



Region 6 Ordinary Meeting

AGENDA

Location:	Coorong District Council 95-101 Railway Terrace, Tailem Bend SA 5260
Time/date:	9.30am for 10am start, Friday 19 October 2018
Guests:	Kate Husband, Regional Engagement Officer, MDBA Emily Jenke, Basin Community Committee

1. ATTENDANCE

- 1.1 Present:
- 1.2 Apologies: Peter Mettam (DEW)

2. WELCOME

- 2.1 Housekeeping: safety, toilets and catering.

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

4. MINUTES

Recommended Resolution

That the minutes of the previous meeting on 17 August 2016 at Alexandrina Council, Goolwa be accepted as a true and correct summary of that meeting – Attachment A.

5. GUEST SPEAKERS

- 5.1 Kate Husband – Regional Engagement Officer, MDBA
- 5.2 Emily Jenke – Basin Community Committee

6. BUSINESS ARISING

- 6.1 Action List – Attachment B.
- 6.2 Update – Future of the Barrages (Alexandrina)

A joint letter from Mayor Parkes of Alexandrina Council, Mayor Jaensch of Coorong District Council and Mayor Lewis from Rural City of Murray Bridge was sent to Minister Speirs on 3 August 2018. A follow-up email was sent to the Office of Minister Speirs on 4 October 2018 who advise that the response from the Department is currently with a Ministerial Adviser for review before being progressed to the Minister.

6. REPORTS

6.1 CEO's Report

6.2 Chair's Report

6.3 Executive Officer Report

- Submitted content for MDA August e-newsletter
- Attended MDA National Conference – 29 to 31 August 2018
- Provided documents to Rebekha Sharkie's office re R6 advocacy with respect to future of the Barrages – September 2018
- Submitted content for MDA September e-newsletter
- Presented to Alexandrina Council on behalf of Region 6 – 2 October 2018
- Supported meeting of Region 6 Executive – 5 October 2018
- Assisted Region 5 with securing speaker for December 2018 meeting re management of CLLMM
- Wrote submission on draft Productivity Commission report – 10 October 2018
- Provided speaking notes for Vincent Cammell for PC Public Hearing – 15 October 2018
- Presented at CLLMM CAP on behalf of Region 6 – 18 October 2018

6.4 Media Comments

Note recent articles re upstream advocacy as to 450GL socio-economic neutrality test being planned for December 2018 meeting of Ministerial Council. MDA-R6 Executive to discuss whether any pro-active advocacy is needed from MDA-R6 and/or MDA Inc ahead of Ministerial Council.

<https://www.countrynews.com.au/2018/10/14/277124/farmers-take-water-fight-to-melbourne>
<https://www.countrynews.com.au/2018/10/16/277353/patience-runs-out>

Recommended Resolution

That the above reports be accepted.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Outcomes of MDA National Conference 2018

A record of resolutions from the 2018 Annual General Meeting is available online, along with copies of action taken by the MDA in response to these resolutions. As they are received, responses from the various agencies will also be uploaded onto this page.

<http://www.mda.asn.au/major-events/2018-agm-resolutions.aspx>

Sli.do questions from National Conference are also available online. Responses from agencies will be posted here as they are received:

<http://www.mda.asn.au/74th-agm-presenter-questions.aspx>

7.2 Submission: Productivity Commission – Attachment C

The Productivity Commission's draft report was released in late August 2018. The draft report was reviewed against the submission dated 27 April 2018 made by MDA-R6 on the earlier Issues Paper.

MDA-R6 Executive approved a submission on the draft report, noting that it would be subject to retrospective endorsement by the broader membership of MDA-R6 at this meeting.

Recommended Resolution

That MDA-R6 note and endorse the submission dated 10 October 2018 made to the Productivity Commission in relation to the draft findings of the Murray Darling Basin Plan – Five Year Assessment Draft Report.

7.3 Use of environmental water for drought relief

In recent months, there have been calls for water held by the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH) to be made available to support farmers and irrigators experiencing dry conditions in Victoria and New South Wales.

Recommended resolution:

That Region 6:

- express our support and empathy for farmers and communities throughout the Murray-Darling Basin currently being impacted by drought;
- note our continuing support for full and timely implementation of the Basin Plan which seeks to restore balance between water for the environment and water for consumptive use, including in times of drought; and
- record our opposition to legislative amendments which would alter the current framework applying to the trade or use of water allocations held by the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder.

