

## COMMUNIQUE: *Monday 10 September 2018*

### Basin Community Committee

As the newest cohort of Basin Community Committee, we commit to being the “eyes and ears” on behalf of towns and communities across the Murray-Darling Basin about water reform and the Basin Plan.

Our role is to provide local insights and information on what is happening across the Basin, how this could impact the health of the river system, and how water can be used and managed.

As an advisory committee to the Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) and governments across the Basin, we can give feedback on how effectively the Basin Plan is being implemented.

Plus we can provide advice early about opportunities to do things better, or potential challenges that will impact how effectively water is managed in the Basin.

Each committee member brings a wealth of experience and extensive networks, so we can also advise the MDBA on who they should engage with, how and on what.

Our committee is made up of farmers, small business owners, community advocates, proud Indigenous people, experienced managers and leaders — who all live and work right across the Basin.

We recognise the need to balance the environment, the economy and communities to achieve a healthy working Basin for all Australians.

We believe our work over the next three years will be vital because we will bring into clear focus those issues that are important to local communities about how water is managed. We are one vital part of a comprehensive decision-making network governing the Basin Plan.

Last week’s induction has set us up to operate effectively as a group, with a formidable breadth of experience and understanding across river management, Basin Plan Evaluation, sustainable diversion limits, cultural flows and Water Resources Plans.

The committee will meet face-to-face three times a year as well as use teleconferences so the MDBA can hear what we have to say.

Water reform is a long and very complex story full of often confusing facts and figures – and we can point people to the right information.

Contact your local Basin Community Committee member to share your views on how the Basin Plan is being implemented via [engagement@mdba.gov.au](mailto:engagement@mdba.gov.au)

See the list of committee members at [www.mdba.gov.au/about-us/governance/basin-community-committee](http://www.mdba.gov.au/about-us/governance/basin-community-committee)