

# Media Release

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## Looking for future irrigation leaders

CEO of the Northern Victoria Irrigation Renewal Project Murray Smith said this week that he is looking to sponsor two irrigator representatives in the 2009 Fairley Leadership program.

“The opportunities offered with this local leadership program are akin to the values NVIRP is placing on its Irrigation Renewal – NVIRP is a catalyst for positive change in the Goulburn Valley and the Fairley vision is to develop leaders in a changing environment.

“The sponsorship is valued at over \$5,500 including the individual fee, so I believe that this will assist an irrigator especially in the current environment. I know the irrigation industry needs confident, informed and articulate leaders who can equip themselves as a resource for us as well as for the industry,” Mr Smith said.

This is the twelfth year of the Fairley Leadership Program and candidates have spent the year meeting with, and questioning a broad cross section of regional, state and national leaders who, collectively, have a vast array of experience to offer. The time commitment required for the program is usually about 25 days per year which includes two retreats, seminars and trips to Canberra and Melbourne. There are around 30 participants involved in the program each year with ages varying from about 20 years upwards.

Past participants of the Fairley Leadership Program are known as ‘Fairley Fellows’ and form a diverse network of people spanning hundreds of square kilometres. These people are determined to make a difference, to give back, and get more involved in their local communities and we certainly value the opportunity to sponsor two members of our industry, Mr Smith said.

Irrigators interested in participating are encouraged to contact NVIRP’s current Fairley participant Diane Bewicke on 03 5833 5631 for more information. Closing date for this offer is Monday 17 November.

[www.fairleyleadership.com](http://www.fairleyleadership.com)

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