

# Industry Briefing

Echuca, Friday 27 November 2009

## Matters arising from the Q & A session

### Question 1

- Could you please explain more about the VIPP process.
- When tendering for work in Victoria you need to provide a Victorian Industry Participation Policy Plan and Statement. The Industry Capability Network can assist with this.

### Question 2

- We have been working for some of your major subcontractors. Will this new panel process discourage these partnerships? We have found the upskilling for our company to be very important.
- The new panel process will be used to award smaller packages of work to companies however there will still be large contracts available for contractors and their partners.

### Question 3

- Will the selection panel replace work sourced directly from landowners for on-farm works?
- No, landowners will engage contractors directly for their on-farm works.

### Question 4

- With Stage 2 now being introduced, how long will NVIRP be around? Is there a possibility of fast-tracking, with contractors from Melbourne being engaged for this work?

- NVIRP will be in operation for approximately eight years with Stage 1 & 2 running concurrently. There is a possibility that fast-tracking of work may occur, however NVIRP will not change its procurement process.

### **Question 5**

- Are the learnings from the plastic lining program in 2009 being implemented for next year?
- NVIRP Capital Works will have meetings to discuss and progress learnings from this year into all aspects of the program for next year.

### **Question 6**

- With the introduction of the new panel system, will individual contractors need their own OH&S systems?
- Yes all contractors will need to demonstrate and work under their own system. They can put forward experience gained through working for other companies and then explain how they have adapted this experience to create their own system.
- Do they need to be accredited?
- Contractors can investigate OH&S requirements on the Worksafe website and this topic will be added to the content of the tender writing workshop. We don't just want companies to have purchased a system – it needs to have been implemented in previous experience.
- From a probity perspective smaller companies will not necessarily have comprehensive management systems but will need to be able to demonstrate safe practices. They will not be competing with larger companies in relation to their management systems.

**Question 7**

- Will the panel be available for larger contractors to consult to find partnering companies?
- The panel will be used by NVIRP to get quotes for individual works packages.
- To source partnering companies, contractors should contact ICN.

**Question 8**

- How will the work be spread over 12 months?
- Work will progress subject to Environmental Approvals, rainfall and access to sites.