

**From:** s. 47F(1)  
**To:** [MDBEDP](#)  
**Subject:** Yarrie Lake Bore Proposal [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]  
**Date:** Friday, 21 August 2020 11:07:34 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
s. 47F(1) [Cover letter.docx](#)  
s. 47F(1) [Foot Note.docx](#)  
[Yarri Lake Land care.pdf](#)

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Good Morning

In regards to a phone call that was made on Wednesday 19/08/2020 I'm sending through some documents for you to look at in regards to the proposal of a bore at Yarrie lake

s. 47F(1)

— s. 47G(1)(a)

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s. 47G(1)(a)

**P:** s. 47F(1) / s. 47F(1)

**E:** s. 47F(1)

s. 47G(1)(a)

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s. 47F(1)  
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s. 47F(1)

My name is s. 47F(1) . s. 47F(1)  
s. 47F(1)

I have been given permission from the Yarrie lake Landcare Group Inc to give you a copy of a letter the Yarrie Lake Landcare Group gave to Roy Butler MP in regards to the Yarrie Lake Bore proposal to which we received no reply.

Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc have requested that the letter is for your purposes only and is not for Publication at this stage unless Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc are consulted.

s. 47F(1)

Yours Sincerely

s. 47F(1)

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s. 47F(1)

**RE: YARRIE LAKE FLORA AND FAUNA RESERVE – BORE PROPOSAL**

My name is s. 47F(1) . s. 47F(1)

In regards to the Yarrie Lake Bore Proposal, s. 47F(1)  
s. 47F(1) This is a natural occurrence.

The construction of a bore used to fill our beautiful freshwater lake with artesian water is most concerning. Aside from the adverse consequences for the **Native Flora and Fauna**, in which we admire every day, the farm land down stream is quite flat and this results in larger areas being inundated when the lake overflows naturally. This is part of a **natural Phenomenon**.

To be inundated with evaporated artesian water will be catastrophic and will result in very expensive remedial action, if indeed it can be remediated at all. I have seen the results of Sub-Artesian bores within walking distance of **Yarrie Lake Flora and Fauna Reserve** leaking, resulting in dead trees, scalded land, high sodium rendering these areas as unusable.

The proponents of the proposal are ignoring these points of discussion and seem only concerned with lengthening the boat season (which I enjoy also) but the losses far outweigh any gains

Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc.  
Email: yarrielakelandcare@gmail.com

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Secretary s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

Treasurer s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

The Hon Mr Roy Butler MP  
Member for Barwon  
Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party  
Narrabri Office  
Suite 1 Ground Floor  
60 Maitland Street  
NARRABRI NSW 2390

6 January 2020

Dear Mr Roy Butler MP

**RE: PROPOSAL TO DRILL A BORE TO FILL YARRIE LAKE**

My name is s. 47F(1) and I am the s. 47F(1) of the Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc. Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc. has more than 40 members who represent over 20 agricultural and landholder enterprises that live in and around Yarrie Lake. Our membership ranges from families that are second, third and fourth generation landholders to people who have recently moved to the area. We have been and continue to be involved with weed and pest control, ground cover and erosion works; fencing of riparian areas and education and projects on sustainable farming.

This letter represents the concerns of the membership of Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc. regarding your support, heard by me and other Yarrie Lake Landcare members on local radio, for the proposal to drill an artesian bore to put water into Yarrie Lake.

Reasons for our concern are:

1. Yarrie Lake is a freshwater Lake in a Flora and Fauna Reserve – The Lake is a natural phenomenon that should be left to fill and empty under natural conditions. Artificially filling the lake would change the ecosystem and defeat the very purpose of the reserve. We believe filling Yarrie Lake with artesian water and then maintaining that level with artesian water would raise the salinity of the lake water and would in the medium term almost certainly cause damage and possibly deaths to the trees and other fauna surrounding the Lake.
2. Members are particularly concerned that, once full of bore water, any natural inflow into the Lake would quickly raise the water level and result in artesian water overflowing the Lake and contaminating land and riparian areas around the Lake.
3. The Federal Government and affected Landholders have spent millions of dollars to pipe and cap existing bore drains to reduce loss of water through evaporation and allow the recharge of the Great

Artesian Basin (GAB). To put down a new bore for the purpose of filling a large area with water would seem counterproductive.

4. We are concerned that a bore of the size needed to fill the lake and keep it full would significantly lower the aquifers it draws from and in turn adversely affect any local landholder accessing the same water for stock and domestic purposes.

5. Over the last few years there has been a campaign from Government to reduce bore licenses and pumping allocations. The social aspect of a full Yarrie Lake cannot replace the business productivity and employment taken with those bore allocations. The issuing of a license for Yarrie Lake to be filled and kept full would be a slap in the face to those businesses affected by this campaign and people who have lost their jobs because of it.

6. We are not aware of any local landholder consultation from any group/person advocating this proposal. We are **not** aware of any landholder within the Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc. that supports the proposal.

7. We are not aware of any Environmental Impact Statement that supports this proposal.

Mr Butler, the members of the Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc. are very much against filling Yarrie Lake with bore water. We believe any social benefit from a full Yarrie Lake *cannot, at any time,* outweigh the potential to do irreversible damage to the natural and agricultural environment around it. We are in a drought; we should expect the lake to be dry. When the seasons change the lake will fill. Sometimes it is better to accept the consequences of nature and wait than try to manipulate nature and destroy that which we are trying to make better.

The Membership of the Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc. respectfully requests you reconsider your support for this project as it stands now. We would welcome being involved in any consultation process considering other options for augmenting the supply of fresh water to Yarrie Lake.

If you wish to discuss this further the Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc. would look forward to meeting with you personally.

Yours Sincerely

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc.

Cc: Yarrie Lake Trust, Collins Park Fundraising Group, Wee Waa Chamber of Commerce.

