

March 2020

# Tasmanian Irrigation

Working with Producers to Grow the Wealth of Tasmania

## Northern Midlands Irrigation Scheme

### Continued scheme support

The Northern Midlands Irrigation Scheme (NMIS) forms one of Tasmanian Irrigations (TI) Tranche Three suite of irrigation schemes. Expressions of interest have continued to demonstrate strong support for the scheme and now totals 18,425ML.

### Scheme update

The current concept for the scheme is a summer delivery of 76ML/day, with a 180 day season with water to be extracted from the Poatina tail race.

There are four pump stations and two balance tanks.

Following community consultation of the concept outlined in our September newsletter which incorporated water from Tunbridge and provided connectivity with the Midlands Water Scheme, we have revised the concept to only source water from Poatina initially.

Additional interest in water supply also received as a result of the consultation, highlighting the importance of reliable summer water supply to the further development of the Northern Midlands region.

TI is now working toward being able to present a Preferred Option to the district in June 2020 for wider public comment ahead of water sales.

Water sales will be open to any landholder or person who is able to show a tie to lands within the area (ie lease) regardless of any expression of interest to date.

With the current impacts of the COVID19 pandemic it is likely that Tasmanian Irrigation will need to undertake release of the Preferred Option for comment and Water Sales without our normal public meeting briefings. To this end, we would encourage people who may be interested to receive copies of our Preferred Option and Water Sales documents to ensure that their preferred contact details are available to Tasmanian Irrigation.

### Pipeline to Prosperity Update

Tasmanian Irrigation has successfully constructed 10 irrigation schemes as part of Tranche One and delivered a further four under Tranche Two with the fifth currently being commissioned. The combined capacity of these schemes allows the delivery of in excess of 150,000 ML of high reliability irrigation water annually.

Of the current 10 schemes being investigated as part of Tranche Three five are being progressed as part of phase one. These five schemes consist of Don, Northern Midlands, Tamar, Sassafras Wesley Vale Irrigation Scheme Augmentation and Fingal.

Don is the first scheme to reach the Preferred Option stage of development with the Preferred Option public launch held on 10 March 2020. The remaining four schemes are at various stages of working towards Preferred Options.

## Next Steps

The next step for the scheme is the finalisation of a Preferred Option for the scheme in the next couple of months. Once approved by the TI Board this will be presented to the public for feedback. Once this feedback period has concluded any valid commentary will be considered prior to the scheme progressing to water sales .

The Preferred Option is currently expected to be presented to the community in June 2020.

## Further Assessments

Once water sales have been completed, detailed planning will commence on the actual scheme design to meet water sales. During this period the following on-ground activities will occur

- Farmer consultation on pipeline alignments
- Finalisation of alignment and infrastructure
- Detailed heritage, flora and fauna surveys
- Updated Enterprise Mix and Margin
- Geotechnical assessments of the pipeline route
- Identification of key asset locations and landholder impact discussions (pump stations, balance tanks)

## Project Delivery targets

- Preparation of the Business Case for Government Funding June 2021
- Construction Oct 21—Jan 24
- First full season 24/25

## Covid-19 & Tasmanian Irrigation

During these uncertain times we wish to note that we are trying to keep things as normal as we can. We are still working, albeit remotely.

In order to keep our staff and customers safe much of our communication over the next few months will be electronic and ask that you provide email and/or phone contact details if you haven't already so we can keep in touch.

## Scheme Contacts

### NMIS Irrigator Representative Committee

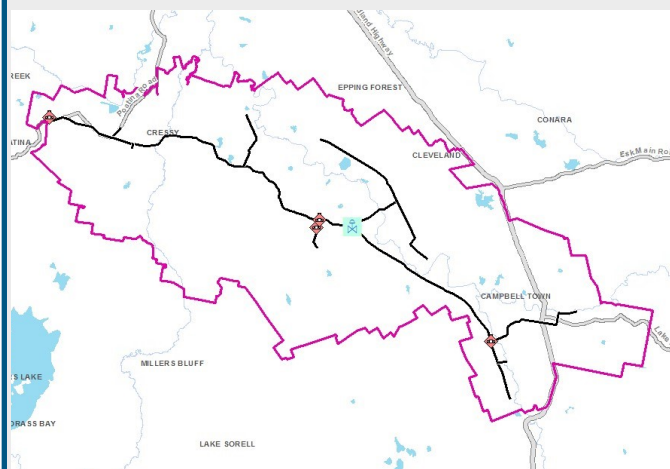
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### TI Project Manager

Ian Smith - 0488 153 346

## Northern Midlands Area of Interest

A map and additional information on the Northern Midlands Irrigation Scheme (NMIS) can be found on the TI website at: [www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au](http://www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au)



This newsletter contains information of a general nature and reasonable care has been taken to ensure accuracy at the time of publication.

Scheme details and policies may change and individual circumstances may vary. This newsletter should not be relied upon as a basis of individual decision-making. For more information and details regarding the articles in this issue, please contact:

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