

Cloncurry Water Pipeline Fact Sheet

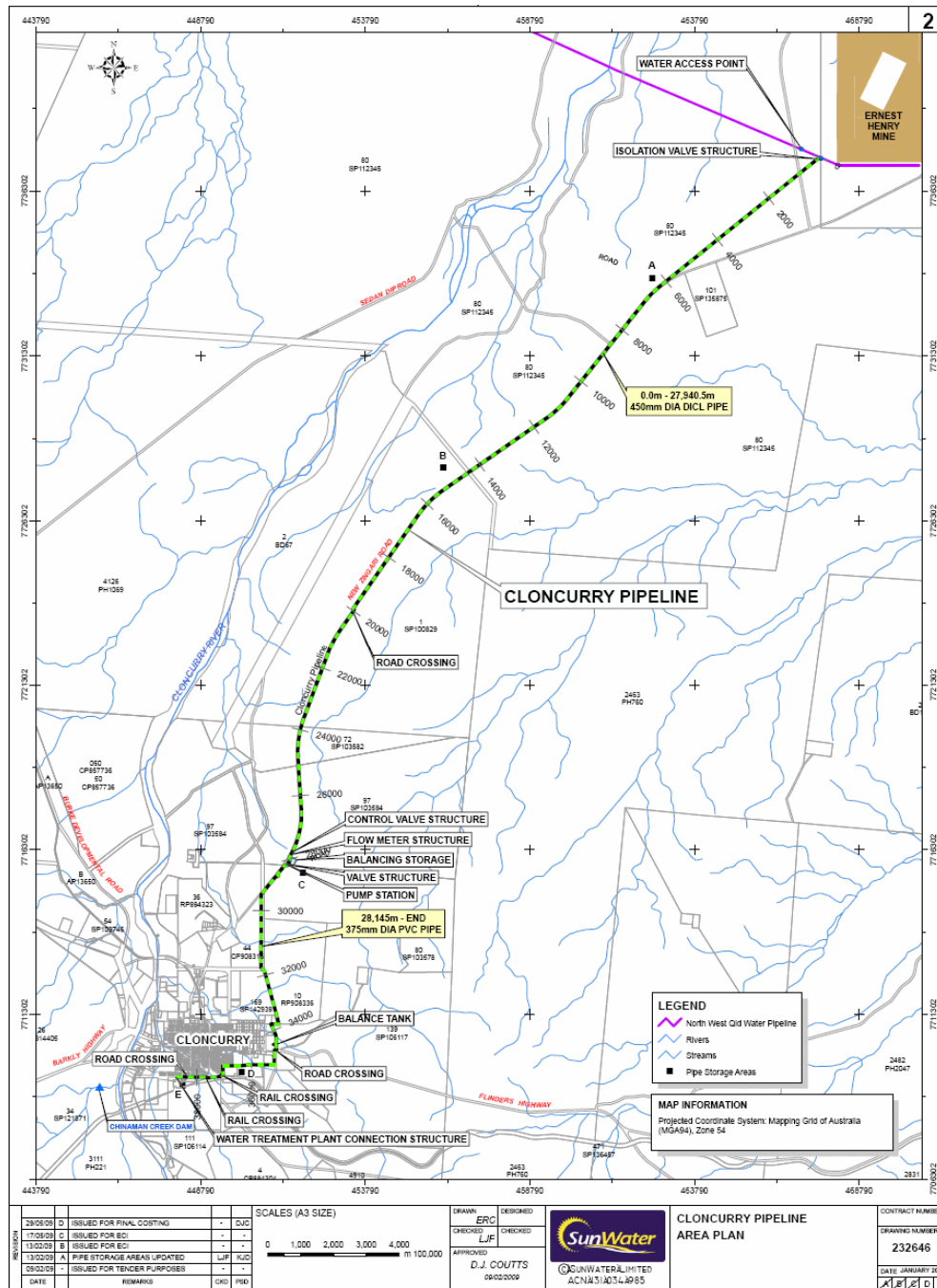
Fast facts

- The pipeline is 38 kilometres in length
- The cost is \$42.5 million
- The pipeline will comprise 4800 ductile iron pipes and PVC pipes
- The new pipeline will bring water from SunWater's existing North West Queensland Pipeline to the town of Cloncurry.
- The pipeline has the capacity to deliver up to 900 megalitres per year
- Approximately 60 people will work on the construction of the pipeline

Timeframe

- 28 August, 2008 - Premier announced in State Parliament that SunWater would prepare a business case by October 2008 for a CBRC review of the proposed water pipeline to the township of Cloncurry
- 8 December, 2008 - Premier announced SunWater selected to build the pipeline at a cost of \$42.5 million
- 5 June, 2008 – the first delivery of pipes for the project arrived in Cloncurry by road train.
- July 2009 – Pipeline construction to commence
- November 2009 – Anticipated pipeline construction completion in preparation for pressure testing
- March 2010 – Water commissioned and flowing into Cloncurry township.

Pipeline route



The pipeline commences at SunWater’s North West Queensland Water Pipeline upstream of Ernest Henry Mine and travels along the New Zingari Road to the east of the Cloncurry township and then to the south.

The construction corridor along the pipeline route is 30 metres, except around areas of cultural heritage significance, where it has been modified, in agreement with the Mitakoodi people.

The North West Queensland Water Pipeline currently transports water from Lake Julius to Ernest Henry Mine.

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Construction

The 38 kilometre pipeline will be constructed using the trenching method. The method involves:

- A trenching machine is used to dig the ground for laying of the pipe;
- The trench is then excavated to a depth of approximately 1.6m, followed by placing a layer of 150 mm bedding sand in the bottom of the trench;
- The pipe is then installed and joined followed by the placement and compaction of bedding sand around the side supports of the pipe;
- A further 150mm of bedding sand is then placed over the top of the pipe and compacted;
- Material previously excavated from the trench is used to backfill the remainder of the trench and is also compacted;
- Finally topsoil, removed prior to trenching, is replaced, re-seeded and rehabilitated.

In the interests of maintaining access to businesses and avoiding impacting on traffic, the pipeline will be installed using horizontal boring techniques at major road, rail and business accesses.

Up to 500 metres of pipeline will be trenched each day.

The pipes

The pipes being installed in Cloncurry are six metres in length and are made of ductile iron. The pipes have a concrete lining inside them to prevent internal corrosion.

PVC pipes are also being installed for the final 8km of the pipeline into the township

Before pipes are laid, a polyethylene sleeve is placed over the pipe for external corrosion protection. The pipes are then installed by inserting the spigot end of the leading pipe into the socket end of the preceding pipe. A rubber ring joint system ensures a water-tight fit between each pipe.

Environment

Environmental protection and management measures will be employed throughout construction. These include:

- All machinery will be washed down before entering and leaving the project site to ensure weeds are not transported
- Ramps will be installed in trenches to enable wildlife to get in and out of open trenches.

Cultural Heritage

The Mitakoodi people and SunWater have undertaken a cultural heritage survey of the area to ensure cultural heritage is respected and maintained throughout this important project.

The cultural heritage survey, undertaken in March/ April, identified a range of culturally significant artefacts along the route of the pipeline

The route has been re-designed in respect to these artefacts, except where the Mitakoodi people have given permission to relocate them.

Sunwater will continue to work with the Mitakoodi people to relocate artefacts approved to be relocated throughout the construction of the pipeline.