

# DAWSON VALLEY IRRIGATOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE



## MINUTES OF MEETING – 17 November 2015

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Meeting opened by Peter French at 10:45

### Present

Attendees	Representation
Peter French	Irrigator Advisory Committee
Harrod Anderson	Irrigator Advisory Committee
Kirk Anderson	Irrigator LMA Representative
Trevor Brownlie	Irrigator Advisory Committee
Robert Hoadley	Irrigator Advisory Committee
Peter Mahony	Irrigator Advisory Committee
Greg Hutchinson	Irrigator Advisory Committee
Nev Wogandt	SunWater – Service Manager (IS)
Peter Tweed	SunWater – Service Supervisor Theodore (IS)
Andrew Maughan	SunWater – Operations Supervisor (BW)
Milton Pukallus	SunWater – Service Manager (BW)
Steve Keyworth	SunWater – Operator Maintainer (BW)
Colin Bendall	SunWater – Manager Service Delivery (IS)
Tony Reynolds	SunWater – Senior Administrator (IS)

### 1. Apologies

Liz Alexander  
Greg Austin

### 2. Agenda

- Current Water Storage Situation
- CSG Water Supplies
- Orange Creek Weir
- LMA Discussion
- Annual Performance Reports 2015 ( Irrigation Systems and Bulk Water )
- Review of R & E Works profiling – outer years
- General Business

### 3. Previous minutes

Reviewed business arising

Rob Hoadley referred to continuation of water quality issues below Neville Hewitt Weir Ana-branch due to large amounts of Hymanacene. There was general discussion about the Local

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Landcare group having a spray unit that can assist with weed control. Burning of weed was the best option to reduce any infestation. Milton advised, as with any natural watercourse, there was responsibility cross-over and multiple parties (adjoining landholders, DNRM and SunWater) needed to work together to maintain river flow. SunWater would consider a co-contribution in line with similar contributions from other stakeholders.

### 4. Current Water Storage Situation

As at 17/11/2015	<u>Storage ML</u>	<u>%</u>
Glebe	14,810	83
Gyranda	12,025	72
Theodore	4,683	98
Moura	7,395	96
Neville Hewitt	4,998	44
MOSS	2,370	84

### 5. Coal Seam Gas Water supplies

Since coming on line earlier in the year, total inflow to Glebe Weir from CSG water amounts to approximately 4,317ML which roughly equates to about 20ML per day. The meeting was reminded that there was no guaranteed supply of this product. A question was posed as to whether SunWater had made any decisions regarding allocating CSG water to un-supplemented users as this seems to be supported in accordance with the revised ROP rules.

It was proposed that Milton and Andrew arrange a visit by representatives from the SunWater “Environment & Water Planning Group” to further discuss with irrigators CSG inflows and the effects on Announced Allocations.

### 6. Orange Creek Weir

The meeting was informed that the weir was now considered part of normal operations. An engineering assessment regarding the weir functionality was happening at present. Once completed, there would need to be further discussions with the Department of Natural Resources and also irrigations regarding future implications for the ROP.

### 7. LMA Discussion

Peter French gave an overview of the time-line from the inception of the LMA process through change of government to the current date. Col Bendall informed the meeting that SunWater was working with DEWS and internally to progress the government position and was effectively in a caretaker mode to LMA for the Dawson Scheme.

Nev Wogandt advised the meeting of his retirement from Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Col Bendall told the meeting Tony Reynolds would be taking on the role of “Acting Service Manager IS” until the recruitment

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process identified a person suitable to fill the vacancy in Bundaberg. A different approach to management of the Theodore scheme was being considered such that it could be managed locally or at least by a SunWater manager closer to the scheme.

Col also confirmed SunWater would be placing an administrator into the Theodore depot. Initially at one day per week this person would provide office support and be assisted by the Bundaberg depot in the short to medium term through to transition to LMA. This position would be as an external contract temporary position. It was suggested Liz Alexander, Peter Tweed and Tony Reynolds could form the selection panel. Recruitment would be made locally through an employment agency and the position would be advertised in local media. It was suggested the meeting attendees consider any suitable local candidates and encourage them to register and apply.

### 8. Review of the 2015 Annual Performance Reports (Distribution and Bulk Water

Each Service Manager presented performance reports and went through the document providing commentary on the contents and seeking feedback. No significant issues were forthcoming, however members were asked to review the documents and to come back to Milton or Nev with any issues or points that required further clarification or discussion. There is also available the e-mail address to utilise which is [nspfeedback@sunwater.com.au](mailto:nspfeedback@sunwater.com.au)

Milton, Andrew, Steve and Bulk Water irrigators then left the meeting.

### 9. Review of R & E Works Profiling outer years

Col Bendall presented details of a proposed SunWater 30 year asset management strategy.

General agreement amongst the attendees from Irrigation Systems was that this strategy had some beneficial and practical elements but did not address the modernisation and increased capacity requirements of the ageing assets in the scheme and therefore did not represent the best interests of the Dawson Valley Scheme.

### 10. General Business

No general business items presented for discussion.

Meeting Closed 13:20

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Chairperson

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Service Manager

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Date

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Date