

## AN INFORMATION BULLETIN FROM HARVEY WATER

Number 44; June 2004.

### PIPING THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM

This Information Bulletin is to bring you up to date with a public meeting held in Harvey on 17 June 2004 and to give you an opportunity to find out more about the piping proposal if you weren't able to get to that meeting.

It is also an opportunity for you to **have your say** on the proposal by casting a vote.

#### **MEETING OUTCOME – Agreement to proceed**

There were 55 irrigators at the meeting and they unanimously supported the proposal to pipe the irrigation system from the information presented to them on that night. They asked Harvey Water to continue negotiations to allow the proposal to be accepted by government.

#### **Summary of Proposal**

In summary, the proposal is that if the whole of the irrigation area is piped then this will make available about 50 GL of water which can be traded to the city. The water will come from saving delivery losses which are not part of irrigators' entitlements so it is not irrigators' water which is being traded.

The system design is that all irrigators will be able to access water under gravity head pressure from the dams. For those who want to continue to surface irrigate, the service will remain the same because we will schedule those deliveries as we do now.

For irrigators who want to try sprinkler or trickle systems they will have access to water at all times, depending on how many irrigators make this change and where they are located.

The system design will allow enough pressure to all irrigators and has been independently checked and hydraulically verified to confirm minimum flow and pressure requirements.

The fact that irrigators will receive water under gravity pressure means that with a proper on-farm design, they will not have any energy costs such as power or fuel to drive pumps to deliver the water. This will lower costs of production and improve the competitive advantage of the area over time.

Harvey Water wants to make sure that all irrigators are aware that:

- if the area is piped, you will have to connect to it if you want to get water. Water will no longer be supplied in the channels.

- there is likely to be a cost to connect to the system which will be equitable to those in Harvey and Waroona who have paid to connect in the past.
- the proposal allows for a guaranteed volume of water supply to the city in the initial three years
  - so there is a possibility that, only in the first 3 years, in a dry year the allocation to irrigators may be less than it normally would have been because of the project
- they have an opportunity for another briefing on the project
- they have an opportunity to cast a vote on whether or not to proceed with the proposal.

If you have any doubts about the proposal or what the outcomes may be like, we encourage you to talk to your friends in the Harvey and Waroona districts who are already receiving water through the pipe scheme and learn what their experience has been.

**ANOTHER PUBLIC MEETING**

Harvey Water will hold another briefing on the proposal for those who were unable to get to the last meeting, or want to ask more questions, on **15 July at 7 pm at Harvey Senior Citizens Centre.**

**YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE PROPOSAL.**

If you have heard all the information on the proposal that you need or you are happy that the project is worth doing please circle YES below.

**YES**

If you don't have enough information to allow you to make a decision with confidence or you think the project is not a good idea please circle NO below.

**NO**

**PLEASE FAX BACK YOUR VOTE TO HARVEY WATER  
BY:  
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