

About the Irrigator Advisory committee (IAC): We are a group of irrigators with in the Nogoia Mackenzie scheme who have been elected by the irrigation customers to represent the interests of the broader irrigation customer base in relation to scheme operations and water supply issues and improvements with Sunwater. The initial analysis of the bulk and distribution services provided by SunWater in the Nogoia Mackenzie scheme illustrates significant increases in costs.

This initial submission outlines some of concerns which include, but are not limited to the following:

- Dam Safety Program Costs – we reject the cost of dam safety upgrades. SunWater are referring to this as the Dam Improvement Program however the works do not lead to any improvements. The dam safety program is a community benefit and we categorically reject covering the cost of this.
- Renewals Annuity – There is a significant overspend in renewals annuity.
- Electricity – SunWater must be held accountable for their electricity usage and be encouraged to implement more efficient use.
- Insurance- SunWater need to consider their insurance profile and only insure relevant assets and for appropriate risk.
- Distribution Price Increase (MP &HP) – Forecast prices for the Emerald Distribution scheme increase substantially over the price path.
- Bulk Water Price Increase (HP) – Forecast prices for Bulk high priority water increase substantially over the price path.
- Flood Monitoring and reporting costs – we reject accepting the full cost of flood monitoring and reporting. This is a whole of community benefit and should be apportioned appropriately.
- Queensland Competition Authority (QCA) - We would like the cost of the QCA review to be removed from consideration. The cost of the review of the monopoly activities provided by SunWater should not be borne by irrigators.
- Viability – The QCA should give consideration to irrigator’s viability. Increasing water costs could result in irrigators becoming unviable as the cost of production becomes too high.
- Bedford Weir - We request a resolution to the impacts on Fairbairn Dam reliability and revenue retained by SunWater since the failure and subsequent removal of the fabri-dam.