

Childers & District Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association

296 North Isis Road, CHILDERS QLD 4660

QLD COMPETITION AUTHORITY

27 August 2010

30 AUG 2010

DATE RECEIVED

Mr EJ Hall
Chief Executive
Queensland Competition Authority
GPO Box 2257
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Mr Hall

**Re: draft Terms of Reference
Water Pricing Options for the Bundaberg WSS**

As representatives of the Childers Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association and following a meeting in Childers yesterday with QCA staff, we would like to voice our strong opposition towards an investigation into nodal pricing within the Bundaberg Water Supply Scheme.

The very existence of the current scheme is due only to the commitment exercised in the late 1960s by all the region's irrigators. Each region was investigating their own schemes but it was demonstrated that one large scheme was better than several small independent schemes. The independent schemes would have delivered different costs for irrigators because of the location of the storage in relation to the farms.

However, collectively we agreed on one scheme at one price. To change this arrangement 40 years after the event is wrong. The scheme would not have been the scheme if we didn't all work together then and current irrigators must honour that same level of commitment today.

On behalf of the irrigators within the Childers Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association we strong recommend that QCA not listen to a minority voice seeking to change the rules for self interest purposes.

Yours faithfully


Ivan Philpott
Irrigation Director