

Chairman's report

Friday 19 June 2015



Murray Irrigation

This is the Chairman's report, following a meeting of the Murray Irrigation Board of Directors yesterday.

Chief Executive Officer Mr Michael Renehan to start on Monday

Our new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Michael Renehan commences on Monday 22 June. The Board is looking forward to Michael commencing and building on the work completed by Dr Stephen (Steve) Gumley. I am enthusiastic about the leadership experience Michael will bring to Murray Irrigation, our shareholders, staff and the region.

Michael recently met with our Management Team and has received detailed briefings about our business, the issues we are dealing with and the Board's priorities. This preparation will allow Michael to 'hit the ground running' next week.

One of Michael's priorities is to meet with shareholders across the region and I am looking forward to introducing Michael to shareholders to discuss issues confronting us all. At this stage planning is underway to arrange for meetings to be held in August. This will give Michael some time to "find his feet" but still be very early in his tenure with us.

I am also pleased to advise Murray Irrigation's offer of employment for the position of Company Secretary has been accepted. Murray Irrigation has engaged Ross Mallett in this role. Ross has extensive experience as a Company Secretary with qualifications in Corporate Management, Business and Law. Ross will bring a depth of experience in corporate governance to Murray Irrigation which is extremely important to our operations. Ross' appointment will benefit our risk management and internal procedures leading to ongoing improvement. Ross is expected to commence in mid-July.

Shareholder elections

The Board today agreed to the timetable for the 2015 shareholder director election. Three shareholder directors retire by rotation at the conclusion of the 2015 Annual General Meeting. Details of the election process will be announced in the July *Chairman's report* with the call for nominations scheduled for August. The directors retiring by rotation are Michael Hughes, Roger Reynoldson and Mark Robertson.

Fees and Prices Policy update and debt management procedure

In preparation for commencement of the 2015/16 Fees and Prices, the Board approved changes to its Fees and Prices Policy, to reflect the policy changes announced in the May *Chairman's report*.

In last month's *Chairman's report* there was also reference to the Debt Management Procedure and tightening of our terms to be more commercial. The Board approved the Debt Management Procedure which describes our approach from 1 July 2015.

The Fees and Prices Policy and Debt Management Procedure will be available from the 'Customer' section of our website www.murrayirrigation.com.au next week.

Australasian Reporting Awards

Last night Murray Irrigation won the Communication Award at the Australasian Reporting Awards. This is an international competition covering Australia, New Zealand and south eastern Asia. There were three finalists in the Communication Award with Murray Irrigation competing against Wesfarmers and Meridian Energy. This is an outstanding achievement, following on from being a finalist in 2014. Congratulations to our External Relations Team, in particular Catharine Heffernan, designer Langdon Lorraine, photographer Nick Robinson and our shareholders who feature in the report. This is a prestigious award and the Board congratulates all involved in the report's preparation and production.

Bruce Simpson
Chairman