

Media release



Murray Irrigation

Monday 27 July 2015

PIIOP: a significant contributor to local communities

Murray Irrigation's Private Irrigation Infrastructure Operators Program (PIIOP) is employing many local people and contractors and is looking to increase construction activities during 2015/16.

This includes expenditure on local services in the region, locally and regionally based contractors, and irrigation infrastructure. With approximately \$50 million expected to be spent on the project over the next 12 months, the buzz of activity isn't expected to slow down any time soon.

Contractors already engaged in the PIIOP project include CAF, Millers Pipe & Civil, CPE Construction, Pat Ash & Civil, Murray Trotman Services, KB Engineering, Mawsons Concrete, Deniliquin Irrigation Contracting, Fuller Earthworks and Rendells – plus others that are still under negotiation.

PIIOP Principal Project Manager Warren Jose said the PIIOP project is scheduled to be completed in October 2017.

"Works are very well advanced around Deniliquin and Finley," Mr Jose said.

"The focus will soon shift west to areas around Wakool and Moulamein.

"The scale of PIIOP is enormous. As I've said before, the project is a once in a generation opportunity for Murray Irrigation and its customers.

"It has the ability to re-shape our irrigation supply system for the benefit of all our irrigation customers - both now and into the future – and the potential to lift our service levels to support a new age of agricultural productivity across the region."

Murray Irrigation has already installed more than 600 new irrigation outlets under PIIOP, while approximately 110 regulators have been installed this winter. There are about 2,000 outlets and 250 regulators still to be installed over the next two years.

The PIIOP project has also created many new job opportunities across the wider region.

"Everything from manufacturers of infrastructure to the contractors installing the outlets and regulators – the project has created many job opportunities," Mr Jose said.

"There's certainly plenty of activity happening at the moment.

"And with a target completion date of October 2017, you can expect that to continue for the next couple of years.

"It's an exciting time for the region overall."

For more information on the PIIOP project, including customer testimonials and project maps, visit Murray Irrigation's website www.murrayirrigation.com.au and click on 'PIIOP'.

Murray Irrigation's PIIOP project has received funding of \$169.2 million from the Australian Government's Private Irrigation Infrastructure Operators Program (PIIOP) in NSW.

Ends.

Photo1: Warren Jose, Principal Project Manager - PIIOP

Photo2: Deniliquin Irrigation Contracting staff installing a metered syphon near Finley as part of Murray Irrigation's PIIOP project.

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