

APOLOGY

1. Melbourne Water was the lead agency for the construction of the North-South Pipeline.
2. Melbourne Water collected a large amount of personal information about Jan Beer, a local resident who was involved with a group called "Plug the Pipe". Melbourne Water believes – and Mrs Beer contests – that the information was collected in the course of Melbourne Water ensuring the safety and security of the workforce on the pipeline, and any members of the public in the vicinity of the pipeline.
3. Melbourne Water acknowledges that Mrs Beer had a history of lawful opposition to the project and has never been charged with any offence in relation to the project.
4. Melbourne Water also acknowledges that Mrs Beer had an interest in Melbourne Water's compliance with the relevant approvals concerning the construction of the pipeline, and the effects of the pipeline on her local community and the environment.
5. Melbourne Water acknowledges that the collection of her personal information has caused Mrs Beer to feel that she was being continually monitored, and to feel that her privacy had been invaded.
6. Melbourne Water acknowledges that Mrs Beer believes that some of its actions did not comply with the Information Privacy Act. Melbourne Water is committed to ensuring full compliance with its obligations under that Act.
7. Melbourne Water acknowledges the rights of interested community members to peacefully protest and to take an interest in ensuring that public projects are environmentally compliant without their rights to privacy being infringed.
8. Melbourne Water apologises to Mrs Beer for any distress experienced by her in relation to its collection of her personal information.