WRITTEN SUBMISSION CONFIRMED: Essential Services Commission's review of the water third party access regime in South Australia

Hello Mark,

From a livestock water perspective when we first started looking at third party access the taking of water and storage during the off peak season was the biggest issue preventing uptake of the scheme. At the time livestock producers were experiencing high increases in water prices but this was offset by increasing livestock returns so the interest in third party access dwindled.

However things have now changed with reduced livestock returns and no substantial increases in water prices for some time. It is inevitable that an increase in water prices will occur at some time soon and that cost of mains water will be an issue once again for livestock producers. This will possibly rekindle an interest in third party access.

The scheme really is designed for irrigators with water demand occurring in season and not for livestock producers who need water all year round. This needs to be considered as part of the review.

Water security is vital to the States livestock production economy so any measures that can be implemented to maintain or increase that security needs to be made available.

Regards,

Henry Angas Chair - Coorong District Local Action Plan Committee Section 41 Committee of Coorong District Council