7.4 MDA Region 6 AGM

The 2018 AGM of MDA-R6 would normally fall due at the next meeting scheduled for 21 December 2018. Given the forthcoming local government elections and proximity of the December meeting date to Christmas, it is suggested that the Region 6 AGM be postponed until February 2019.

Recommended Resolution

That the 2018 AGM of Murray Darling Association Region 6 be postponed until 15 February 2019 to accommodate local government elections in November 2018 and enable sufficient time for Member Councils to appoint Member Council Representatives.

7.5 Any other business?

9. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Next Meeting: Friday 21 December 2018 at Murray Bridge

10. CLOSE

The Murray Darling Association acknowledges and thanks Coorong District Council for its support in hosting this meeting of Region 6 – Lower Murray, Lakes and Coorong.



**Murray Darling Association Inc.
Region 6 Ordinary Meeting**

MINUTES

Date: 17 August 2018
Time: 9.30am for 10am start
Venue: Large Meeting Room, Alexandrina
Council, 11 Cadell Street, Goolwa

1. ATTENDANCE

1.1. Present :

Voting Members:

Cr Barry Featherston	Alexandrina Council
Tony Wilson (proxy)	Rural City of Murray Bridge
Cr Julie Barrie	Coorong District Council
Cr Clem Schubert	Rural City of Murray Bridge
Cr Michael Scott	Alexandrina Council

Guests:

Vincent Cammell	Coorong District Council
Shen Mann	MDA-R6 Executive Officer
Ian Mann	Private Member Region 5

1.2. Apologies:

Glenn Rappensberg	Alexandrina Council
Frank Tuckwell	Alexandrina Council
Vern Leng	Coorong District Council
Heather Barclay	Rural City of Murray Bridge
Malcolm Downie	Rural City of Murray Bridge

2. WELCOME

2.1. **Housekeeping: Fire safety, toilets & catering.**

2.2. **Conflict of interest: Material / Actual / Perceived**

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolution

That the minutes of the previous meeting of MDA-R6 held on 15 June 2018 be accepted as a true & correct summary of those meetings.

**Moved – Cr Schubert, Seconded Cr Barrie
CARRIED**

4. GUEST SPEAKERS

3.1 Michelle Campbell, Local Engagement Officer, Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder

In response to questions and concerns raised by Cr Schubert at previous meetings, Michelle was invited to speak about the management of return flows from wetland and floodplain environmental watering events, including management of blackwater and salinity impacts.

Michelle's presentation was very well received by those in attendance. Members were interested to hear about the importance of Menindee Lakes and the Lower Darling for South Australian fish stocks and valued the clear explanation of how environmental water is used and reused to support environmental assets along the whole length of the river as it travels down the system toward Region 6 and the Murray Mouth.

3.2 Joanne Pfeiffer, Member of MDBA Basin Community Committee

Jo was recently reappointed to the Murray Darling Basin Authority's Basin Community Committee (BCC). Jo spoke about her background as an irrigator on the Lower Murray Swamps at Murray Bridge, and her reasons for being involved in the BCC. Jo emphasised the importance of community engagement and grassroots involvement in providing feedback to the MDBA about Basin Plan implementation, and encouraged Region 6 to engage with the newly appointed Regional Engagement Officer, Kate Husband.

Cr Featherston issued an open invitation for Jo to attend future meetings of Region 6 and indicated that local BCC representatives could/should be invited to future inter-regional MDA meetings. Emily Jenke is another local person who was recently appointed to the BCC for the first time. Emily will attend the October 2018 meeting of Region 6.

5. BUSINESS ARISING

4.1 Update –Barrages Taskforce

Anne Liddell, Alexandrina Council

A joint letter from Mayor Parkes of Alexandrina Council, Mayor Jaensch of Coorong District Council and Mayor Lewis from Rural City of Murray Bridge was sent to Minister Speirs on 3 August 2018. The Minister has been asked to advise whether he will consider establishing an intergovernmental taskforce on the future of the Barrages. The letter was also copied to locals MPs Adrian Pederick and David Basham. No response has been received as yet.

Following local government elections in November 2018, Alexandrina will look to host an induction forum for Elected Members of all three councils in February/March 2018 on climate change challenges for the Coorong and Lower Lakes, which will likely include a tour of the Barrages by SA Water. Minister Speirs has been invited to participate in this event.

