



Australian Government

Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts

Water for the Future
Sustainable Rural Water Use
and Infrastructure Program
Irrigation Modernisation Planning
Assistance - October 2009
Application Form

Post or courier your application to:

Irrigation Modernisation Planning Assistance
Water Efficiency Division
John Gorton Building
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts
King Edward Terrace
GPO Box 787
Parkes ACT 2601

Incomplete Application Forms and supporting documents may not be accepted
This decision will be at the discretion of the Department

Department use only

Application Number:

Date received:

Applicant:

Project Title:

Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Contact Details | 4 |
| Application Details | 4 |
| Details of Modernisation Planning Application | 6 |
| Budget | 8 |
| Application Advice | 10 |
| Conflict of Interest | 11 |
| Confidential Information | 11 |
| Funding Agreement | 11 |
| Attachments | 12 |
| Applicant Declaration and Authorisation | 12 |

Information for Applicants

This Application Form must be read in conjunction with the Irrigation Modernisation Planning Assistance Guidelines, October 2009 ('the Guidelines') available at

<http://www.environment.gov.au/water/policy-programs/srwui/irrigation-modernisation/index.html>

If you have any questions about the Guidelines or this Application Form, or you require a hardcopy of these documents, please contact the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (the Department) by telephone on 1800 218 478 or email

WaterPlanEnquiries@environment.gov.au

If there is insufficient room to provide your response within this Application Form, additional information may be attached.

Details of how to submit this Application Form are included in the Guidelines.

Applicants should note that:

- the Department is under no obligation to request missing or additional information;
- applicants should supply sufficient information to address eligibility and assessment criteria to enable evaluation;
- subject to the Applicant signing the Declaration at section 10, information submitted in this Application Form may be disclosed to relevant Commonwealth, State and/or local government agencies, organisations and individuals (including those you identify in this Application Form) for the purpose of assessing the Applicant's proposal; and
- the Funding Agreement proposed to be entered into with the successful applicant is available at

<http://www.environment.gov.au/water/policy-programs/srwui/irrigation-modernisation/index.html>

1. Contact Details

Please nominate a contact officer in the applicant's organisation.

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Title | |
| Name | |
| Position | |
| Phone number | |
| Mobile number | |
| Facsimile number | |
| Email address | |
| Postal address | |

2. Application Details

2.1 The following information relates to the organisation that is seeking modernisation planning assistance by submitting this Application Form.

| | |
|--|--|
| Applicant's legal name | |
| Applicant's trading name | |
| Type of legal entity | |
| Australian Business Number (ABN) | |
| Date of Incorporation <i>(if applicable)</i> | |
| Place of Incorporation <i>(if applicable)</i> | |
| Date of Registration <i>(if applicable)</i> | |
| Street Address <i>(head office)</i> | |
| Postal Address <i>(head office)</i> | |

2.2 Tick the box to confirm that the Applicant is an irrigation water provider located within the Murray Darling Basin. An irrigation water provider is an entity that owns or operates infrastructure for the purpose of delivering water to other persons for the primary purpose of use in agricultural irrigation.

2.3 Tick the box to confirm that you have not previously received funding under the Irrigation Modernisation Planning Assistance Program?

2.4 Is the Applicant GST registered?

Yes No

2.5 Is the Applicant a tax exempt entity?

Yes No

2.6 What is the current operating status of the Applicant?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New organisation – Date formed: <input type="text"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing organisation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under receivership | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial/Funding Controller appointed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deed of Company arrangement | <input type="checkbox"/> Administrator appointed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In liquidation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe): <input type="text"/> |

2.7 Please attach a copy of the Applicants most recent Annual Report or a report to shareholders containing audited financial statements.

Attached

2.8 Please provide details of entitlements held within the applicant’s irrigation district. This should include the type of entitlement (e.g high, low security), the licence number and the volume held on that entitlement.

Please describe the water entitlement arrangements in your area:

- who holds the entitlement?
- what is the allocation history (last 3 years)?
- how are conveyance or delivery losses accounted for?

| Type of Water Entitlement Include details of reliability | Name of Owner | Entitlement/Licence Number | Volume (megalitres/units) |
|---|---------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | |
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| | | | |

3. Details of Modernisation Planning Application

Please ensure you fully address each of the questions as your responses will be used to assess the strengths of your irrigation modernisation planning application against criteria established in the Guidelines.

If there is insufficient space to provide your response in this form, additional information may be attached. Further detail of the assessment process is provided in the Guidelines.

3.1 What is the title of the modernisation planning exercise (maximum 25 words)?

The title should accurately describe the modernisation planning exercise as it will be used in communication material.

3.2 Please provide a detailed description of the modernisation planning exercise's location.

Name of town nearest to the planning exercise area:

Direction and distance (in kilometres) from town to the planning exercise area:

Irrigation area or district:

Any other relevant location details:

Please also provide maps indicating the area of the planning exercise, including a broad scale showing the location of the planning exercise relative to nearby towns and detailed maps of the irrigation area or district.

Attached

3.3 What is the proposed length of your modernisation planning project (in months)?:

What is the earliest that you could commence your modernisation planning project?