**From:** [Minister Pitt](#)  
**To:** s. 47F(1)  
**Cc:** [MDBEDP](#)  
**Subject:** MS20-000322 - Correspondence from Minister Pitt [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Date:** Friday, 21 August 2020 6:13:28 PM  
**Attachments:** s. 47F(1)

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Good Evening

Please find attached correspondence from the Hon Keith Pitt MP, Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia.

Kind regards,

Office of the Hon Keith Pitt MP  
Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia  
Parliament House, CANBERRA ACT 2600  
(02) 6277 7180 | [Minister.Pitt@industry.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Pitt@industry.gov.au)

OFFICIAL



## The Hon Keith Pitt MP

Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia

Ref: MS20-000322

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

Narrabri and District Chamber of Commerce Incorporated  
Lot 1, 6 Burigal Street  
NARRABRI NSW 2390  
via email: s. 47F(1)

Dear s. 47F(1)

### Murray–Darling Basin Economic Development Program - Round 2

I would like to thank you for submitting the Narrabri and District Chamber of Commerce Incorporated's application 'Yarrie Lake Water Security Project' for funding under the second round of the Murray–Darling Basin Economic Development Program (the program).

It is my pleasure to advise you that I have given conditional approval to support your project in the community of Wee Waa with funding of up to \$450,000 (GST exclusive).

The government is committed to supporting communities in the Murray-Darling Basin and I am pleased we are able to contribute to projects that create opportunities for economic development in your area through this program.

Officers from my department will be in contact with you to discuss this opportunity, provide the details of any conditions of funding and understand any impacts that the COVID19 pandemic might have on your project. When the department is satisfied that any required conditions have been met, the Australian Government will enter into a negotiated grant agreement with you. Until the agreement is executed, you will not be able to use grant funding to deliver your project.

Any enquiries you have on this grant offer can be made via the contact officer in the department – s. 22(1)(a)(ii) via email: [MDBEDP@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:MDBEDP@agriculture.gov.au) or phone: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

I wish you every success with your project and trust that you will be able to deliver economic development opportunities for your community with this funding.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Keith Pitt', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Keith Pitt

30/7 / 2020

**From:** s. 47F  
**To:** [MDBEDP](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Bore at Yarrie Lake [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]  
**Date:** Monday, 31 August 2020 1:17:43 PM  
**Attachments:** [Letter.docx](#)

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Good Afternoon,

Recently a Community Hub Grant was granted for this proposal.

I hope you are able to answer my concerns about this project.

I am assuming the grant application supplied accommodated these considerations.

I await your response

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

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s. 47F(1)

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

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I wish to get some written feedback about the proposed Yarrie Lake Project.

From my understanding funds of a substantial amount has been procured, through a Community Hub grant from Murray Darling Economic Development Projects, to put down a test bore with the intention of pouring sub-artesian water into Yarrie Lake to maintain a level ready for summer water skiers. It is interesting to note that there has been no mention that the lake is on Crown Land and actually a Flora and Fauna reserve on a natural water course- not a council-owned tourist destination.

The local Narrabri Papers, (The Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa Times) have reported this project as a done deal; awaiting only funding.

As a s. 47F(1) \_\_\_\_\_, I have some serious concerns and questions that I would like answers to.

1. Yarrie Lake is on a Flora and Fauna Reserve managed by the Crown Lands and a volunteer body of trustees. Has there been an Environment Impact study completed to say it is safe to pour large quantities of sub-artesian water into a natural waterway and that this will not impact the natural ecosystems? If so, where can this EIS be accessed?
2. Understandably large quantities of water would be required to do what the project speaks of, what measures and tests will be carried out to make sure the water quality and salinity is considered and that run off, for example in flood events does not negatively impact on surrounding land and water aquifers.
3. Water pumped, for example from mining operations, needs to be put into a lined holding pond to guarantee that it does not contaminate natural water courses. Yarrie Lake is a part of a natural water course, NOT a self-contained dam or pond. Will water be directly pumped from this proposed bore, without regulation or testing?
4. Has a license to pump large quantities of water been purchased? Despite the official statements that is a TEST bore only- If you don't have permission and a license to pump the water it is irrelevant how much water there is.
5. As the levels of water on a seasonal basis will be increased what thought has been put into flood proofing (e.g. levies) the surrounding farm land that will obviously have greater occurrence and intensity of flood water damage because of this extra water?
6. What information has been sought regarding the impact of this pumping on the water table?
7. As The Yarrie Lake Flora and Fauna trust is a group of volunteers who is legally responsible in the event of salinity and other negative impacts caused by irreversible actions of this group?

I have contacted the following bodies about these same issues:

Department of Crown Lands: I first contacted the Department of Crown Lands when the Narrabri Collins Park Lighting Committee started raising funds in 2017. I was stunned that at that stage the Department of Crown Lands, who are responsible for Yarrie Lake had not received any Developmental plans and I was assured that a meeting to address local and adjoining landholders concerns as well as substantial viability studies , including an Environmental impact Statement would be completed before any processes would happen. Further response is currently being sought.

Water NSW- requesting clarification of what regulations and requirements must be met for water pumping of sub-artesian water etc.

Dept of Planning , Industry and Environment

Adam Marshall , NSW Minister of Agriculture

Mark Coulton, Member for Parkes

Yarrie Lake Flora and Fauna Trust

Keith Pitt, Minister for resources

s. 47F(1) , Narrabri Chamber of Commerce

s. 47F(1) , Wee Waa Chamber of Commerce

Roy Butler – Member for Barwon

The Narrabri Courier Newspaper

I am not a vigilante rabble-rouser intent on causing trouble for troubles sake. These are serious concerns and I feel that they need addressing before \$450,000 is wasted on a project that is not only not viable but may be detrimental to a beautiful part of our shire.

s. 47F(1)

**From:** [MDBEDP](#)  
**To:** [s. 47F\(1\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed Bore at Yarrie Lake [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]  
**Date:** Wednesday, 2 September 2020 6:57:00 PM

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Dear [s. 47F\(1\)](#)

Thank you for your letter dated 31 August 2020 regarding the recent approval of funding under Round 2 of the Murray-Darling Basin Economic Development Program for the Yarrie Lake Water Security Project. We appreciate that you have taken the time to write and express your questions and concerns about this project.

The Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia has approved 32 projects for funding under this grant round and has directed our department to enter into grant agreement negotiations with successful applicants. While we are not able to discuss specifics of these negotiations with third parties due to privacy/legal reasons, there are a number of steps and processes to go through before a final agreement can be executed. No project will receive funding until the Commonwealth is satisfied the project is viable and a grant agreement has been executed.

We will shortly be entering into grant agreement negotiations with the Narrabri and District Chamber of Commerce regarding their project at Yarrie Lake. Can I suggest you make your questions and concerns known directly to the Chamber of Commerce as they relate to the Yarrie Lake Water Security Project as soon as possible, so as to better inform future discussions between our Department and the Narrabri and District Chamber of Commerce?

Yours sincerely

[s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

Director | Basin Reform Section

Sustainable Water Branch | Water Division

Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

*The Department acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to their elders both past and present.*

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**From:** [s. 47F\(1\)](#) [s. 47F\(1\)](#)

**Sent:** Monday, 31 August 2020 1:15 PM

**Subject:** Proposed Bore at Yarrie Lake [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Good Afternoon,

Recently a Community Hub Grant was granted for this proposal.

I hope you are able to answer my concerns about this project.

I am assuming the grant application supplied accommodated these considerations.

I await your response

[s. 47F\(1\)](#)

[s. 47F\(1\)](#)

[s. 47F](#)

[s. 47F\(1\)](#)

[s. 47F\(1\)](#)

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** [Agriculture Parliamentary Correspondence](#)  
**To:** [MinisterialCorrespondence](#)  
**Subject:** MC20-014118 MINISTER REPLY - VIP - (Coulton MP obo [s. 47F\(1\)](#) and [s. 47F\(1\)](#)) - MDEP proposed bore at Yarrie Lake - WD  
**Date:** Thursday, 10 September 2020 9:52:46 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[Letter.docx](#)  
[s. 47F\(1\).docx](#)  
[Yarrie Lake letter.pdf](#)

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**From:** Minister Pitt [mailto:Minister.Pitt@industry.gov.au]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 10 September 2020 9:35 AM  
**To:** Agriculture Parliamentary Correspondence  
<AgricultureParliamentaryCorrespondence@agriculture.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Incoming for 5 day min reply: Representation from Mr Coulton MP re MDEP Proposed Bore at Yarrie Lake [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(i\)](#)

Could we please code this representation for a 5 day min reply to water division – [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

Kind regards  
[s. 47F\(1\)](#)

[s. 47F\(1\)](#) | Departmental Liaison Officer  
Office of the Hon Keith Pitt MP  
Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia  
P: [s. 47F\(1\)](#)  
M: [s. 47F\(1\)](#)  
Suite M1 45 Parliament House, CANBERRA ACT 2600

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OFFICIAL

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**From:** Coulton, Mark (MP) [mailto:Mark.Coulton.MP@aph.gov.au]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 9 September 2020 5:00 PM  
**To:** Minister Pitt <[Minister.Pitt@industry.gov.au](#)>  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed Bore at Yarrie Lake

Dear Minister

Please find the attached correspondence from [s. 47F\(1\)](#) and [s. 47F\(1\)](#) of Yarrie Lake.

Both constituents have detailed their concerns with the proposed Yarrie Lake Water Security Project recently funded by the MDBA Economic Development Program.

I would appreciate your consideration of this matter and a response that I can pass on to my constituents.

Regards

Mark

cid:image001.jpg@01D686CA.9C9DA060



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**From:** s. 47F(1) s. 47F(1)

**Sent:** Monday, 31 August 2020 12:42 PM

**To:** Coulton, Mark (MP) <[Mark.Coulton.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Mark.Coulton.MP@aph.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Propose Bore at Yarrie Lake

Dear Mr Coulton,

I am hoping that you will be able to direct my questions to the most appropriate source that they can be satisfactorily answered.

Thank you for your consideration,

I await your fresponse

s. 47F(1)

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Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

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Roy Butler – Member for Barwon

The Narrabri Courier Newspaper

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s. 47F(1)

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s. 47F(1)

RE: Yarrie Lake Flora and Fauna Reserve

I am writing to you in regards to the proposal to fill !! Yes to top up means to fill Yarrie Lake with bore water and the subsequent approval of a grant from Murray Darling Basin Economic Development Program, by the Hon Mark Coulton MP and the Hon Keith Pitt MP to the Wee Waa Chamber commerce allegedly for this purpose.

There are several problems with this project which have not been addressed.

Many of these were recorded in the letter to the Hon Roy Butler MP, by the Yarrie Lake Landcare group sent 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and I have permission to include the letter from Yarrie Lake Landcare Group for your records. The letter includes many of our concerns but I wish to state a few more.

1. I believe that the proponents are planning to drill down to 400 metres and this would result in accessing the same or similar aquifer that SANTOS have in their Narrabri CSG Project. Due to Yarrie Lake being within the CSG Project area and some of their wells are within walking distance to Yarrie Lake, it is more than likely the water is of the same or worse quality than the water which SANTOS was FINED for small to moderate leaks (records included).

The release of the proposed quantity of water into Yarrie Lake could result in fines that I believe would make SANTOS quiver, and who will be ultimately responsible for any fines or damage incurred.?

This is aside from any civil actions that could arise.

2. It is unlikely there would be a flowing hot bore as the proponents are dreaming about as Yarrie Lake is outside the Great Artesian Basin according to mapping done last century. There are some very low flowing Sub- Artesian bores nearby Yarrie Lake , one is drilled by Ampol/Caltex in the 1960's and another by ESG in the 2000's to approx. 500m and the Caltex bore has been problematic, **surrounded by dead trees and scalded land** less than 4 kilometres from Yarrie Lake and these are not hot flows.
3. Concern is no matter what type or quantity of water is found the proponents will want to use it just because of their effort to get it and even if it were pure mercury people will want to Ski on it. Who will make the decision if the water is suitable or not?