6. STANDING ITEMS

6.1. Action List

Attachment A

Outstanding items from the Action List were reviewed. A revised Action List is attached to these minutes.

6.2. CEO's Report

Emma Bradbury

Emma spoke to:

- the program for the upcoming national conference;
- advocacy efforts relating to the need for a revised socio-economic neutrality test which will restore confidence in the Basin Plan and enable a pathway for recovery of the 450GL; and
- discussions on foot to extend the current MOU between the MDBA and MDA.

6.3. Chair's Report

Cr Featherston

Cr Featherston noted that MDBA Chair Neil Andrew has expressed his support for being involved in future inter-regional meetings of the MDA in South Australia. Cr Featherston will speak with other SA Chairs about encouraging the LGA to call future meetings, with the aim to hold two per year. The 2019 national conference is being held in Toowoomba and the Board is seeking expressions of interest for 2020. If either Coorong or Murray Bridge are interested to host the 2020 national conference they should seek support from their Councils before submitting an EOI to the Board.

6.4. Executive Officer Report

Shen Mann

- Finalised supporting material for Region 6 AGM motions
- Wrote letter to the editor for The Advertiser on behalf of Mayors
- Organised & attended inter-regional meeting at LGA House on 17 July 2018
- Provided content for June edition of MDA newsletter
- Liaised with Courtney Blacker of CommShake Media & Engagement re marketing of MDA Region 6
- Supported meeting of Region 6 Executive – 3 August 2018

6.5. Media Comments

All

A joint letter from Mayor Parkes of Alexandrina Council, Mayor Jaensch of Coorong District Council and Mayor Lewis from Rural City of Murray was published in The Advertiser on 21 June 2018. Positive feedback was received by Cr Barrie via her involvement in the CLLMM CAP and via email from the River Lakes & Coorong Action Group.

Mayor Parkes appeared on 891 ABC Radio with David Bevan on 5 August 2018. The program also heard from farmers, a representative of the River Lakes & Coorong Action Group, State Water Minister David Speirs, Professor Sarah Wheeler from the Centre of Global Food and Resources, and Chair of the River Murray Advisory Committee, Peter Duggan.

Link: <http://www.abc.net.au/radio/adelaide/programs/mornings/mornings/10041484>

During the Mayo by-election Rebekha Sharkie issued a media release calling for the establishment of an SA Murray Research Institute. Region 6 Executive is reaching out to her office to invite Ms Sharkie to engage with Region 6 about this initiative.

Link: http://www.rebekhasharkie.com.au/research_institute_crucial_for_resilient_river_in_sa

Resolution

That the above reports be accepted.

**Moved Cr Schubert - Seconded Cr Barrie
CARRIED**

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1. MDA AGM Motions

Resolution

That Region 6 Member Council Delegates be encouraged to vote as follows at the 2018 AGM of the Murray Darling Association:

Motion	Vote	Notes
1	Support	
2	Abstain	Issue specific to Victoria
3	Support	
4	Support	Advice sought from Jarrod Eaton. Statements contained in key arguments are correct. South Australian has been calling on Victoria to ensure its planning provisions are consistent with Basin Plan objectives.
5	Support	
6	Support	
7	Support	
8	Support	
9	Support	
10	Support subject to amendment	Cr Featherston to write to Chair of Region 4 suggesting an amendment to call for an evaluation of the need for and benefits of creating a National Water Ombudsman
11	Support	
12	Support	
13	Support	
14	Support	
15	Support	
16	Oppose	Advice sought from Jarrod Eaton. These issues are being assessed as a project under the SDL adjustment mechanism. NSW doesn't have a preferred position as yet and will be undertaking a full Environmental Impact Study.
17	Support	
18	TBC	Executive Officer to seek advice from State Government

**Moved Cr Barrie - Seconded Cr Schubert
CARRIED**

7.2. Murray Darling Basin Royal Commission

Resolution:

That Region 6:

1. Note the concerning media reports of evidence being put to the Murray-Darling Basin Royal Commission regarding integrity of the science underpinning Basin Plan water recovery targets;
2. Express the view that these concerns reaffirm the importance of ensuring that all Basin States work together in good faith to prioritise recovery of the 450GL.

