

**MINUTES OF MEETING – 16 February 2016**

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Meeting opened by Mark Mammino at 9:00am at the SunWater Depot Bundaberg

**Present**

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Representation</b>
Mark Mammino	Chairperson IAC/Isis Canegrowers
Dale Holliss	Bundaberg Regional Irrigators Committee
Wayne Stanley	Isis Canegrowers
Selwyn Bengston	Gin Gin, Bingera & Abbotsford IAC
Kelvin Griffin	Bundaberg Canegrowers
John Gorringe	Isis Central Sugar Mill
Simon Doyle	Bundaberg Sugar
Peter Russo	Isis Channel System
Darren Large	(Acting) Operations Manager IS - SunWater Bundaberg
Chris Stitt	(Acting) Operations Supervisor IS – SunWater Bundaberg
Tony Reynolds	Senior Administrator IS - SunWater Bundaberg
Milton Pukallus	Service Manager BW - SunWater Bundaberg
<b>Observers</b>	

**Apologies**

Peter Hockings, Anthony Rehbein, Jay Hubert

**Agenda**

- IAC Membership
- Ergon Energy – (a) Energy Efficiencies (b) Load Curtailment
- Storage Position
- Acrolein programme
- Annual Maintenance Shutdown
- General Business

**IAC Membership**

The current committee membership was formed in 2008. The IAC charter calls for members to serve a three year term. It was considered timely by the group to call for nominations for each of the Representative Area/Section. Darren and Tony will commence preparations regarding the nomination forms and processes and, if required, any voting process. This will involve a number of communication methods including flyers direct to the BIA irrigators, details included in Industry group newsletters and other electronic means (i.e. SMS, Facebook etc.). Existing members may re-apply.

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**Ergon Energy – (a) Energy Efficiencies (b) Load Curtailment**

(a) Ergon Energy has offered to undertake a review of electricity use at pumping stations to ensure the most efficient operations of these pumps. SunWater has provided some pump and motor details in preparation for a representative from Ergon meeting with Darren tomorrow and conducting site visits. All IAC members are welcome to participate from 9:30am tomorrow morning at the SunWater depot.

(b) SunWater has negotiated with Ergon Energy to participate in a state-wide “Load Curtailment” exercise for selected High Voltage pumping stations. Large energy users like SunWater can help relieve pressure on Ergon’s electricity grid when supply is under pressure. By reducing consumption for short periods SunWater is eligible for incentive payments based on average electrical load for the three half-hour periods prior to the event. Payments are returned to the service contract via the electricity metering system and NMI. This will have an immediate impact on expenditure however may also impact on future price path calculations.

Bundaberg Irrigation Area locations are Isis, Quart Pot, Gooburrum and Woongarra pump stations. This strictly voluntary participation is at the discretion of the Operations Manager and Operations Supervisor. Advice of possible curtailment is to the local operations team anywhere from 30 minutes to 2 hours prior to activation. Events typically run between 1 and 2 hours duration but can be as short as 30 minutes but rarely last longer than 4 hours.

It was confirmed with the committee that a local protocol is enacted to ensure continuity of supply prior to any local pump stations being included in any curtailment.

**Storage Position**

Milton gave a run down of the Kolan and Burnett River and storage conditions with almost each site at or near capacity. Fred Haigh Dam capacity is currently 98.3% and Paradise Dam is spilling with an Emergency Action Plan in place for this event.

During this calendar year, Phase 2 works will commence at Paradise Dam to undertake further enhancements near the dams’ downstream apron. This will require a reduction in storage volume to create a buffer for safe works to proceed. Milton advised the group that modelling was currently being done to identify the best scenario to cater for this reduced level when Announced Allocations for 2017 are calculated.

Committee members commented that if SunWater lowered the level for project works this is an artificial reduction in storage and should be taken into account during the modelling process. Milton will circulate the results of the modelling when they are available.

Works will also commence at Ben Anderson Barrage however these are planned for after July 1<sup>st</sup> so will have no effect on the Announced Allocation calculations.

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**Acrolein Programme**

This financial year's third Acrolein injection programme commences this week. It is not proposed to undertake another injection until September or October. Notifications are as normal with posted notices, SMS contact and newspaper advices. Pricing per drum is now fixed until January 2018 as per procurement contract 15SW4684 with Alligare Australia.

**Annual Maintenance Shutdown**

Annual shutdown schedule was presented to the meeting. There seemed to be no issues with this proposal. An extra day has been included in the Gin Gin/Bingera shutdown period in early June to cater for extra time involved in the installation of a triple gated Penstock for Sheep Station Ck. Outfall.

Darren is to provide the industry groups with a modified version of the shutdown plan so this information can be communicated to their members via newsletters and other methods. Sunwater will also communicate an interim notice advising of pending shutdown periods and then provide confirmation as per the Service Level Agreements.

**General Business**

Insurance claims are still progressing. Darren and others have recently been involved in providing information to SunWater Corporate regarding further details about 2013 events and damage.

The 2017 Refurbishment & Enhancement programme of works is currently being finalised. The projected works will place the Irrigation Area approximately \$200,000 over the NSP target set by the QCA. Darren advised major expenses included in this figure were in relation to Isis Pump Station embankment, instability issues and works on the Rising Main which have both been deemed by consultant engineers as non flood related damage. There is also a project to install recorders/flood gauges at both Isis and Woongarra Balancing Storages based on recommendations from the Inspector General's report on the recent flood events. These storages are both referable dams.

Interviews are being held this Friday 19<sup>th</sup> to select a person to fill the vacant Operations Manager position. Both Darren and Tony are being interviewed for this role.

**Next Meeting**

TBA

**Meeting closed at 10:00am**

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(Acting) Service Manager (IS - Bundaberg)