



The Peak body for five landholder associations and 1600 irrigators in the Murray Valley

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## Media Release

### Southern Riverina Irrigators meet with Senator Wong in Deniliquin

Southern Riverina Irrigators were pleased to be given the opportunity to meet with Senator Penny Wong in Deniliquin on Thursday 3 April.

Mr Ted Hatty, SRI Chairman, said the meeting was an opportunity for SRI to talk directly with the Senator about the recent COAG agreement for Murray Darling Basin reform.

“It is important the government is talking to stakeholders about the reforms before the government finalises arrangements at the July COAG meeting,” Mr Hatty said.

“The meeting gave SRI the chance to convey first hand the questions irrigators in this region have about the government’s approach, particularly about government purchase of water entitlements.

“SRI also discussed how the prolonged drought and uncertainty about the impact of water reform were causing significant anxiety in our community.

“The Senator confirmed the intent of the Murray Darling Basin reform and the funding available in the National Plan is to improve environmental outcomes for the Murray River and to have sustainable industries.”

Mr Hatty said that giving irrigators in the region an opportunity to comment on how the new arrangements are put in place, and to develop a proposal for investment of part of the \$10billion in this region was encouraging.

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