

Stakeholder follow-up meeting: issues arising

[This note records issues identified and views expressed by stakeholders present at the meeting. The QCA is yet to form any opinion on these issues and views. As appropriate, issues will be addressed in the QCA's final report.]

Scheme/(s): Burdekin-Haughton distribution system

Location: Ayr

Date: Wednesday 16 October 2019

General

- View expressed that the November 4 submission due date should be maintained.
- Stakeholders noted the issue of the differential in Giru Benefitted Area (GBA) pricing compared to the channel has been around for a long time and they support resolving the issue in this price path.

Hydrological modelling

- View expressed that the OD Hydrology report was not designed to be used for pricing purposes.
- View expressed that the 'unsupplemented' case in the OD Hydrology case is actually supplemented as it still includes the effect of scheme infrastructure. Hydrologist agreed, stating the effect of the two weirs is still included in the unsupplemented case in the OD Hydrology report.
- View expressed that the raised GBA weir operating levels were a deliberate change to improve delivery to GBA irrigators. This change originated because weed issues in the Haughton Main Channel limited the rate by which water could be delivered to the Haughton River, and the higher weir levels provided a bigger buffer to meet local demand.
- View expressed that operating the weirs at a higher level removes the room for natural flows.

Other

- Stakeholders noted that Sunwater shifted the costs of the GBA weirs from bulk to distribution. Stakeholders noted that if the scheme was transitioned to local management arrangements (LMA) they would understand this transfer but their scheme is not LMA.
- Stakeholders noted that there are no losses or channel harvesting separately assigned to the GBA. These details are at a scheme level.