3.4 Please attach a detailed description of the modernisation planning exercise, including:

(a) The scope of the modernisation planning exercise for which funding is sought. This should address how the scope of the exercise aligns with the requirements of a Modernisation Plan set out in the Guidelines considering the short-term and the long-term strategy for the organisation, including:

- the structure and governance arrangements of the irrigation water provider;
- planned investment in existing irrigation assets in the irrigation district including supply infrastructure through upgrading, replacement or reconfiguration of the assets;
- customer base and relationships with other water users from the same water supply;
- existing irrigation infrastructure, efficiency of the irrigation distribution system, and opportunities for efficiency improvements; including a quantification of estimated water savings from the options explored
- the opportunities to improve knowledge of water use in the system through improvements to metering; and
- the future strategy for the irrigation water provider and the irrigation district in the short-term (to 2012) and long-term (to 2030)

(b) How the modernisation planning exercise will be managed, including details and qualifications of the independent expertise that will be involved.

(c) Details of the Applicant's capability to administer the funding, including details of Commonwealth grants received in the last five years.

(d) A program of work including a description of activities, responsibilities, milestones dates throughout the planning exercise, together with reporting milestones and periodic funding requirements.

3.5 Does the Applicant have an existing business plan, strategic plan or similar?

If yes, please attach a copy of the existing planning document.

Yes No

Attached

The Australian Government may choose to fund a Hotspots assessment to identify and quantify losses through such means as: evaporation; seepage; leakage; and operational losses. Further detail is provided in the Guidelines.

3.6 Tick the box to confirm the Applicant is willing to undertake a Hotspots assessment if required. Yes

3.7 Tick the box to confirm the organisation’s Board of Management or equivalent will endorse the modernisation plan to form the basis of the organisation’s future business planning. Yes

3.8 Tick the box to confirm that the planned modernisation planning exercise will identify options to increase water use efficiency and quantify the potential water efficiency gains from the implementation of these options.

Please outline how this will occur.

4. Budget

4.1 What is the total cash cost of the modernisation planning exercise?
This should reflect the total cash expenditure for sourcing independent professional expertise for the modernisation planning exercise.

\$ (GST exclusive)

4.2 How much Irrigation Modernisation Planning Assistance is the Applicant seeking from the Australian Government?

Irrigation water providers are eligible for funding up to \$350,000.

\$ (GST exclusive)

4.3 How much funding is the Applicant contributing to the modernisation planning process?

\$ (GST exclusive)

Applicants are required to provide a 20 per cent cash co-contribution to the total cash cost of the modernisation planning exercise. This contribution is to be used towards expenditure on obtaining independent professional expertise for the modernisation planning exercise.

For example if the total cost of the planning exercise is \$100,000 (GST exclusive) funding sought from the Australian Government should not exceed \$80,000 (GST exclusive) and the Applicant must offer at least \$20,000 (GST exclusive).

4.4 How will the Applicant source the 20 per cent co-contribution?

Funding from state or other Commonwealth funding sources will not be considered as eligible co-contributions.

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4.5 Will any other organisation contribute to the cost of the modernisation planning exercise? If yes, please specify the organisation’s name, the amount and whether the contribution is an in-kind or cash contribution.

Contributions from other organisations cannot for part of the Applicant’s co-contribution.

| |
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4.6 Outline the budget for the modernisation planning exercise using the following table.

Please attach an additional Table if project is expected to continue into a second financial year (noting that the total length of the project should not exceed 12 months). Additional information may be attached.

Financial Year 1 (200x/200x)

| Item | Australian Government Contribution Sought (GST exclusive) | Applicant’s Cash Contribution (GST exclusive) | Applicant’s In-kind Contribution (GST exclusive) | Other Organisation’s cash contribution (if applicable) (GST exclusive) | Other Organisation’s in-kind contribution (if applicable) |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|--|---|
| Consultancy fees (technical) | | | | | |
| Consultancy fees (economic) | | | | | |
| Consultancy fees (social) | | | | | |
| Consultancy fees (project management) | | | | | |
| Stakeholder consultation/Workshops | | | | | |
| Other (please specify) | | | | | |
| Total | | | | | |

Financial Year 2 (200x/200x- if applicable)

| Item | Australian Government Contribution Sought (GST exclusive) | Applicant's Cash Contribution (GST exclusive) | Applicant's In-kind Contribution (GST exclusive) | Other Organisation's cash Contribution (if applicable) (GST exclusive) | Other Organisation's in-kind Contribution (if applicable) |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|--|---|
| Consultancy fees (technical) | | | | | |
| Consultancy fees (economic) | | | | | |
| Consultancy fees (social) | | | | | |
| Consultancy fees (project management) | | | | | |
| Stakeholder consultation/Workshops | | | | | |
| Other (please specify) | | | | | |
| Total | | | | | |

4.7 Please provide milestones for payment schedule.

Up to 20% of the Australian Government contribution can be paid at the commencement of the project. All other payments must be linked to the completion of a project milestone.

| Month (with 0 being commencement of project) | Milestone activity | Australian Government contribution | Organisation's contribution | | Other contributions | |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| | | Amount (excluding GST) | Cash (excluding GST) | In-kind (excluding GST) | Cash (excluding GST) | In-kind (excluding GST) |
| 0 | Commencement of project | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

5. Application Advice

5.1 Have any professional advisors or consultants (e.g. lawyers, accountants, management consultants or technical experts) been directly involved in the preparation of this application or modernisation planning exercise? Yes No

5.2 If you answered yes at question 5.1 please provide the names of the professional advisors or consultants that have been directly involved in the preparation of this application or modernisation planning exercise.

