed would be unlikely without a secure long-term water supply, hence Nathan Dam. SunWater aims to have approvals in place so the Project can proceed when required. • A CLG member reported that there is a lot of uncertainty regarding the amount of CSG water being produced within the region and how it may influence demand for the Nathan Project. Bill Stephens mentioned a recent report on expected CSG water production commissioned by The Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM) and how this production may influence Project timelines. CLG members requested a link to the study. <i>Link – <http://www.nrm.qld.gov.au/water/health/healthy-headwaters/feasibility-study/pdf/csg-water-forecasting-summary.pdf></i> • General discussion followed on the overall uncertainty of CSG water as a water supply, and the uncertainty surrounding re-injection of CSG water into the aquifers. It was confirmed that the Nathan EIS does not include any integration of CSG water with the dam or trunk pipeline – separate approvals would be necessary for this to occur. • No changes are proposed to the dam in the SEIS. A CLG member expressed his view that an FSL of 183.5m AHD for Nathan Dam is too high and will impact too much on wetlands and riparian vegetation. A wall at 179m AHD would significantly reduce impacts to vegetation. Bill Stephens responded that a dam of this size would not be adequate in meeting the long-term water supply needs of the region. • A number of changes to the pipeline are proposed and were discussed. The main changes are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dam to Wandoan section – Use of 69.4 km of the Woleebee pipeline (Nathan Road section) as part of the Nathan pipeline ○ Wandoan to Chinchilla section – pipe diameter increase, and minor alignment changes to avoid land parcels, vegetation and state controlled land where possible ○ Chinchilla to Dalby section – Termination prior to Warra rather than extending to Dalby, and relocation of the final 20 km of pipeline from the northern to southern side of the Leichhardt Highway to reduce impacts and provide better access for the majority of customers (mainly south of the highway). • Additional consultation with those significantly impacted by the changes is currently underway. • A CLG member asked whether Chinchilla has requested access to Nathan water. Bill Stephens undertook to check this. <i>(Note: It has been confirmed that SunWater has discussed with WDRC the potential for Nathan water supplementing Chinchilla's existing water supplies and believes that the council is interested subject to due diligence on price, timing and feasibility.)</i>
<p>Supplementary studies / significant updates since EIS completed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Strategic Cropping Land (SCL)</u> – SunWater believes that the recently introduced SCL requirements will apply to the dam wall and inundation area; however, the pipeline will be exempt (water cycle management) except where a development permit is required for vegetation clearing; and associated infrastructure will be exempt as the majority relates to construction or maintenance of roads, for which SCL does not apply. • <u>Wetlands</u> – Surveys of five additional wetlands within the inundation area have been undertaken. Offsets will be required for these should the dam proceed. • <u>Coolibah Black Box Woodlands (CBBW)</u> – Listed post-EIS – further surveys have been undertaken and additional areas identified. Revegetation of the northern

