



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 Minister Phillip Costa in Deniliquin to discuss relief from fixed charges.

Ted Hatty Chairman, Jennie Hehir CEO of SRI and Dave May Wakool Landholder's Association Chairman, welcomed the opportunity yesterday to meet with the NSW Minister for Water, Rural Affairs and Regional Development, Phillip Costa MP, in Deniliquin to discuss relief from fixed water charges.

"We had a very open and frank discussion about the current situation faced by our irrigator's. The Minister was sympathetic and showed a very clear understanding of the serious difficulties faced by our irrigator's in the Murray Valley. He indicated he was keen to find a solution and gave an undertaking to explore all options that may be available to assist our irrigators." Mr Hatty said.

"We discussed the importance of action now, due to accounts for fixed charges being due soon. It was agreed that we keep the lines of communication open with the Minister and his advisers, and we were given confirmation to meet again in early November.

"Whilst the issue remains unresolved and the Minister didn't promise the result we need, we felt it was a productive meeting with some very clear messages that we hope will result in assistance from government for fixed charges." Mr Hatty concluded.

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