

After consultation with irrigators in the North and South Burnett regions and participation in the recent Queensland Competition Authority's Irrigation Pricing Review meeting, we would like to offer the following comments for consideration:

- * During periods of drought declaration, the Part A water charges should be waived as a drought relief assistance measure. Similarly, when irrigators are receiving a reduced allocation due to water shortages in storages, Part A water charges should be rebated accordingly.
- * irrigators on the Barker Barambah scheme raised concerns about the increase in renewals annuity cost, given the current price is less than the lower bounds price.
- * Annuity fund costings include the running of surveys. The value of these surveys and outcomes resulting from them for the benefit of irrigators has been questioned.
- * Concerns have been raised about the cost of insurance policies on water schemes far outweighing claims.
- * The question has been asked whether Sunwater can self-insure, underwritten by the State Government?
- * Inspector General Emergency Management costs should not be the responsibility of irrigators, particularly in relation to water storages not managed by flood gates. In some cases, water storages help mitigate the flood peak reducing the risk for other landholders and the wider community, yet irrigators are meeting the IGEM costs.