6. Conflict of Interest

Please indicate if there are any matters related to the business interests of persons directly involved with this application that may conflict with their role in the modernisation planning exercise. If any further conflicts emerge they should be brought to the Department's attention as soon as the conflict of interest is known.

7. Confidential Information

Applicants should bring any confidential information provided in their Application Form to the attention of the Department.

If the modernisation planning exercise is successful, the Department will treat information sensitively, however any information provided by the Applicant, including information identified as confidential, may be disclosed by the Department as outlined in the Guidelines.

| Confidential Information | Reason | Period |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

8. Funding Agreement

Do you agree to the conditions of the Funding Agreement available at <http://www.environment.gov.au/water/policy-programs/srwui/irrigation-modernisation/index.html>

Yes

No

If no, please indicate which clause/subclause/paragraph/subparagraph the applicant does not comply with or only partially complies with. Please provide reasons for that non-compliance or partial compliance.

9. Attachments

Please indicate the attachments that have been provided with this Application Form.

Attachment A: Annual Report / Shareholders Report and audited financial statements

Attachment B: Map of area covered by the planning exercise

Attachment C: Detailed description of planning exercise

Attachment D: Existing Business Plan, Strategic plan or similar planning document (where relevant)

Other attachments

10. Applicant Declaration and Authorisation

- I have read and understood the Irrigation Modernisation Planning Assistance Guidelines (the Guidelines) and obtained any clarification from the Department required.
- I understand and agree with the conditions set out in the Guidelines and this Application Form for Irrigation Modernisation Planning Assistance.
- I declare that the information provided in this Application, including attachments, is true and correct and discloses all relevant and required details, including any relationships existing or proposed between my organisation (the Applicant), including its personnel, and any other organisations.
- I authorise the Australian Government Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (the Department) to supply the information contained in this Application Form, including attachments, to relevant experts as part of the assessment of the application.
- I authorise the Department to seek any additional information it may require to assess this application, and I hereby request and authorise any parties to supply any such information requested by the Department.
- I acknowledge that persons or organisations listed in this Application Form may be contacted as part of the assessment of this application and I authorise the Commonwealth to disclose to those individuals and organisations information related to the planning exercise in order to confirm the veracity of information provided in this Application Form.
- I confirm that the Applicant is not:
 - insolvent under the *Corporations Act 2001*, or any other law of the Commonwealth or States and Territories or is the subject to a deed of arrangement with creditors; or
 - currently involved in proceedings that may result in the Applicant's insolvency, or winding up.

- I confirm that neither I, nor the proposed Project Manager nor any individual specified in this application as a participant in the proposed project:

- is undischarged as bankrupt under the *Bankruptcy Act 1966*;

- is the subject to a composition, deed of arrangement or deed of assignment with creditors under the *Bankruptcy Act 1966*;

- has been convicted of an offence within the meaning of paragraph 85ZM(1) of the *Crimes Act 1914* that has not spent, quashed or pardoned in accordance with that Act.

- I acknowledge that the Department can arrange for the independent evaluation of the modernisation planning exercise at any time during or after the term of the Funding Agreement to verify that the exercise has been delivered effectively in accordance with the Funding Agreement.

- I acknowledge that information about the modernisation planning exercise provided in the Application Form may be reproduced in Departmental communication activities and I agree to the reproduction of such information.

This involves publicly announcing the details of successful Applicants including the:

a) Applicant's name;

b) Applicant's contact officer;

c) Applicant contact officer's telephone number;

d) details of the modernisation planning exercise submitted with this Application Form; and

e) amount of Assistance awarded.

- If the planning exercise is approved for funding, I will obtain all the necessary and appropriate legal and statutory clearances from the relevant Commonwealth, State or Local government authorities before executing the Funding Agreement and undertake to manage the planning exercise in accordance with relevant laws and regulations.

- I understand that if the completed Funding Agreement is not signed and delivered to the Department within 30 days from the date of the letter of offer, the Commonwealth may, in its absolute discretion, withdraw the offer of funding.

- I understand that there are a number of Commonwealth disclosure obligations that arise under Commonwealth legislation and policy. These include the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*, the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*, the Senate Order relating to disclosure of information about certain agreements, and requirements for the disclosure of information to the Parliament and its committees.

Executed on behalf of [insert name of organisation]

ABN [insert]

by [insert name of signatory]

who by signing warrants that they have the authority to bind [insert name of organisation]

in the presence of:

Signatory

Position in Organisation

Witness

Name and occupation of Witness

Date