**Moved Cr Scott – Seconded Tony Wilson
CARRIED**

7.3. National Carp Control Plan

Resolution:

That Region 6:

1. Acknowledge the serious concerns expressed by community within the Lower Murray, Lakes and Coorong (Region 6) with respect to the water quality, human health and regional amenity risks of releasing a biological carp control virus.
2. Call on the National Carp Control Plan to engage strongly with local governments throughout the Basin to ensure that community concerns and the potential role of local government in any clean-up process are robustly researched and analysed prior to making recommendations to the Federal Government on the best suite of measures to control carp.

**Moved Cr Scott – Seconded Tony Wilson
CARRIED**

7.4. Strategic Directions – Engagement Strategy

Resolution

1. That Region 6 adopt the name “Region 6 – Lower Murray, Lakes and Coorong”.
2. That for local marketing purposes, Region 6 use the following name and tagline: “Murray to Mouth: Working together to secure a freshwater future for the Lower Murray, Lakes and Coorong”.
3. That the Region 6 Executive Officer develop related web content, promotional flyer and media release to enable implementation of key actions from the Region 6 Communications and Engagement Plan.

**Moved Cr Barrie – Seconded Tony Wilson
CARRIED**

7.5. Submission – River Murray Water Allocation Plan

The Water Allocation Plan (WAP) for the River Murray Prescribed Watercourse is currently open for consultation. Submissions are due Friday 14 September 2018.

Natural Resources SA Murray-Darling Basin have presented separately to Alexandrina, Coorong and Murray Bridge councils on the key changes included in the WAP.

The Executive Officer to consider preparation of a brief submission on behalf of Alexandrina, Coorong and Murray Bridge councils and liaise with Mayoral offices to obtain signatures.

7.6. Any other business?

ACTION: Shen to draft media release on behalf of three councils re Region 6 resolutions and/or outcomes of National Conference.

8. NEXT MEETING

Date & Time: 19 October 2018, 9.30am for 10am start

Location: Coorong District Council, 95-101 Railway Terrace, Taillem Bend

9. CLOSE.

MDA Region 6 - Minutes Action List - as at 17 October 2018

Minute	Item	Details	Responsible Person	Target Completion Date	Notes	Review
April 2017 April 2018	9.4	<p>Lake Albert-Coorong Connector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Write to DEWNR seeking confirmation regarding the Lake Albert connector to seek if it is still under consideration. - Speak with Faith Coleman - Determine position of current MP for McKillop, Nick McBride. 	Chair/EO	TBC	Will potentially be reconsidered for investment by new Liberal State Government to address plight of Coorong South Lagoon. EO to advocate for further investigations via State Government consultation process.	Waiting on outcomes of Coorong Summit/Goyder Report to be released.
006/15 Oct	5.4	<p>MDA Region 6 Executive Officer – 1 day per week for 12 months</p> <p>Jointly funded by Alexandrina, Coorong and Murray Bridge (\$7K each). Position advertised on 8 December 2017 and applications close 5 January 2018. Selection panel to include representation from each Council. At conclusion of 12 months, R6 will review the effectiveness of the position with a view to recommending its continuance and funding.</p>	Alexandrina	February 2019	Shen Mann of Alexandrina Council appointed in February 2018 and resigned September 2018. Review of position to occur prior to Feb 2019 in time for 19/20 budget bid cycle.	
Feb 2018	4.2	<p>Future of the Barrages</p> <p>Anne Liddell to provide regular updates on progress to each R6 Ordinary Meeting.</p>	Anne Liddell/EO	Ongoing	Letter sent to Minister 3 August 2018. No reply as yet.	Follow up email sent to Minister's office on 4 October.
Feb 2018	5.4	<p>Regional Secretariat Position Description / Task List</p> <p>Shen to work with Emma to develop standardised position description/task list for regional secretariats.</p>	EO	As time allows		
Feb 2018	6.1	<p>Priorities from Strategic Directions Report</p> <p>EO to prepare Engagement Strategy (Priority 3), Scoping Briefs for Priorities 2a, 2b and 2d and a response to MDBA socio-economic data (Priority 4a)</p>	EO	Ongoing	Engagement Strategy presented at April 2018 meeting and branding proposal at August 2018 meeting (Priority 3). MDBA Chief Economist invited to inter-regional meeting on 11 July 2018 (Priority 4a).	Recommendation= focus on providing information & facilitating debate re water quality via State Government consultation on restoring health of Coorong.