All of the bores in the Yarrie lake area that are for Stock or Domestic use are hard water and have high calcium and other minerals, are unsuitable for gardens and irrigation: which is why this is not an irrigation area. So we are "rewarded" something we don't really want to compensate the irrigation community for something they can't have.

Yarrie Lake is not an isolated basin and has substantial through flows. The fact would make it impossible to contain any out flows or leakage through the sub strata.

This has occurred during 2014 and 2016 with the placement of a bank on one of the inflows which is also the natural outflow, and resulted in raising the level of the lake to an extent that forced the overflow into the neighbouring shearing shed and house and its surrounds before naturally returning to the original outflow due to the volume of water.

Just to summarize at this stage

Yarrie Lake is not a Ski Park!!

The only purpose a "test Bore" has is to serve a few skiers.

I am amazed how Narrabri has managed to usurp a grant intended for Wee Waa, lets see if we can get Moree and Trangie's grants as well.

The analysis of Great Artesian Basin water is well known and can be done without digging holes.

There are deep bores nearby that can easily be sampled and inspected to predict the likely results.

The "test" bore proposal is unnecessary as the results and aftermath are predictable  
Evaporating 250 megalitres of Great Artesian Basin water annually in a Pristine Freshwater Lake is, I AM LOST FOR WORDS....

The construction of a bore used to fill our beautiful freshwater lake with Artesian water is most concerning. Aside from the adverse consequences for the Native Flora and Fauna which we admire every day, the farm land sown stream is quite flat and this results in large areas being inundated when the lake overflows naturally. This is part of the natural phenomenon .

To be inundated with evaporated artesian water will be catastrophic and will result in very expensive remedial action if indeed it can be remediated at all. I have seen the results of Sub-Artesian bores within walking distance of Yarrie Lake leaking, resulting in dead trees, scalded Land, high sodium rendering these areas unusable. The proponents of the proposal are only concerned with lengthening the boat season (which I enjoy also) but the losses outweigh any gains

Yours sincerely

s. 47F(1)

Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc.  
Email: yarrielakelandcare@gmail.com

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Secretary s. 47F(1)

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Treasurer s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

The Hon Mr Roy Butler MP  
Member for Barwon  
Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party  
Narrabri Office  
Suite 1 Ground Floor  
60 Maitland Street  
NARRABRI NSW 2390

6 January 2020

Dear Mr Roy Butler MP

**RE: PROPOSAL TO DRILL A BORE TO FILL YARRIE LAKE**

My name is s. 47F(1) and I am the s. 47F(1) of the Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc. Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc. has more than 40 members who represent over 20 agricultural and landholder enterprises that live in and around Yarrie Lake. Our membership ranges from families that are second, third and fourth generation landholders to people who have recently moved to the area. We have been and continue to be involved with weed and pest control, ground cover and erosion works; fencing of riparian areas and education and projects on sustainable farming.

This letter represents the concerns of the membership of Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc. regarding your support, heard by me and other Yarrie Lake Landcare members on local radio, for the proposal to drill an artesian bore to put water into Yarrie Lake.

Reasons for our concern are:

1. Yarrie Lake is a freshwater Lake in a Flora and Fauna Reserve – The Lake is a natural phenomenon that should be left to fill and empty under natural conditions. Artificially filling the lake would change the ecosystem and defeat the very purpose of the reserve. We believe filling Yarrie Lake with artesian water and then maintaining that level with artesian water would raise the salinity of the Lake water and would in the medium term almost certainly cause damage and possibly deaths to the trees and other fauna surrounding the Lake.
2. Members are particularly concerned that, once full of bore water, any natural inflow into the Lake would quickly raise the water level and result in artesian water overflowing the Lake and contaminating land and riparian areas around the Lake.
3. The Federal Government and affected Landholders have spent millions of dollars to pipe and cap existing bore drains to reduce loss of water through evaporation and allow the recharge of the Great

Artesian Basin (GAB). To put down a new bore for the purpose of filling a large area with water would seem counterproductive.

4. We are concerned that a bore of the size needed to fill the lake and keep it full would significantly lower the aquifers it draws from and in turn adversely affect any local landholder accessing the same water for stock and domestic purposes.

5. Over the last few years there has been a campaign from Government to reduce bore licenses and pumping allocations. The social aspect of a full Yarrie Lake cannot replace the business productivity and employment taken with those bore allocations. The issuing of a license for Yarrie Lake to be filled and kept full would be a slap in the face to those businesses affected by this campaign and people who have lost their jobs because of it.

6. We are not aware of any local landholder consultation from any group/person advocating this proposal. We are **not** aware of any landholder within the Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc. that supports the proposal.

7. We are not aware of any Environmental Impact Statement that supports this proposal.

Mr Butler, the members of the Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc. are very much against filling Yarrie Lake with bore water. We believe any social benefit from a full Yarrie Lake *cannot, at any time,* outweigh the potential to do irreversible damage to the natural and agricultural environment around it. We are in a drought; we should expect the lake to be dry. When the seasons change the lake will fill. Sometimes it is better to accept the consequences of nature and wait than try to manipulate nature and destroy that which we are trying to make better.

The Membership of the Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc. respectfully requests you reconsider your support for this project as it stands now. We would welcome being involved in any consultation process considering other options for augmenting the supply of fresh water to Yarrie Lake.

If you wish to discuss this further the Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc. would look forward to meeting with you personally.

Yours Sincerely

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

Yarrie Lake Landcare Group Inc.

Cc: Yarrie Lake Trust, Collins Park Fundraising Group, Wee Waa Chamber of Commerce.

