

**NOGOA MACKENZIE
IRRIGATOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE**



MINUTES OF MEETING – 5 June 2008

Meeting opened at 1.15pm at the SunWater Depot Office, 87 Esmond Street Emerald

Attendees	Representation
Dougal Millar	Chairperson
Geoff Kavanagh	Committee Member
Robert Ingram	Committee Member
Glen Pearmine	Committee Member
Ian Burnett	Committee Member
Carl Morawitz	Committee Member
Les Fluerty	Committee Member
John Walter	Observer
Hamish Millar	Observer
Neville Wogandt	SunWater
Craig Duncan	SunWater

Minute Taker

Neville Wogandt

Agenda Items

- Carryover Allocation Rules for 2008 2009
- TCC Update on operations

#	Agenda Item Discussion
1.	<p>Review previous minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spray management plan in place for Contractor carrying out works • Les Fluerty asked for the details of chemicals to be used in weed control, and have this incorporated into the Fax to irrigators. • Accessing water below sill level and the critical water storage and access. This relates to Selma Temporary Pump and pumping from the right bank tower, need to continue with the Low Level Pumping strategy for future needs. Critical Water Sharing Rules. Dougal Millar requested more commitment in regard to SunWater plans and provide feedback to display what high security water at different EL's will be available, also comparison Mines to Agriculture. This relates to Drought management strategies.
2.	<p>Agenda Items & New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glen Pearmine asked for the % storage Volume to be added to the Carry-over sheet or separately to correspond to EL's. • Modernisation Projects, Nev mentioned SunWater will be looking at ways to improve current standards to address WH&S issues, water savings and metering. Funding project part of National Water Incentives. Further discussion at Advisory level to take place. Geoffrey concerned that the money would be spent before IAC getting a look in. • Drainage - John Walters and Geoffrey Kavanagh mentioned the improvements to property soils relating to subsurface drainage and the channel lining program. This related to the work carried out on the Weemah channel in particular. • Peter Galea, asked where are drainage rates heading? What can be put into place to effect change of practice, this relates to the planting of Lucena and the reduction in water use ,and a less reliance on the channel and drainage system. Nev said that properties that have

#	Agenda Item Discussion
	<p>access to drains will continue to pay drainage rates as the drains do take storm water as well as the irrigation run off.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Walter advised that TCC was not reliable, gates can't be shut off if a customers during emergency or gate failure requires the water flow interrupted immediately. Concerns that only one person can operate the system. Currently all SunWater water operations staff can access the system and make required changes. John mentioned that you can't trust the system for continuous operation, loss of cotton production has occurred following a gate failure and the costs will be sent to SunWater once final assessment has been made. John was told if the system didn't work, the system would be returned to the old system (need to confirm this). John mentioned he has 3 gates that are malfunctioning. <i>Action:</i> Follow up with John & Robert Ingram as to the future operation and solutions. Follow-up with Rubicon required to determine possibility of customer access code to enable raise and lower in emergency. • Discussion on water ordering: re-raised that Irrigators do not want the system. SunWater has identified that one on one training in the use of the water ordering system would assist with customer uptake. To arrange tour of TCC Scheme and highlight the systems ability to regulate and maintain the channel flows and FSL's. • Discussion with the IAC revealed that the committee after discussion with irrigators agreed that the quarterly accounting for Carryover was the most appropriate method of managing the product. • Dougall Millar reported that SunWater internet site is extremely slow to use in comparison to other internet sites. Previously raised with SunWater Information Communication and Technology section as improvement opportunity. <i>Action:</i> further Follow-up required. • Geoff Kavanagh – spillway upgrade what is happening with Fairbairn Dam recommend Fairbairn project be scrapped due to inundation flooding effects. Questioned whether the project has been reported to mining sector and local government/residents. Spillway upgrade to be designed to 1 in 70,000 year event, all area lost at 1 in 2,000 year event. Requested feedback.

Next Meeting

The next meeting TBA.

Meeting Closed

3.00pm