* Denotes Item Completed & will be removed next meeting

MDA Region 6 - Minutes Action List - as at 17 October 2018

Minute	Item	Details	Responsible Person	Target Completion Date	Notes	Review
Feb 2018	6.2	City of Victor Harbor Barry & Keith to jointly approach new CVH CEO with respect to membership of the MDA.	Chair/Keith Loeser	2018	R6 marketing collateral being developed to support recruitment drive.	
April 2018 Aug 2018	6.3 7.4	Engagement Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All MDA-R6 members to provide details to Shen of industry & community stakeholder groups to be approached for Organisational Membership of MDA-R6 - Region name and branding adopted August 2018: "Murray to Mouth: Working together to secure a freshwater future for the Lower Murray, Lakes and Coorong". - Web content, promotional flyer and media release to be developed. 	EO	Update in October 2018	EO to undertake recruitment drive in collaboration with Chair once new marketing material available.	
June 2018	5.4	Council Briefings EO to brief Alexandrina in August 2018, liaise with Heather re 2018 briefing for RCMB and brief Coorong post-LG election	EO	August 2018	Alexandrina – briefing undertaken on 2 October Murray Bridge – briefing date?	
June 2018	6.3	Ideas for guest speakers at future meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jarod Eaton - Professor Mike Young - Salinity Management - Goyder re alternative water sources for urban areas i.e. desal & recycled 	EO	As appropriate	Review appropriate time/topic to invite speakers that aligns with Strategic Directions.	DEW invited to October 2018 meeting re Coorong Summit Outcomes. Waiting on availability for Dec 2018 meeting.
June 2018	6.4	Coorong Summit EO to liaise with State Government re hosting a local consultation forum in collaboration with Coorong District Council once draft report has been released for public consultation.	EO	Report back October 2018	Offer has been extended to DEW – who have indicated willingness to work together to host local consultation events. Waiting on update re dates for consultation. Reports due for "imminent release" as at 4 October.	



* Denotes Item Completed & will be removed next meeting

MDA Region 6 - Minutes Action List - as at 17 October 2018

Minute	Item	Details	Responsible Person	Target Completion Date	Notes	Review
August 2018	6.3	Future Inter-Regional Meetings Liaise with other SA Chairs re asking LGA to host future meetings – possibility two per year.	Cr Featherston	October 2018		
August 2018	7.6	Media Release re Region 6 Resolutions and/or outcomes of National Conference	EO	October 2018		



* Denotes Item Completed & will be removed next meeting



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10 October 2018

**AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION
LOCKED BAG 2
COLLINS STREET EAST
MELBOURNE VIC 8003**

Dear Commissioner Doolan,

Re: MURRAY DARLING BASIN PLAN – FIVE YEAR ASSESSMENT DRAFT REPORT

Murray Darling Association Region 6 (MDA-R6) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Productivity Commission's Draft Report.

This submission represents the views of the MDA-R6 Executive – and thus our three major member councils being Alexandrina Council, Coorong District Council and Rural City of Murray Bridge - and will be presented to the broader membership of MDA-R6 for endorsement at our upcoming meeting on 19 October 2018.

This submission should be read in conjunction with our original submission to the inquiry provided under cover of letter dated 27 April 2018. We also note and (subject to the additional comments provided below) support the post-report submission of our parent organisation, the Murray Darling Association, dated 3 October 2018.

- We absolutely welcome the Commission's focus on Basin Governments taking joint responsibility for implementing the Basin Plan. There is a desperate need for genuine commitment on the part of Basin Governments to collaborative implementation. This is particularly essential in the political environment that will inevitably precede the forthcoming Victorian, New South Wales and Federal elections. Basin States must commit the resources necessary to make up for the identified delays in progress i.e. towards accreditation of Water Resource Plans. There must be no more threats to walk away from the Plan or to only support certain key elements and not others where it is considered politically expedient to do so.
- With respect to recovery of the 450GL, we welcome the emphasis on ensuring that associated water recovery programs are targeted to ensure that they can and will contribute

to the achievement of enhanced environmental outcomes in the southern Basin. This approach is consistent with the general principle contained in Draft Recommendation 3.2. We also support the concept of program design incorporating greater consideration of socio-economic impacts as described in the MDA submission. We do however remain cautious about the increasing number of limitations being placed upon recovery of the 450GL and the attempts by some to set the bar for neutral socio-economic outcomes so high that it effectively becomes impossible to jump over. We also note Draft Finding 5.1 regarding stakeholder concerns about impacts of additional water recovery on regional communities. In response it is incumbent upon us to reiterate the devastating social, economic, cultural and environmental impacts the Millennium Drought had on our region. Let us not forget that failure to recover sufficient environmental water will inversely have negative impacts on regional communities such as ours.

