

Dear LBW Irrigators

The latest news from LBW, as well as important dates for the upcoming Director nominations and annual Shed Meetings, is as follows:

### **Director Nominations**

The three year term for three of Lower Burdekin Water's ratepayer directors will expire on 14 October 2022. The Qld Water Act requires LBW to seek and provide suitable candidates to the Minister for Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water at least six months before a director's term ends. Therefore, LBW will be calling for nominations for the director positions on Monday 17 January 2022. Nominations will be open for four weeks closing on Friday 11 February 2022.

LBW's nomination and selection process is set out in its Governance Policy, which is available at the following link: <http://lowerburdekinwater.com.au/resource-library/documents/>

If you are interested in nominating for the positions and would like to find out more information, please contact the Executive Officer on 4783 1988 or at [admin@lowerburdekinwater.com.au](mailto:admin@lowerburdekinwater.com.au). Further information regarding the nomination process will be provided to ratepayers prior to the opening of nominations in January.

Important Dates:

Director nominations	7 January 2022
Director nominations close	11 February 2022
Suitable Candidates to be provided to Minister	14 April 2022
Minister to appoint Directors	14 October 2022

Russel Searle was recently welcomed onto the Board as a ratepayer Director. Russel is an experienced Board member having previously served as a Director on the North Burdekin Water Board for thirteen years.

### **Burdekin Falls Dam Project Update**

The Burdekin Falls Dam Raising Project is a proposal to raise the existing dam as a potential means to increase water supply and security in the Burdekin region. Sunwater is preparing a detailed business case (DBC) to further investigate raising the dam. It is anticipated the DBC will be completed and submitted to the Queensland Government by the end of the year. The DBC considers the necessary dam safety requirements and the potential opportunity to raise the dam wall to improve long-term water security in the Burdekin region. More information can be found on the Sunwater website here:

<https://comms.sunwater.com.au/v/99228/1002609/email.html?k=cyoXB7yCNzoMD7NwllviZqcCtmTJNpXYfDaWkjGOuqs>

### **Contestable Market**

LBW has entered into a long term agreement for the supply wholesale electricity with the Queensland Government and CS Energy, a Queensland Government owned energy provider, who generate and sell electricity in the National Electricity Market (NEM). Potential savings will be realised through the LBW budget process.

### **Flowmeter WHS**

Under WHS legislation, LBW is required to ensure a safe working environment for all employees. This extends to offsite locations such as customer open water pumps as employees perform meter

reading activities at these locations. An internal audit has commenced and safety issues identified during routine flowmeter reading activities, will require rectification by open water customers.

### **2022 LBW Shed Meetings**

22<sup>nd</sup> February – Southern Division – 9am to 11am

23<sup>rd</sup> February – Northern Division – 9am to 11am

Venues to be advised. Please let us know if you would like an item added to the agenda.

### **Operational News**

- All pump station temporary sand diversions (new legislation terminology for sand dams) have been constructed
- All pumpstations are currently operating
- We are heading into the annual peak demand period and as such, open water supply may be affected from time to time
- Operational staff will be delivering water over the Christmas/New Year period. Contacts for this period are as follows:
  - Southern Division
    - 17th December to 21st December – Glenn Pola – phone 0429 821 703
    - 22nd December to 31st December – Ray Ricca - phone 0408 821 703
    - 1st January to 4th January – Glenn Pola – phone 0429 821 703
  - Northern Division
    - 17th December to 26th December – Aaron Papale – 0407 169 962
    - 27th December to 10th January – Tino Molino – 0409 610 058
  - LBW office will be closed from Friday 17th December to Tuesday 4th January

### **Flinders University partner with LBW**

LBW has partnered with Flinders University (FU) to undertake a research collaboration, investigating the groundwater resources of the Lower Burdekin Delta. The project is aimed at developing a hydrogeological conceptual model of the Delta groundwater system where rainfall, irrigation, channel leakage and groundwater and surface water interaction are quantified. Researchers from Flinders University in South Australia recently travelled to the Burdekin to commence a groundwater flow model of the study area. The project also aims to initiate several longer-term research activities to develop a longer-term program of research for the Lower Burdekin Delta.

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