**From:** s. 47F(1)  
**To:** [MDBEDP](#)  
**Cc:** s. 47F(1)  
**Subject:** Yarrie Lake Grant [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]  
**Date:** Tuesday, 29 September 2020 11:34:16 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
s. 47F(1)

---

Hi please find attached letter for your department to read in regards to a grant for the Town of Wee Waa not NARRABRI it has all been pushed thru for Narrabri, I was under the impression that this grant was to be for Wee Waa Not Narrabri

Hoping to ge a reply

Thanks

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1) \_ s. 47G(1)(a)

s. 47G(1)(a)

s. 47G(1)(a)

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

s. 47G(1)(a)

s. 47G(1)(a)

s. 47F(1)  
s. 47F(1)  
s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

RE: Yarrie Lake Flora and Fauna Reserve

I am writing to you in regards to the proposal to fill !! Yes to top up means to fill Yarrie Lake with bore water and the subsequent approval of a grant from Murray Darling Basin Economic Development Program, by the Hon Mark Coulton MP and the Hon Keith Pitt MP to the Wee Waa Chamber commerce allegedly for this purpose.

There are several problems with this project which have not been addressed.

Many of these were recorded in the letter to the Hon Roy Butler MP, by the Yarrie Lake Landcare group sent 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and I have permission to include the letter from Yarrie Lake Landcare Group for your records. The letter includes many of our concerns but I wish to state a few more.

1. I believe that the proponents are planning to drill down to 400 metres and this would result in accessing the same or similar aquifer that SANTOS have in their Narrabri CSG Project. Due to Yarrie Lake being within the CSG Project area and some of their wells are within walking distance to Yarrie Lake, it is more than likely the water is of the same or worse quality than the water which SANTOS was FINED for small to moderate leaks (records included).

The release of the proposed quantity of water into Yarrie Lake could result in fines that I believe would make SANTOS quiver, and who will be ultimately responsible for any fines or damage incurred.?

This is aside from any civil actions that could arise.

2. It is unlikely there would be a flowing hot bore as the proponents are dreaming about as Yarrie Lake is outside the Great Artesian Basin according to mapping done last century. There are some very low flowing Sub- Artesian bores nearby Yarrie Lake , one is drilled by Ampol/Caltex in the 1960's and another by ESG in the 2000's to approx. 500m and the Caltex bore has been problematic, **surrounded by dead trees and scalded land** less than 4 kilometres from Yarrie Lake and these are not hot flows.
3. Concern is no matter what type or quantity of water is found the proponents will want to use it just because of their effort to get it and even if it were pure mercury people will want to Ski on it. Who will make the decision if the water is suitable or not?

All of the bores in the Yarrie lake area that are for Stock or Domestic use are hard water and have high calcium and other minerals, are unsuitable for gardens and irrigation: which is why this is not an irrigation area. So we are "rewarded" something we don't really want to compensate the irrigation community for something they can't have.

Yarrie Lake is not an isolated basin and has substantial through flows. The fact would make it impossible to contain any out flows or leakage through the sub strata.

This has occurred during 2014 and 2016 with the placement of a bank on one of the inflows which is also the natural outflow, and resulted in raising the level of the lake to an extent that forced the overflow into the neighbouring shearing shed and house and its surrounds before naturally returning to the original outflow due to the volume of water.

Just to summarize at this stage

Yarrie Lake is not a Ski Park!!

The only purpose a "test Bore" has is to serve a few skiers.

I am amazed how Narrabri has managed to usurp a grant intended for Wee Waa, lets see if we can get Moree and Trangie's grants as well.

The analysis of Great Artesian Basin water is well known and can be done without digging holes.

There are deep bores nearby that can easily be sampled and inspected to predict the likely results.

The "test" bore proposal is unnecessary as the results and aftermath are predictable  
Evaporating 250 megalitres of Great Artesian Basin water annually in a Pristine Freshwater Lake is, I AM LOST FOR WORDS....

The construction of a bore used to fill our beautiful freshwater lake with Artesian water is most concerning. Aside from the adverse consequences for the Native Flora and Fauna which we admire every day, the farm land down stream is quite flat and this results in large areas being inundated when the lake overflows naturally. This is part of the natural phenomenon .

To be inundated with evaporated artesian water will be catastrophic and will result in very expensive remedial action if indeed it can be remediated at all. I have seen the results of Sub-Artesian bores within walking distance of Yarrie Lake leaking, resulting in dead trees, scalded Land, high sodium rendering these areas unusable. The proponents of the proposal are only concerned with lengthening the boat season (which I enjoy also) but the losses outweigh any gains

Yours sincerely

s. 47F(1)

**From:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** s. 47F(1) ; s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Cc:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii); s. 47F(1) ; s. 47F(1) s. 47F(1) s. 22(1)(a)(ii); s. 22(1)(a)(ii) s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
s. 22(1)(a)(ii) [weewaachamberofcommerce@gmail.com](mailto:weewaachamberofcommerce@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** FW: Yarrie Lake Water Security project - MDBEDP R2 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Start:** Thursday, 1 October 2020 11:30:00 AM  
**End:** Thursday, 1 October 2020 12:30:00 PM  
**Location:** Microsoft Teams Meeting

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-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 September 2020 5:05 PM  
**To:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii); s. 47F(1) ; s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Cc:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii); s. 47F(1) ; s. 47F(1) s. 47F(1) s. 22(1)(a)(ii); s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** Yarrie Lake Water Security project - MDBEDP R2 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**When:** Thursday, 1 October 2020 11:30 AM-12:30 PM (UTC+10:00) Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney.  
**Where:** Microsoft Teams Meeting

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Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

Click here to join the meeting <[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_NWQyN2Q2YmQtY2QyMC00YWY3LWFmMzItZDliN2E5MWM3YTE2%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%222be67eb7-400c-4b3f-a5a1-1258c0da0696%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%229f8f86c4-bdda-4464-8429-00a336769d45%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NWQyN2Q2YmQtY2QyMC00YWY3LWFmMzItZDliN2E5MWM3YTE2%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%222be67eb7-400c-4b3f-a5a1-1258c0da0696%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%229f8f86c4-bdda-4464-8429-00a336769d45%22%7d)>

