



Northern Australia Irrigation Futures

Providing new knowledge, tools, and processes to support debate and decision making regarding irrigation in northern Australia

FACE TO FACE MEETING OF THE NAIF STEERING COMMITTEE AND THE NAIF STAKEHOLDER REFERENCE GROUP

Wednesday 18 October 2006

2.55pm

EPA Conference Room, 2nd Floor Plaza Building, Darwin

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

Present: *Steering Committee Members:* Murray Chapman; Kev Devlin; Ian Lancaster (Chair); Anwen Lovett; Wayne Meyer; John Ruprecht; Christine Schweizer
State and Territory Support Staff: Matt Darcey, Glen Starkey
Stakeholder Reference Group Members: Rob Boshammer; Gianni D'Addario; John Eddy; Dan Halloran; Geoff Strickland; Graham Webb.
NAIF Project Team Members: Keith Bristow; Jeff Camkin; Freeman Cook; Peta Dzidic; Bart Kellett; Cuan Petheram; Di Popham (Minutes). Ian Atkinson (observing)

Apologies: Barry Louvel, Patricia Julien, Vern Veitch, Andrew Kelly, Fiona Bartlett, Tom Cruthers.

Key points:

- Not unexpectedly, there were a wide range of views presented by SRG members.
- The NAIF SRG does not represent the full spectrum of stakeholders and it may not be achievable.
- NAIF should aim to facilitate improved decision making, including learning from the past, but not provide excuses to avoid decisions being taken.
- SRG members supported the concept of bringing together science and other knowledge, tools and processes through the Sustainability Framework. This will increase availability and utilisation and help ensure that decisions are based on good science.
- Stakeholders need to be involved in the development of the Sustainability Framework to increase the sense of ownership and ensure that stakeholders are not disempowered.

- There was support for the NAIF SRG continuing. Members accepted the constraints on meeting as a group but considered the current approach to be adding value.
- SRG members should look to gain informal input from their individual and personal contacts. The project team will aim to have in place more formal arrangements with key stakeholders.
- SRG members to advise the NAIF team (Jeff Camkin) of any perceived gaps in representation on the SRG and suggestions on how to address those gaps.
- The project team would appreciate information and documents on any work relevant to NAIF (eg. tropical irrigation, decision making, tropical water systems and mosaics)