



MEDIA RELEASE

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Modernisation works future proofing the region

The final touches are being put on Murrumbidgee Irrigation's modernisation works in the Sturt Canal, Benerembah, Wah Wah, Tabbita, and Warburn, with a host of new structures being commissioned over the coming weeks.

The extensive 2018 modernisation works are building on from the automation of the Main Canal last year, and takes the total investment by the Australian Government in our region, to support the implementation of the Basin Plan, to almost \$348 million under PIOP*.

Murrumbidgee Irrigation CEO, Brett Jones, said staff have been working closely with contractors to ensure they could meet irrigator demand for water deliveries.

"It has been a juggling act," he said.

"Staff and contractors have been working over weekends, and on rotation, to ensure that works will be completed on, or ahead of schedule."

"With some irrigators needing water as soon as possible, we have had to utilise structures before their final commissioning, and this has been a challenge without remote monitoring and control."

Mr Jones thanked irrigators for their patience during the extended modernisation works.

"Our focus has always been on getting our works completed in the most timely and efficient manner," he said.

"Irrigators are the strength behind this region, and we will continue to work with them to create opportunities by delivering water more effectively and efficiently."

Mr Jones said the current modernisation works have been critical in enabling the Company to maximise the benefits of the projects already completed across the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to reduce our operating costs, increase flow capacity, improve supply reliability and set up the region for the future," he explained.

Murrumbidgee Irrigation is working with Australian Government support to deliver projects that will optimise economic, social and environmental outcomes in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area.

Further information is available on our website www.mirrigation.com.au. If you have any questions please call Murrumbidgee Irrigation (02) 6962 0200.

**These Projects have been funded by the Australian Government as represented by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources Funding Agreement under Rounds 2 and 3 of the Private Irrigation Infrastructure Operators Program in NSW.*

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Photo: Murrumbidgee Irrigation Water Delivery Technician, Phil Hurst, working on one of the new outlets in Goolgowi.

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