



Murray Irrigation board responsibilities targeted

The interim board of Murray Irrigation will embark on a concerted education campaign to ensure potential candidates completely understand the role of company directors.

Chairman Phil Snowden said the interim board met in full for the first time yesterday (Wednesday 6 December) in Finley and resolved to contact landholder associations and offer their members an Australian Institute of Company Directors briefing session on the responsibilities of directors.

"I know from my own experience as a recent candidate that I did not have a full grasp of Murray Irrigation director responsibilities and expectations," Mr Snowden said.

"Directors have a responsibility to the entire shareholder base, not just to a geographic landholder association. This is often misunderstood.

"The other misconception is the blurred line that exists between the company's role in advocacy and that of Southern Riverina Irrigators (SRI) and our landholder associations.

"If we can get these fundamentals understood, then we should get a high calibre of board candidates," he said.

The interim board also wasted no time in meeting with the new chair of SRI, Gabrielle Coupland, who was elected to the role the previous evening.

"Gabrielle said SRI was keen to work with the interim board in providing shareholder feedback that will help guide the makeup and candidature of the new board," Mr Snowden said.

Mr Snowden said the interim board wanted landholder associations to search their areas for talented, committed individuals who have the potential to develop into high calibre members of the Murray Irrigation board, and effective delegates and chairs of SRI and NSW Irrigators' Council.

"This development for future leadership is something we need to focus on," he said.

The interim board's next meeting will be held in Deniliquin on 21 December.

Ends.

Media contact: Erica Laing, M. 0429 819 307.