

## Melbourne, Thursday 14 October 2010

### Is there an Expression of Interest panel registration closing date?

No, it's ongoing. At some point NVIRP may ask all people on the panel to resubmit or go through a review but we will consider all applications coming in. Note that there is no guarantee of work through this panel. Major tendering is conducted separately to this panel and there are closing dates associated with major tenders.

### Is there an overlap between Stage 1 and 2 and will TSA be managing Stage 2?

On the assumption that Stage 2 is approved, the project will continue to 2017 and Stage 1 and Stage 2 will overlap. Stage 1 involves the final automation of the system and Stage 2 is a continuation of the Connections Program that will complete the overall modernisation program. We will provide advice to the irrigation industry on Stage 2 as an announcement unfolds.

The Managing Contractor role depends on how the funding is provided for Stage 2 and any conditions that the Commonwealth may impose with regard to procurement. NVIRP may take a more hands on role or consider a managing contractor or similar approach. A decision will be made in due course, however the construction industry will not see any difference in continuity and how we operate.

### What are the funding mechanisms for on-farm works?

Funding for on-farm works is negotiated between the farmer and NVIRP with the assistance of Farm Designers in agreeing capital expenditure. The farmer receives the funds from NVIRP and they are responsible for managing and engaging the contractors.

### Do you have to be on the panel for major works tenders?

No. You may submit a tender regardless of whether or not you are on the Expression of Interest panel.

### Further Clarification

- Packages in the marketplace at the moment are Type 4 regulators and pedestal stubs.