- With respect to the 605GL supply projects, our key concern is that the river ultimately be returned to a sustainable level of take. As detailed in our original submission, MDA-R6 is of the understanding that current recovery targets represent the bare minimum needed to restore and maintain river health. If further investigations reveal that the proposed supply projects are unable to deliver equivalent environmental outcomes as intended, that water will still need to be recovered by other means – refer page 105 of the Full Report. Should this situation come to pass, the reality is that further consideration of water buybacks may be required in order to “make good” on water recovery targets. We submit that progress toward a political compact for “make good” arrangements (as per Draft Recommendation 4.3) is required sooner rather than later to protect against a lack of political will for further water recovery come 2024 or beyond should any of the 605GL supply projects fail to meet expectations.
- We acknowledge that good reasons exist for extending timelines with respect to Water Resource Plans, supply projects and efficiency measures. Nonetheless, in these dry times, the prospect of delayed environmental outcomes inevitably raises concerns for those of us situated at the very end of the river system. We support the Commission’s recommendation that if such extensions are to be given, this should be only be done where there is sufficient assurance that an extension would facilitate desired benefits, there is a clear pathway for successful delivery and the proposed timeline is credible – refer page 18 of the Overview Report.
- Our original submission placed significant emphasis on the importance of ensuring the Basin Plan is fit-for-purpose in a changing climate. We are thus disappointed to note that the Commission’s Overview Report makes no reference whatsoever to climate change, and the Full Report makes only passing references to this issue predominantly in relation to the provision of water for critical human water needs (CWHN) during dry times. We can only hope that the Water Resource Plan (WRPs) - and the 5-yearly reviews thereof as referenced on pages 155 and 167-8 of the Full Report - engage with the challenges of climate change in a more fulsome way. It will be incumbent upon the MDBA to ensure that WRPs do in fact contain adequate provision for extreme events (as indicated in Box 9.4 on page 202 of the Full Report) prior to accreditation. Of course, environmental outcomes - as well as CHWN - must also be planned and provided for in a warmer, drier climate. As identified on page 221 of the Full Report, one of the main objectives of the Basin Plan is to ensure that water-dependent ecosystems are resilient to climate change. Page 265 of the Full Report seems to indicate that a full and proper consideration of climate change impacts on Basin Plan water availability and management (and thus Sustainable Diversion Limits)

will necessarily need to be delayed until the next scheduled review of the Basin Plan in 2026. In a reform as complex as this an ethos of adaptive management and continuous improvement is of course essential however, by this time, we may be well on our way to CSIRO's prediction of a 13% decline in median river flows by 2030. Please refer to page 3 of our original submission for further comment on SDLs and climate change.

- Our original submission emphasised the importance of achieving end-of-system targets. We agree (as suggested on page 190 of the Full Report) that maintaining water quality which is fit-for-purpose by meeting salinity targets (including for the Lower Lakes at Milang) should be prioritised over meeting the salt export objective. We nonetheless welcome the acknowledgement that water flowing out to the Southern Ocean through the Murray Mouth is the only natural means by which salt can leave the Basin, as referenced on page 187 of the Full Report.
- We support the intent of Recommendation 11.7 regarding the value of non-flow works (such as habitat restoration and pest plant and animal control) to achieving beneficial environmental outcomes throughout the Basin but submit that such works must be treated as complementary to, and not a replacement for, sufficient recovery of environmental water. Adequate Federal funding for regional NRM bodies via the National Landcare Program would go a long way towards ensuring that Basin States are able to adequately resource such activities.

As communicated to the Commission's Lisa Tarzia, MDA-R6 representatives would welcome the opportunity to speak to our submission at the public hearing scheduled to occur on Monday 15 October 2018 at Murray Bridge.

If you require any further information from MDA-R6 in relation to this submission or our request to speak at the public hearing, please do not hesitate to contact the MDA-R6 Executive Officer, Shen Mann, on 08 8555 7000 or email alex@alexandrina.sa.gov.au

Yours sincerely



Councillor Barry Featherston
Chair
Murray Darling Association - Region 6