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Or call in (audio only)

+61 2 7208 4605,,22140420# <<tel:+61272084605,,22140420>> Australia, Sydney

Phone Conference ID: 221 404 20#

Find a local number <<https://dialin.teams.microsoft.com/8d32c459-dc54-4f44-baf9-851d821d1f73?id=22140420>> | Reset PIN

<<https://mysettings.lync.com/pstnconferencing>>

Learn More <<https://aka.ms/JoinTeamsMeeting>> | Meeting options <[https://teams.microsoft.com/meetingOptions/?organizerId=9f8f86c4-bdda-4464-8429-00a336769d45&tenantId=2be67eb7-400c-4b3f-a5a1-1258c0da0696&threadId=19\\_meeting\\_NWQyN2Q2YmQtY2QyMC00YWY3LWFmMzItZDliN2E5MWM3YTE2@thread.v2&messageId=0&language=en-US](https://teams.microsoft.com/meetingOptions/?organizerId=9f8f86c4-bdda-4464-8429-00a336769d45&tenantId=2be67eb7-400c-4b3f-a5a1-1258c0da0696&threadId=19_meeting_NWQyN2Q2YmQtY2QyMC00YWY3LWFmMzItZDliN2E5MWM3YTE2@thread.v2&messageId=0&language=en-US)>

8429-00a336769d45&tenantId=2be67eb7-400c-4b3f-a5a1-

1258c0da0696&threadId=19\_meeting\_NWQyN2Q2YmQtY2QyMC00YWY3LWFmMzItZDliN2E5MWM3YTE2@thread.v2&messageId=0&language=en-

US>

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**From:** [MDBEDP](#)  
**To:** [s. 47F\(1\)](#)  
**Cc:** [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#); [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Murray-Darling Basin Economic Development Program - Round 2 - Initial discussion on Yarrie Lake Water Security Project [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Date:** Friday, 2 October 2020 4:27:07 PM  
**Attachments:** [Meeting Notes - Yarrie Lake Water Security Project - 1 October 2020.docx](#)

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Dear [s. 47F\(1\)](#)

Thank you for taking the time yesterday to discuss the Narrabri Chamber of Commerce's project *Yarrie Lake Water Security Project* under Round 2 of the Murray-Darling Basin Economic Development Program and congratulations once again on receiving funding under this round. It was good to discuss your project and meet some of the people involved.

As outlined in our discussion this project has conditions of funding. The specific conditions of funding based on the application are:

- ø Ensure the approval to use water is suitable for the intended purpose.
- ø Demonstrate water entitlement (licence) is secured to underpin the project.
- ø Ensure environmental approvals are in order.

These conditions of funding are to ensure the appropriate government processes to access water through the bore are followed and the results of accessing this bore water are of benefit to the community and the environment, both now and into the future. We would like you to now provide us with the documentation that has been prepared to date that may address the above conditions. We would like to be clear about how much has already been done and how much is still to do so we can determine next steps.

We would like to consider these documents prior to the suggested meeting for concerned stakeholders. I would also like to discuss the arrangements for such a meeting with you prior to invitations being sent. Can you please call me when convenient to discuss?

Once the above conditions of funding are addressed to the department's satisfaction we can move forward with the more general and standard project management conditions of funding as outlined below. These will also be met by you and will consist of:

- ø Considering and revising your budget *where necessary*, for example:
  - o removing in-kind payments
  - o confirming co-contributions and any 3<sup>rd</sup> party contributions
  - o considering the contingency budget
  - o taking into consideration adaptations needed to deliver the project in the light of COVID19
  - o completing the cash flow (noting it is a planning tool and will not form part of the final agreement).
- ø Refreshing your risk plan, taking into account COVID19. Possibly also consider natural disasters such as bushfires if relevant.
- ø Updating the governance structure for the project to clearly show roles and responsibilities for the management of activities and funds.
- ø Consider and revise timeframes for project delivery, using the milestone schedule to

enter key actions and evidence.

- ð If required, update the contact names and details for the project.
- ð Update the stakeholder engagement and communication strategy, and conduct further community consultations as necessary, including with local Indigenous groups.
- ð Provide us with the organisation's two most recent annual, signed and audited financial statements
- ð Provide evidence of consortium arrangements.

There is no need to action these tasks before the specific conditions of funding have been met but we would like you to start considering what you will need to do next. Once you do move forward, please consult your original project application to fulfil these requirements as it was already quite accomplished on many of these points.

During our discussion we spoke about the draft Activity Work Plan (AWP), including the budget and milestone schedule for your project. We undertook to send templates of these documents on to you but then remembered we already have – they were provided in the package of documents for the online program briefing held on 10 September 2020. If you can no longer locate those documents, please let us know and we will resupply them. Otherwise, we will provide newer versions following our conditions of funding discussions.

We have attached draft notes from yesterday's meeting as promised. Could you please consider and amend any incorrect information – especially in relation to the titles of attendees, then provide us with a corrected version prior to any further circulation. The department conducts all processes in accordance with the *Privacy Act 1988*, and so if the notes from this meeting are to be circulated, this should only be done with the knowledge and approval of attendees. The department also encourages transparency in its processes and so is comfortable, once attendees agree, with the provision of these notes to interested parties that did not attend yesterday's meeting.

The email addresses of your main project management contacts (s. 22(1)(a)(ii) and s. 22(1)(a)(ii) s. 22(1)(a)(ii)) are copied into this email and we recommend that you include this group mailbox ([MDBEDP@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:MDBEDP@agriculture.gov.au)) in any correspondence so it can be attended to by the team should your main contacts be away. Our direct numbers are:

s. 22(1)(a)(ii) – s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii) – s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any queries you may have as you work through the conditions of funding documentation for your project.

