

11 DEC 2012

DATE RECEIVED

Promoting Effective Sustainable  
Catchment Management

Mr John Hall  
Chief Executive Officer  
Queensland Competition Authority  
GPO Box 2257  
Brisbane Qld, 4001

7<sup>th</sup> December, 2012

Dear Mr Hall,

**Irrigation Pricing for SEQWater Schemes**  
**Submissions on Draft Report**

Thank you for your letter of 23 November 2012 advising that the draft report release, and time for making a response to the draft report have been extended.

It is important for proper decision making, that if there is any further material that has been provided to the QCA, relevant to the SEQWater Irrigation Price Review so far as it relates to the Central Brisbane River WSS, that you provide copies to us as soon as possible.

I attended a meeting of the Queensland Rural Water Advisory Group on 30 November 2012 as President of the Mid Brisbane River Irrigators Inc (MBRI).

At the conclusion of his presentation Mr Angus MacDonald of your office proposed, as I understood it, that the 81 submissions by members of MBRI were not worthy of consideration because the submissions did not nominate the price per ML that QCA should recommend. This is of great concern to MBRI.

Our Submission of 16 July 2012 and the individual submissions by MBRI Members, inter alia, provides substantiation for there being a no water pricing charges for the use of up to 7000ML of irrigation water available to mid-Brisbane River Irrigators. John Craigie made two submissions seeking to provide further clarity to the historical rights and the reasons for there being no price attached to the allocated water. We expect that the Competition Authority would not only carefully take these submissions into account but that the Authority could and should investigate fully the past determinations of the State government not to price that water. As you will appreciate, MBRI does not have full access to government documents. QCA has had that access and should have taken account of it in their determinations.

The QCA has an obligation to make its decisions in accordance with the law, and consideration of the historical rights, and the State's prior determinations that the water will not be priced, are central to proper consideration of the issue and the submissions made by MBRI and its members.

Yours faithfully,

  
Tom Wilkinson,  
Chairman,  
MID BRISBANE RIVER IRRIGATORS