

Newsletter to Barossa Infrastructure Customers

The South Australian River Murray Sustainability Irrigation Industry Improvement Program (SARMS-3IP) 1st Round has been announced. Registration of Interest will close on 17 January 2014.

The Program complements outcomes sought from the Murray-Darling Basin Plan: South Australian Implementation Strategy 2013-2019 by facilitating:

- improved water efficiency of irrigation operations in South Australia
- transition to sustainable diversion limits in the Murray-Darling Basin, consistent with Basin Plan requirements
- transfer of Water Access Entitlement (WAE) to the Australian Government for environmental use
- creation of opportunities for economic diversification and regional development for Basin communities in South Australia
- increased productivity of irrigation businesses to underpin the profitability and sustainability of the South Australian River Murray irrigation industry.

Details are on <http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/sarms-iiip/participate#participation>

Application forms on https://forms.business.gov.au/smartforms/landing.htm?formCode=3IP_EOI_Round1

To be eligible you must meet all of the criteria below which are mandatory and applicable to the overall 3IP:

1. hold a current Australian Business Number (ABN)
2. be a legal entity capable of entering into a Funding Agreement with the Minister and/or delegate
3. contribute toward South Australia's water recovery targets under the Basin Plan by being able to transfer at least 10 ML of eligible WAE to the Minister via the Irrigation Efficiency or Water Returns Investment Streams, or at least 20 ML if seeking to access both funding streams
4. ensure and demonstrate that, where it is proposed to transfer eligible WAE, shares have been secured prior to the closing date for lodgement of Stage Two Applications, and that Eligible WAE are unencumbered at the time of settlement
5. ensure they have not received funding from other Australian Government programs in respect of the same projects and activities
6. plan to invest Program funding in an enterprise that will remain viable until at least 31 December 2019 (if seeking investment from the Irrigation Efficiency and/ or Irrigation Industry Assistance streams)
7. be willing to enter into a legally binding agreement with the Minister.

Customers with BIL shares are able to use BIL water leases to meet criteria 3 and 4, however you must apply for the program yourself and BIL will provide the required certificate.

If you are successful, the cost of the BIL Leases will be their replacement cost to BIL for surrender of the leases plus 10% to cover BIL's costs (about \$1750/ ML). You may also buy these leases yourself to meet the required volume to be surrendered.

If you are interested please contact me to discuss further.

Contact for BIL Operations

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