Best regards

s. 22(1)(a)(ii) and s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

**Murray-Darling Basin Economic Development Program Team**

## Meeting Notes

### Yarrie Lake Water Security Project

### Murray–Darling Basin Economic Development Program - Round 2

**Date:** Thursday 1 October 2020

**Time:** 11:30 am – 12:30 pm AEST

**Attendees:**

- s. 47F(1) , Narrabri and District Chamber of Commerce (NCC) s. 47F(1) Collins Park Lighting Committee
- s. 47F(1) , NCC, Collins Park Lighting Committee
- s. 47F(1) , Wee Waa and District Chamber of Commerce (WWCC) s. 47F(1)
- s. 47F(1) , WWCC s. 47F(1)
- s. 47F(1) , Regional Development Australia Northern Inland
- s. 22(1)(a)(ii), Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE) (Director – Basin Reform Section)
- s. 22(1)(a)(ii), DAWE (Assistant Director - Basin Reform Section - Economic Development Team)
- s. 22(1)(a)(ii), DAWE (Assistant Director - Basin Reform Section - Economic Development Team)
- s. 22(1)(a)(ii), DAWE (Basin Reform Section - Economic Development Team)

**Invitees not present:**

- s. 47F(1)
- s. 47F(1)
- s. 47F(1)

#### Introductory Remarks:

This meeting was an initial discussion to look at project proposal, general and specific conditions applying to the project, refinements and changes to the project scope and description, milestones, budgets, and funding arrangements noting time since application lodgement and in light of any COVID-19 implications.

The Murray-Darling Basin Economic Development Program Round 2 was an highly competitive round with over 70 applications across the Basin worth close to \$45 million. Processes of the round, including the announcement of successful applications, had been delayed due to a variety of factors, not least of which were an extension of the opening period and the emergence of COVID-19.

#### MDBEDP Team key points:

- Application was very good, it presented well-articulated arguments for the economic benefits of the project.
- Following the announcement of the approval of funding for the project, it was now time to negotiate the grant agreement, the first part of which was to address conditions of funding for the project.
- It was a time to re-engage with the community about the project, to plan and perhaps re-scope a little (within the confines of the approved project).
- It was not time to commence the project or spend approved funds. This should be done when the grant agreement is executed.
- Re-scoping should include considerations for COVID-19. As a construction project, it was unlikely to be greatly impacted by COVID-19 but the impacts to contractor availability or supply of materials should be considered.
- This project has specific conditions of funding attached. DAWE must be satisfied these conditions have been met before a project agreement can be executed and the project can proceed.
- The conditions of funding for this project: ensure that any approval to use water for the project is suitable for the intended purpose; seek a demonstration that the use of the water for the project is

covered by the appropriate entitlement/licence; and ensure that all environmental approvals for the project are in order.

- In order to ascertain how the successful applicant has met or is meeting these conditions, DAWE has requested NCC provide any relevant project documentation as soon as possible, including:
  - Hydrogeological surveys conducted
  - Environmental approvals
  - Information on Leasehold and access
  - Details of Environmental Impact Statements (including status)
- Once these conditions of funding have been met and any outstanding issues surrounding the project have been addressed, DAWE will work with the NCC to update and finalise project management conditions (governance, evidence of consortium arrangement and financial status, risk and stakeholder engagement) and grant details (budget, milestones, final scope).
- Once agreement reached on grant agreement information for the project, information provided to the Community Grants Hub to execute - the process will take approximately four weeks.
- May look at “gateway” milestones for this project – upfront milestones that could impact the rest of the project.
- Project proposal included elements other than the bore. Depending on delegate approval, DAWE could consider progressing these alone should issues surrounding the bore not enable that element to progress.
- Project is to benefit the entire community and we are interested in the views of all members, and addressing and assuaging stakeholder concerns.
- **s. 47F(1)** to be the main point of contact for DAWE.

### Successful applicant key points:

- Yarrie Lake is an important tourist attraction for the region and well known for bird watching and water skiing. Other regional attractions include a solar conservatory and bore baths.
- Lake has a dedicated camping ground, electricity and basic amenities. Facilities need an upgrade. Maintenance of these is overseen by the Lake’s Fauna and Flora Trust.
- One member of the Trust is on the project working committee.
- The lake is a natural depression, approximately 2m deep, and is filled by rainwater.
- Application is for a test bore, as there is little / no data on the quality and volume of water in Yarrie Lake. Drill in hope to find quality and quantity of water to top up lake for evaporated water, particularly winter, for spring and summer skiing activities.
- Important to address any environmental and stakeholder concerns. Propose to hold a meeting for parties with an interest in the project.
- Community keen on project, fundraising funds to contribute towards to the project.
- There is a strong working relationship between the WWCC and NCC.
- NCC need to obtain approval to use a test bore to determine the quality and quantity of water available – this is very crucial to the project.
- The Collins Park Lighting Group has made initial enquiries with Fisheries and NSW Water about the quality and conditions of the water, including to understand the implications of a bore.
- Advice has been sought from Moree Plains Shire Council and developers of their ski park to understand issues that (similar) project faced.
- Hydrogeological advice is that water likely found between 200 to 700 m, with no preference of area to sink a bore.
- Clean water ideally available within 300 m to 340 m deeps, any water obtained further than this depth is considered contaminated or “dirty water”.
- NSW Water would not allow extraction of “top water”, and no problems are anticipated.
- Meeting has been held with Crown Land, other community meetings to be held.

**Action Plan:**

- DAWE to send the following before COB Friday, 2 October 2020:
  - Meeting notes
  - Budget and milestone template
- Successful applicant to:
  - Provide documentation to address specific conditions of funding:
    - Hydrogeological surveys conducted
    - Environmental approvals
    - Information on Leasehold and access
    - Details of Environmental Impact Statements ( including status)
  - Make plans, engage with stakeholders and organise for project delivery
  - Look at the Commonwealth Standard Grant Agreement
  - Later: provide relevant project management documentation, consortium agreement, agree milestones, budget, communication lines, project description with DAWE
  - Organise a stakeholder engagement meeting for the project.

