



**Murray Irrigation**

## **PIIOP: a once in a generation opportunity**

Despite having only started working with Murray Irrigation on 22 April 2015, it hasn't taken me long to realise the significance of the Private Irrigation Infrastructure Operators Program (PIIOP) project.

This 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.

We have already achieved significant success to date. Most recently, Murray Irrigation installed its 500<sup>th</sup> outlet under PIIOP. We've also conducted more than 2,000 outlet consultations with customers so far. And, there is so much more to do.

While the 2014/15 irrigation season has officially come to an end, it's all systems go at the PIIOP Project, including the following updates:

- CAF from Shepparton has been commissioned to undertake field survey works in the west of our area (Divisions 14, 15 and 17 to 21) stretching from Deniliquin in the east, to Moulamein in the west, and Bunnaloo to the south. The field survey works will be carried out on channel regulators and outlets between May and August, and are required to support the ongoing design and construction process of the PIIOP project.
- Three regionally based contractors, Millers Pipe & Civil and CPE Construction (both from Cobram), and Pat Ash & Civil (Numurkah), have been awarded contracts to install a total of 116 channel regulators/offtakes during 2015, in in the east of our area (Divisions 4 to 7 and 10) from Berrigan to Jerilderie and west to Conargo and Deniliquin. These works are now underway and are scheduled for completion in August.
- We are in discussions with a number of contractors based in Deniliquin and surrounding areas, who will be considered for inclusion on a construction panel to install more than 100 customer outlets in the east of our area of operations (Divisions 2 to 12) during the next three months. A total of approximately 2,000 outlets remain to be installed on the project over the next two years.
- Murray Trotman Services from Deniliquin has been commissioned to install more than 500 Central Remote Control (CRC) mechanical installations on our regulators as part of our Standard Level of Service (SLOS) program across the region during 2015.

So, as a result there will be many, many sites being upgraded throughout Murray Irrigation's area of operations in the next two to three months and customers can expect to see a higher level of vehicle activity around channels.

In closing, I'd like to thank all staff at Murray Irrigation for the warm welcome I've received so far, and look forward to working with our customers to achieve a successful outcome on this very important project.

For more information on our PIIOP project, visit our website [www.murrayirrigation.com.au](http://www.murrayirrigation.com.au) and click on 'PIIOP'.

**Warren Jose**  
**Principal Project Manager - PIIOP**

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