

Enterprise of

Banff Bros. Est. 1880





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DATE RECEIVED

Queensland Competition Authority

Brisbane Old 4001

**GPO Box 2257** 

Chair

14th December 2018

Dear Sir.

RE: CENTRAL AND LOWER LOCKYER **IRRIGATORS SUBMISSION UNDER SECTION 23** OF THE OUEENSLAND COMPETITION **AUTHORITY ACT 1997** PRICE PATH PERIOD 2020 - 2024

This submission is a personal submission of our views. We hold an irrigation licence for Atkinson Dam, Lower Lockyer Irrigation Scheme.

While we have always known that the scheme does not perform as well as we would like, it is now quantified by the LWUF, that the scheme historically has delivered to the outlet just 19% of design expectations.

We also know that the natural delivery system is atrocious with stream losses 70-80%. This past year we saw our local SEQWater crew pumping about 200Ml to fulfil a 20Ml water order. It just means there is no water remaining for those reliant on the scheme because they have no underground water supply of any substance.

Given these circumstances relevant to the price path it is preferable that the prices charges for Part A: Part B are performance based ie. 19:89 would reflect reality. We need water to run an irrigation business and being charged for a non performing asset is a rip off.

Any limitation imposed by QCA that restrict investigating alternative pricing arrangements are ignoring the bigger picture in which our business operate and impose a predetermined outcome that is not helpful to the customer and therefore a risk to the business of SEQWater.

A new approach to water pricing needs to be implemented.

If the QCA imposition remains then the SEQWater / LWUF joint submission suggestion of 95:5 is supported as an interim measure.

The natural flow delivery system should be upgraded to a pipe to farm system as soon as possible to stop future water losses. The Lower Lockyer is a surface supply scheme but it is not delivering on anyone's expectations, such as ourselves, that rely on surface water to remain in business.

Yours Sincerely

Greg Banff.