Agenda Item	Discussion
	<p>margin of the water storage with endemic species including CBBW is proposed – will partially mitigate impact associated with inundation, and CBBW offsets are expected to be required as part of the overall offsets package. CLG members indicated that soil types associated with the northern margin of the storage area would not be suitable for CBBW. CLG members indicated that they didn't believe CBBW (and other offsets) will be appropriately met.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Koala</u> – Now listed as vulnerable – Additional field studies have been undertaken and mitigation strategies proposed (results discussed). A CLG member expressed concern that koalas are sensitive to insect attacks and will look to move away from the proposed northern offset area as there will be an increase in water-breeding insects in the shallow margin of the dam. Steve Murton confirmed that the objective for the koala will be to provide connectivity from the northern margins of the dam (with appropriate eucalypt species) through 'Spring Creek' and into the Precipice National Park where a greater number of the species are anticipated to live. The area within the water storage area was not identified as supporting an important population. • <u>Boggomoss snail</u> – Two more surveys have been undertaken since the EIS. Snail observations during the initial survey (after floods) were low. More targeted surveys were then undertaken – all potential habitat at Mt Rose was surveyed and smaller patches of habit were surveyed at downstream sites. Only 3 adult snails were found at Mt Rose despite the extensive search, while the maximum number of snails found at the downstream sites was 125 at Nardoo (adults and juveniles). A CLG member mentioned that multiple snails had recently been observed under logs on her property downstream of the dam. Another CLG member asked for a print-out of the survey results. • <u>Surface water</u> – A complete revision was required due to the new Fitzroy Basin Water Resource Plan (WRP). Modelling indicates that there will be little impact on existing high priority and medium priority water entitlements downstream of the dam, but compensation will be required for waterharvesters should the dam proceed. A compensation strategy is currently being developed in consultation with waterharvesters, which will provide a framework for compensation negotiations should the dam proceed. • <u>Groundwater</u> – Further studies have been undertaken to enable a better understanding of the relationship between aquifers and springs, refine the conceptual groundwater model and develop a future monitoring program. A CLG member suggested that the dam could have significant impact on groundwater; for example, no work has been done on the potential for blue/green algae to contaminate groundwater aquifers. A CLG member recommended that SunWater should review work completed by Dr Larelle Fabbro on this subject. CLG members expressed interest in the location of the illustrated cross-section showing a modelled groundwater pressure gradient. Steve Murton confirmed that more detail will be provided in the Groundwater chapter of the SEIS. • <u>Cultural heritage and native title</u> – Bill Stephens confirmed that cultural heritage management plans and an indigenous land use agreement for the dam and initial section of the pipeline (Wulli Wulli and Iman #2 claim areas) have been finalised and registered. Cultural heritage service agreements are in place with the Western Wakka Wakka and Barunggam people for the remainder of the pipeline route but CHMPs haven't been finalised due to pipeline route changes. These CHMPs will be finalised prior to project construction. • <u>Offsets</u> – Steve Murton explained that offset scenarios as currently detailed are provisional, and further investigation for habitat suitability will be completed should the project be approved. Bill Stephens discussed a desktop study (by Earthtrade) which suggests that sufficient suitable offsets are available in the region for the Project. A CLG member expressed the view that offsets will take away food producing land and this is very detrimental to the region. There should be community consultation on offsets, and there are concerns about what happens to the money paid for offsets. CLG members requested that they be informed on what the offset conditions will be (when established).

Agenda Item	Discussion
Finalisation of Supplementary EIS (SEIS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bill Stephens confirmed that most SEIS chapters have been finalised after review by OCG and agencies. The draft Groundwater chapter is yet to be completed based on the results of the recent study, and this has flow-on effects to other chapters (MNES and EMP). The MNES chapter is yet to be reviewed by SEWPaC. The final SEIS (including appendices) is expected to be submitted in September <i>(Note that this has now been deferred to the end October in view of the likely timeframe for review of the MNES chapter)</i>
Questions / discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A CLG member noted that local council will incur a considerable loss of rates as a result of inundated land. Shopkeepers in town will lose business and council revenue will decrease. The Taroom township will lose local jobs – O&M jobs on the dam and pipeline weren't much of an exchange. The only winners are those in the Surat Basin. Bill Stephens responded that there will be short-term job creation, flow-on economic benefits and additional opportunities created by the dam, e.g. recreation. A CLG member asked whether there would be restrictions in land use in areas above the dam. Bill Stephens believed this would be unlikely (other than in the flood margin). There was general discussion about muddy banks generated by fluctuating water levels within the water storage which will result in stock management issues and the breeding of insects. Steve Murton confirmed that these issues are covered in the EIS and SEIS (Environmental Management Plan). There was also discussion on the likelihood that fluctuations in the dam level won't be great due to the size of the dam and the level of water security attached to the new allocations. Concerns were raised about dewatering impacts on bores during dam construction. Steve Murton confirmed that this issue (and mitigation) is covered in the EIS and no impact is expected on the Taroom town bores. A CLG member asked about upstream flooding impacts of the dam and whether it would have a downstream flood mitigation role. Bill Stephens reported that the difference between the 1 in 100 pre- and post-dam flood levels decreased with distance from the dam wall, and while the impact around Taroom is small, SunWater is considering whether flood easements will be required over affected land. The dam has not been designed to have a downstream flood mitigation role. There was general discussion on fishing club concerns about CSG water entering Glebe Weir (from the Woleebee pipeline).
Meeting close	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The meeting closed at 1.00 pm. Attendees were thanked for their participation.



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