



Central Tablelands Water

Media Release

29 November 2019

Funding for Lake Rowlands welcomed

Central Tablelands Water (CTW) has welcomed the NSW Government funding announcement of \$1 million for the completion of a feasibility study into the Lake Rowlands dam extension as part of its emergency response to the drought in regional NSW.

The Member for Bathurst, Paul Toole and Nationals MLC, Sam Farrow were at Lake Rowlands to make this important funding announcement.

Mr Paul Toole, said, "Preliminary studies will be completed by CTW to bring the project to the shovel ready stage. These studies will include engineering design, review of environmental factors, secure yield and cost benefit analysis."

Gavin Rhodes, General Manager of CTW said, "This project is the first stage of the Lake Rowlands Augmentation three stage concept. Stage 1 involves raising the height of the existing dam wall by 2.2 metres which will increase the capacity from 4.5 gigalitres to 8 gigalitres. This will help shore up the water security needs of our existing consumers now and well into the future."

"The second stage is the linking of Lake Rowlands to Carcoar Dam of which a final business case is currently underway by WaterNSW. The final stage and longer term project is a new dam further downstream increasing the capacity to over 26 gigalitres."

"CTW has been lobbying continuously for over 20 years for the enlargement of Lake Rowlands, so it is extremely pleasing to be moving forward on this important water security project," Mr Rhodes said.

CTW's chairman, Cr David Somerville also welcomed the funding announcement and said, "The timetable for this project aligns with the final business case currently being undertaken by WaterNSW linking Lake Rowlands with Carcoar Dam. By combining these vital water security projects during the assessment and final business case stage, and if approved to proceed with full project delivery, it will enable the maximisation of benefits to be realised whilst improving water security for the region."

"This project is another fantastic opportunity to work collaboratively with all levels of government to deliver vital water infrastructure for the Central West region," Cr Somerville said.

Mr Farrow said, "To ensure water security well into the future and build our economy, planning must start on the necessary infrastructure. The Government has moved quickly and

decisively to assist regional NSW during this drought. We know communities are doing it tough and need our support to ensure water security for residents and businesses.”

“WaterNSW is expected to release their business case for the pipeline linkage project by mid 2020 and, with the completion of preliminary studies for the Lake Rowlands Dam expansion, we can be ready to start building the infrastructure this region needs,” Mr Farraway said.

This funding forms part of the NSW Government’s \$88 million package to extend water supplies across regional NSW and a total drought package of \$3.3 billion since 2017.

MEDIA

Gavin Rhodes – General Manager Central Tablelands Water Ph: 0438 240 775

Cr David Somerville – Chairman Central Tablelands Water Ph: 0419 803 153

Lake Rowlands: Cr Kevin Walker (Deputy Chairman of CTW), Mr Paul Toole MP (Member for Bathurst), Mr Sam Farraway (Nationals MLC) and Mr Gavin Rhodes (General Manager of CTW).

