

Media release

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New era begins: Philip Holliday takes the helm at MI

This week marks a significant transition at Murrumbidgee Irrigation (MI), as Philip Holliday steps into the role of CEO, following the tenure of long-serving leader Brett Jones.

Mr Holliday is a well-recognised and highly credentialed CEO and senior executive, with extensive leadership experience across listed, private, and state-owned organisations in Australia and the UK.

Most recently, he was CEO and director of the Port Authority of New South Wales, where he was responsible for the navigation, security and operational safety of commercial trade and cruise shipping in Sydney Harbour, Port Botany, Newcastle Harbour, Port Kembla, Eden and Yamba.

MI Chair, Tracey Valenzisi, said Mr Jones' decision to provide the Board with an early notice of his planned departure late last year, has enabled a very smooth and deliberate succession process.

"The Board was able to conduct a thorough and considered process to secure an outstanding appointment as our new CEO," she said.

"MI is in a strong position, with a clear strategy and a capable leadership team, ready to continue delivering for our customers and the region as we move into the next phase of innovation and growth."

She added that Mr Holliday is well-positioned to carry forward the significant investment in automation and delivery efficiency of his predecessor.

"In Philip, we have a leader whose skills and experience will build on Brett's outstanding legacy and guide MI through the next stage of opportunities."

Ms Valenzisi noted that Mr Holliday was drawn to the role due to MI's significant impact on Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area communities and its strong, fit for purpose values.

"Philip is not only approachable but also exceptionally skilled at building strong, positive relationships with shareholders, customers, and staff," she said.

"He has extensive experience in government relations, and expertise in leading highly regulated, capital-intensive operations in 24/7 environments, balancing customer needs with strategic long-term planning."

Philip commented that he is excited to be joining MI at this time and is looking forward to meeting the shareholders, customers and MI team, as well as working together to continue the journey of delivering growth.

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