



Australian Dairy Industry Council Inc.

Media Release

Tuesday 22nd November

ADIC Welcomes the Proposed Reduction by the MDBA

For Immediate Release

The Australian Dairy Industry Council (ADIC), welcomed the announcement by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) to reduce the northern basin target.

Chair of the Australian Dairy Industry Council (ADIC) Water Taskforce, Daryl Hoey said he was pleased to see the MDBA proposing to reduce the water recovery targets in the Northern Basin by 70GL following a rigorous socio-economic analysis in the north, which showed significant adverse impacts on agriculture and regional communities.

We now look forward to seeing the MDBA undertake a similarly robust and sophisticated analysis of the socio-economic effects of the basin plan on the Southern Basin", said Mr Hoey.

Dairy has proved resilient over the past decade in the face of the Millennium drought, floods, and volatility in milk prices. However, socio-economic studies the industry has funded have shown the basin plan impacts are having adverse effects on dairy and regional communities.

"We agree the environment needs more water, and the water recovered so far is helping to make the rivers healthier.

However, a fully implemented basin plan and another low allocation year similar to the drought years would see dairy struggling to survive and barely enough water to operate the irrigation systems.

This would have severe negative outcomes for our regional communities.

Being smarter about how we use what we have will improve these outcomes further, without further undermining the resilience and prosperity of regional communities throughout the basin", said Mr Hoey.

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The Australian Dairy Industry Council (ADIC) is the dairy industry's peak policy body. It co-ordinates industry's policy and represents all sectors of the industry on national and international issues through its two constituent bodies, Australian Dairy Farmers Ltd (ADF) and the Australian Dairy Products Federation (ADPF). It aims to foster, promote and protect the interests of the Australian dairy industry by driving a whole of industry approach to dairy policy and the development of the dairy industry.