



ROBINVALE
CUSTOMER SERVICES
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DRAFT
MINUTES

Venue: LMW 14th Street Tower Room
Date: Tuesday 21st October 2008
Time: 6.00pm - 7.30pm

1.0 APOLOGIES

ATTENDANCE LMW

Owen Russell	General Manager – Customer Service
Darren Raeck	Manager Engineering Services

ATTENDANCE CSAC

Frank Constantino	Chair
Don Albanese	Deputy Chair
Ken Stringer	
Jeanette Cattanach	
Lindsay Camera	
Ian Boyd	

2.0 WELCOME

OWEN RUSSELL

Previous Minutes were reviewed and accepted.

3.0 ELECTION OF NEW CHAIR & DEPUTY CHAIR

OWEN RUSSELL

Frank Constantino was nominated for, and accepted position of Chair
Don Albanese was nominated for, and accepted position of Deputy Chair

4.0 FORECASTS FOR THE SEASON

OWEN RUSSELL

Owen Russell gave an overview of the season and forecasts that are expected. Water prices have dropped drastically compared to this time last year, with temporary water about \$400/ML at the moment. It is expected that we will mirror last year's allocation unless we see significant inflows into catchments. There has been a lot of interest in regard to buy back of water entitlements from the Federal Government. Temporary water transfers have dropped with majority of customers relying on carryover, but some big trades are expected to come through shortly.

5.0	FMIT INTEGRATION	OWEN RUSSELL
<p>Owen Russell gave an overview on the integration of FMIT into LMW. Operations have been going very smoothly with little or no disruption to customers. The Minister will be appointing a new member to the Board and the Board will also be appointing a new committee for the FMID district. This will be by appointment only not by election.</p>		
6.0	NORTHERN SUSTAINABLE WATER STRATEGY	OWEN RUSSELL
<p>Owen gave an overview on the options for the future such as allocation, climate change effects on irrigation and entitlements for the future.</p> <p>A meeting and presentation with Campbell Fitzpatrick with Committee members to go through the Strategy has been scheduled for 31st October – time to be confirmed, at the DPI offices Irymple.</p>		
7.0	SUNRAYSIA MODERNISATION PLAN	OWEN RUSSELL
<p>Owen gave an overview of the Modernisation plan that is currently in planning. Owen reported that Ron Leamon had attended a meeting recently about criteria for funding. All districts will be including in the planning and Engineers' recommendations etc. Owen expects that the \$100 million currently on offer will not be enough to cover all works required. A business case will then need to be put together to put forward for Federal funding. All planning and business cases will be discussed with CSAC committees during the planning processes.</p> <p>A system plan would have to be committed to in the next 12 to 18 months. Owen added that the step up to high pressure would have to seek additional funding.</p>		
8.0	GENERAL BUSINESS	OWEN RUSSELL
<p>Buy back Scheme \$1 Billion As per media release – The disclosure of prices have not yet been indicated.</p> <p>The diversion of the savings out of the district, and the water not being socialised back into the dams to add security to high security water.</p>		
<p>Subsidies of LMW tariffs At this stage the Government has not indicated if the subsidies will be made available again for the next season.</p>		
<p>Meeting closed at 7.15pm</p>		