



Pioneer Valley Water Co-operative Limited

NEWSLETTER

Issue 14

Newsletter Date December 2011

In this Newsletter we cover the following areas:-

- PVWater's AGM
- QCA Review of Water Pricing
- Festive Season



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PVWATER'S AGM

Pioneer Valley Water Board and Pioneer Valley Water Co-operative Limited held their combined Annual General Meeting on 1 December at the Marian Bowls Club, Marian. The meeting was well attended, and we thank those that gave up their time to stay closely involved with irrigation issues in the Pioneer Valley. Thanks also to David Ellwood and John Muscat from the Eton Irrigators Advisory Committee, who attended to take a look at how we do things at PVWater.

A notable outcome of the AGM is the adoption of the new *Rules of Pioneer Valley Water Co-operative Limited*, which were forwarded to irrigators with your AGM Notice. These Rules have now been sent to the Registrar for registration, at which time they will come into effect.

PVWater also explained the breakdown of 2011-12 water charges, discussed infrastructure issues and summarised pricing factors likely to influence the QCA review of SunWater's pricing component of your water charges for the 2012-17 period.

QCA REVIEW OF WATER PRICING

The QCA have released their *draft* report on SunWater's water pricing for the upcoming 2012-17 period. *Draft* outcomes for water pricing in the Pioneer Valley Water Supply Scheme are quite positive, due in no small part we believe to PVWater's detailed contributions to the process. Critical gains for irrigators at the draft stage against SunWater's initial claims include:

1. A proposed change to tariff structure for Part A (fixed)/Part B (usage) of 90/10 % instead of the proposed 100/0 %.
2. A turnaround in the starting renewals account from the initially proposed negative \$5.16 Million to a positive \$1.333 Million.
3. Resulting annual bulk water charge increases for the five year period amounting to CPI as opposed to increases up to \$2/ML + CPI.

It is important to note that **these outcomes are still at the draft stage**, and that SunWater are expected to request reinstatement of their original claims. PVWater will be making a further submission to the QCA in this regard, and encourages all irrigators to do likewise. Submissions to the final report are due by 23 December ... and further details can be found on QCA's website at <http://www.qca.org.au/water/Sun-irrig-price/>.

FESTIVE SEASON

Thanks to all for your ongoing support. The Board and Staff at PVWater wish everyone a very enjoyable Christmas, and a safe and happy new year.