

Pilot Environmental Water Purchase Project – Feedback questionnaire



The Murray-Darling Basin Commission (MDBC) recently operated a pilot project to purchase up to 20 GL of water entitlement for the environment under The Living Murray program. Due to the response from willing sellers, the MDBC closed the call for expressions of interest only four weeks into an eleven week schedule.

MDBC is now reviewing the pilot project and is interested in the views of those who either participated in the Pilot Environmental Water Purchase Project or considered doing so. We would like to hear from irrigators and their agents across the purchasing area¹ who chose not to participate in the project.

The completed questionnaire should be returned to MDBC either by fax (02 6279 0588) or post (MDBC, Reply Paid 409, CANBERRA, ACT 2601 – *no postage stamp required*) by 12 October 2007.

1. How did you hear about the Pilot Environmental Water Purchase project?

- Local/regional newspaper
- Local/regional radio/television news
- Broker or agent
- Community event/meeting
- Word of mouth
- Other (Please specify) _____

2. Who (if anyone) you contacted about advice or information on the pilot project:

- Friends/family
- Broker
- Murray-Darling Basin Commission
- Catchment Management Authority
- Lawyer/solicitor
- Other (Please specify) _____

3. Did you submit an expression of interest form to the pilot project?

- Yes
- No

3a) If not, please indicate why:

- Insufficient time to submit an Expression of Interest
- Did not understand the process of submitting an Expression of Interest
- Expression of Interest form was too complicated
- No interest in selling water entitlement at the time
- Other (Please specify)

3b) If a similar market based approach was used to recover water for the environment in the future, would you consider participating?

- Yes
- No

4. How did you access the Expression of Interest form?

- Downloaded from the internet
- Via fax or post
- Through a broker
- Collected locally (Please state source: _____)
- Not applicable (Did not receive an Expression of Interest form)

¹ Expressions of Interest to sell Water Entitlements were invited from the Murray system (including the Edward-Wakool); the Murrumbidgee system; the lower Darling system (from the upper limit of Lake Wetherell water storage, downstream to the upstream limit of the Wentworth Weir Pool water storage); the Goulburn River system; the Loddon system (from the upper limits of the Cairn Curran and Tullaroop storages downstream to Loddon Weir); and the Campaspe system.

5. Please indicate below (where appropriate):

5a) the level of ease or difficulty you had completing your Expression of Interest form

- Very easy
- Easy
- Difficult
- Very difficult
- Not applicable

5b) the level of ease or difficulty you had submitting your Expression of Interest form

- Very easy
- Easy
- Difficult
- Very difficult
- Not applicable

5c) your satisfaction with the length of time taken for the MDBC to issue a response to your Expression of Interest

- Very satisfied
- Satisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Not applicable

5d) your satisfaction with the overall Expression of Interest process

- Very satisfied
- Satisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Not applicable

6. Did you read the Frequently Asked Questions document for this pilot project? (Available from our website or in hard copy)

- Yes
- No

6a) If so, did you find it useful?

- Yes
- No

7. What irrigation district or trading zone is your property in?

8. Please provide any additional comments, suggestions or feedback on the Pilot Environmental Water Purchase project.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire on the MDBC Pilot Environmental Water Purchase project.