

In reference to the meeting held on Friday 22nd of February 2019 in Gympie between QCA and Pie Creek Irrigation Scheme stake holders. Our main concerns involving the next pricing review is that we would like to see the CSO contribution continue to make it viable for our industry to survive. Other concerns that we have are the Riparian Rights on Pie Creek itself, as the Pie Creek Scheme releases regulated water into Pie Creek for allocation holders to be able to pump their allocation. Trouble being with this is we have Riparian Users that have pumps in the creek that are between allocation holders meters and they have access to regulated water paid for by the Pie Creek Allocation holders. This happens on a regular basis especially during dry periods without inflows into the creek. This is an expense born by the Pie Creek Allocation holders and puts incredible pressure and adds to the Scheme itself becoming inefficient. Another issue of concern is over the past thirty years we have experienced our Local Government continually dividing up good Rural Agricultural Land that has access to the Pie Creek Scheme into smaller lifestyle blocks disregarding the fact that this puts incredible pressure on the Scheme itself. This is compromising the long term viability of the Scheme and future agricultural growth and a balance between Agricultural industry and Urban Growth. We believe the State Government should involve the Local Government in being more involved with utilising the Pie Creek Scheme as it is State Government infrastructure that was built in the mid seventies as a subsidised scheme to stimulate the agricultural industry through this agricultural sector. A lot of these opportunities have been lost due to local Government decision making in the past.