

FIRST ROUND CONSULTATION – ISSUES ARISING

[This note records issues identified, and views expressed, by stakeholders present at the meeting. The Authority is yet to form any opinion on them. As appropriate, issues will be addressed in proposed Issues Papers and in the Authority's reports].

Scheme: Proserpine River

Date: 20-May-10

QCA Contact: Mark O'Sullivan (07 3222 0523. mark.o'sullivan@qca.org.au)

Process Issues

- 3 weeks' notice required for meetings requested.
- A large number of farmers are supplied through the Kelsey Creek and the Six Mile Creek Water Boards. The water boards will mail out meeting notices to Board growers provided enough notice is given.

Technical Issues

- meaning of "line in the sand" asset valuation needs to be defined
- Will rate of return apply to irrigators' historical or future capacity to pay?
- What is the apportionment of bulk water assets between urban, industrial, irrigation- who to judge?

Scheme Specific Issues

- Most water is supplementary and approx. 65% of allocations have been used over the last 10 years because of high water prices.
- Mimosa Pigra is a major weed problem in the ponded areas. SunWater incurs considerable ongoing eradication and monitoring expenses which growers believe should not be passed on to them as it is an introduced species.¹
- Irrigators advise the dam was only built for urban water security for local communities and Bowen, and local flood mitigation.
- Grant money used to build dam. Also area benefitted levy of \$2/ML also raised re capital contribution.

Other Issues

- Growers also mentioned the \$100/ML they paid as contribution to dam costs.

¹ **Footnote.** *Mimosa pigra* is a Class 1 declared pest plant in Queensland and a Weed of National Significance (WONS). Class 1 pests established in Queensland are subject to eradication from the state. Landowners must take reasonable steps to keep land free of Class 1 pests.