Meeting closed at 12.20 pm

DRAFT

**From:** s. 47F(1)  
**To:** [MDBEDP](#)  
**Cc:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii); s. 22(1)(a)(ii); s. 22(1)(a)(ii); s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** RE: Murray-Darling Basin Economic Development Program - Round 2 - Initial discussion on Yarrie Lake Water Security Project [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Date:** Tuesday, 6 October 2020 10:45:05 AM  
**Attachments:** [image003.jpg](#)

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G'day <sup>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</sup> and <sup>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</sup>

Thank you for your assistance and facilitating the meeting. It was informative and a good start to getting the procedure trail in place. Hopefully we can sort out the linkages before the next one.

We are aware of the requirements and are keen to work closely with you to see this highly supported project through to completion.

As you are aware we are local conglomeration of passionate volunteers who freely give of our time and personal resources for the betterment of the region and its community. So any assistance from you is greatly appreciated.

We are currently attending to all requirements as requested and will forward completed documentation to you as it comes to hand.

Thanks and regards.

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1) Narrabri and District Chamber of Commerce

Phone s. 47F(1) any time.



On behalf of the Yarrie Lake Test Bore Working Group.

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**From:** MDBEDP [mailto:MDBEDP@agriculture.gov.au]  
**Sent:** Friday, 2 October 2020 4:27 PM  
**To:** s. 47F(1)  
**Cc:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii); s. 22(1)(a)(ii); s. 22(1)(a)(ii) ; s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** FW: Murray-Darling Basin Economic Development Program - Round 2 - Initial discussion on Yarrie Lake Water Security Project [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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  - ð If required, update the contact names and details for the project.
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<sup>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</sup> – s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

<sup>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</sup> – s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any queries you may have as you work through the conditions of funding documentation for your project.

Best regards

<sup>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</sup> and <sup>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</sup>

**Murray-Darling Basin Economic Development Program Team**

**From:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** FW: Yarrie Lake Water Security Project [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]  
**Date:** Wednesday, 14 October 2020 10:32:03 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Sent:** Thursday, 1 October 2020 9:29 AM  
**To:** Robertson, John <John.Robertson@awe.gov.au>  
**Cc:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii) s. 22(1)(a)(ii) ; s. 22(1)(a)(ii) s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** Yarrie Lake Water Security Project [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Hi John

You requested some information on the Yarrie Lake Water Security Project approved for funding under Round 2 of the MDBEDP prior to our first meeting with the successful applicant at 11.30am. These are the main points:

- Successful applicant is Narrabri and District Chamber of Commerce. Consortium with:
  - Wee Waa & District Chamber of Commerce
  - Yarrie Lake Flora and Fauna Reserve Land Manager
  - Collins Park Lighting Group
- Funding of \$450,000
- Six month construction project, wanting to start asap
- Project proposes the installation of a permanent ground water supply (a bore) to maintain safe and useable year-round water levels at the lake for environmental and recreational tourism activities. It will also install solar power and storage infrastructure to run the pump, powered sites and other powered equipment.
- The project was approved with conditions of funding
  - Ensure the approval to use water is suitable for the intended purpose
  - Demonstrate the water entitlement is secured to underpin the project
  - Ensure all environmental approvals are in order
- We received a FOI request on this project in July from s. 47F(1) . The request was for all correspondence regarding the application. The department advised the request was too large and could the applicant please consider a rephrase to reduce the scope. Before this could happen the results of the round were announced.
- Narrabri CoC has invited s. 47F(1) to the meeting today. s. 47C(1)
- The department received a letter from s. 47F(1) – s. 47F(1) on 31/8/20, responded 2/9/20, arguing the project should not go ahead, primarily due to environmental reasons. We thanked her for her concerns and asked her to make them

known to the Narrabri CoC in order to inform our grant agreement discussions.

- The Minister received a package of three letters forwarded from Mark Coulton MP (<sup>s. 47F(1)</sup> s. 47F(1); s. 47F(1) – s. 47F(1) and s. 47F(1) – Yarrie Lake Landcare Group), on 9/9/20 but which we received on 29/9/20, also arguing against the project due to environmental concerns. (MC20-014118). We haven't answered yet as we didn't want the content of the letter to be outdated by the outcomes of today's meeting. I have rung s. 47F(1) to inform him.
- All the environmental concerns were the same as those of the Selection Advisory Panel – which is why we have the conditions of funding we have.
- Despite these pieces of correspondence there appears to be other good support for project from other sectors of the community (fundraising results, reports of consultation, letters of support in application) with a great deal of local fundraising in both Narrabri and Wee Waa occurring to contribute to total costs.

Regards

<sup>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</sup>

**s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

Assistant Director | Basin Reform Section  
Sustainable Water Branch | Water Division  
Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment  
18 Marcus Clarke St Canberra ACT 2601

**s. 22(1)(a)(ii)** | **s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

*The department acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to traditional owners, their cultures and elders past and present.*

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**From:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** FW: INFO FOR CALL TO s. 47F(1) Yarrie Lake Water Security Project [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]  
**Date:** Thursday, 12 November 2020 9:28:00 AM  
**Importance:** High

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**From:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Sent:** Thursday, 1 October 2020 10:06 AM  
**To:** Robertson, John <John.Robertson@agriculture.gov.au>  
**Subject:** INFO FOR CALL TO s. 47F(1) Yarrie Lake Water Security Project [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]  
**Importance:** High

Hi John

Just a reminder this is the Yarrie Lakes project that is controversial to support you in a call to s. 47F(1)

Meeting is today at 11.30.

This is the one we go the FOI from s. 47F(1) on.

Cheers

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director | Basin Reform Section  
Sustainable Water Branch | Water Division  
Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment  
s. 22(1)(a)(ii) s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**Sent:** Thursday, 1 October 2020 9:29 AM  
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**Cc:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii) s. 22(1)(a)(ii) s. 22(1)(a)(ii) s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** Yarrie Lake Water Security Project [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

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18 Marcus Clarke St Canberra ACT 2601

s. 22(1)(a)(ii) | s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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