


PROPOSAL

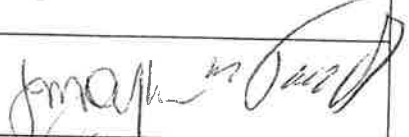
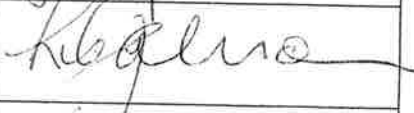



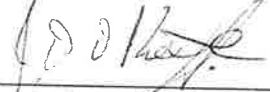
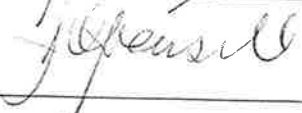








Taloumbi Ring Drain System

Subject:	Restoration and Maintenance of Taloumbi Ring Drain System
Submitted by:	Ross Farlow, Kerryanne Mackay & Shaun Messer, as nominated delegates authorised to represent the landholders in Attachment A.
Contact details:	c/o Shaun Messer 644 South Bank Road, Palmers Channel, NSW 2463 smesser911@gmail.com 0409 057 664
Signature:	 23 Sept 2021
Overview:	<p>a) The Taloumbi Ring Drain system is a substantial public infrastructure asset, for which the Clarence Valley Council is responsible. The system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • covers an area of 51 square kilometres • includes 13 kilometres of levees • includes 19.5 kilometres of drains, primarily consisting of the Ring Drain and its 5 Radial Drains • features 26 floodgate assets <p>b) The ongoing purpose of the Ring Drain system is to protect agricultural lands from flooding and to improve productivity of that land for agriculture – part of an industry which Council says provides \$493 million annual gross regional product and employment for over 3,800 people.</p> <p>c) The Ring Drain system also services residential communities by receiving and (when functioning properly) removing water from rainfall and flood events.</p> <p>d) Due to lack of ongoing maintenance, there has been a decline in capacity of the Ring Drain system to hold, carry & discharge water.</p> <p>e) Simultaneously, there has been an increase in runoff into the Ring Drain system from changed land use - including urban development in the system's large catchment area and increased prevalence of tree cropping.</p>

	<p>f) Consequently, agricultural land has suffered an increase in water inundation levels and water inundation times.</p> <p>g) There is potential for future additional increases in runoff from climate change rainfall and extreme weather events.</p> <p>h) Decline in function of the Ring Drain system has economic impacts (and thus mental health impacts on affected farmers) and environmental impacts (including increased risk of blackwater events).</p> <p>i) Issues with lack of ongoing maintenance were exacerbated when Council permanently and unilaterally closed the outflow gates at Radial Drain No.1 in March 2021, in response to waters from Lake Wooloweyah breaching the Ring Drain levee at that point.</p> <p>j) Landholders are aware that Council's maintenance of the Ring Drain system is impacted by financial constraints and by constraints arising from State Government permitting requirements (primarily Fisheries and Crown Lands).</p> <p>k) Landholders are seeking to work co-operatively with Council to support those constraints being addressed.</p> <p>l) Landholders have concerns about past concept / desktop consultant reports issued to Council which were driven by cost-saving terms of reference to try to justify closing outlets or de-funding maintenance operations. Landholders believe these qualitative reports are questionable in their methodology or conclusions.</p>
<p>Proposal Actions:</p>	<p>It is proposed that Clarence Valley Council commit to work with affected landholders to implement a solution for the community that allows water to pass through the Taloumbi Ring Drain system in a timely manner.</p> <p>Specifically, it is proposed that Clarence Valley Council - in consultation with affected landholders - undertake the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. work towards duplication of the Palmers Channel outlet from the Taloumbi Ring Drain, in offset for Council's permanent closure of the Radial Drain No.1 outflow gates in March 2021; 2. clean out silt blockages in Radial Drain No.1 and adjacent sections of the Taloumbi Ring Drain, to restore the capacity to hold, carry & discharge water; 3. change-out the gates on the existing Palmers Channel outlet for lighter aluminium versions, to improve outflow from the Taloumbi Ring Drain; 4. set down adequate funding and a regular schedule for ongoing maintenance of the system.

Attachment A
Representative Authorisation from Affected Landholders

By signature below we the undersigned indicate our support for the proposals agreed upon at the stakeholders meeting of 19 June 2021 and authorise the nominated delegates to approach Clarence Valley Council on our behalf.

Name	Address	Signature
MAT JACQUES	910 Parkinsons Ln Palmer's Channel	
CHRIS JOHNSON	642 St. Bank Rd Palmer's Channel	
JOHN MCPHEE	464 St. Bank Rd Palmer's Channel	
CHARLIE HORTON	South Bank Point Palmer's Channel	
GRAEME CLARKE	87 PARKINSONS LANE PALMERS CHANNEL	
JIM O'KEEFE	408 GARDINERS Rd	
JOHN GREENSILL	516 SOUTH BANK RD PALMERS CHANNEL	
Matt Green	101 McLearys Ln PALMERS CHANNEL	
Ray Johnson	186 AMOS ROAD PALMERS CHANNEL	
Melissa Lawrence	112 Janus Creek Rd Janus Creek 2463	
DEAN LAWRENCE	"	
SHAUN MESSER	644 SOUTH BANK RD PALMERS CHANNEL	
PATRICK RYAN	415 SOUTH BANK RD	
Terence Williams	156 Amos Rd Palmer's Channel NSW	
Kerianne Macheay	"	

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 the stakeholders meeting of 19 June 2021 and authorise the nominated delegates to
 approach Clarence Valley Council on our behalf.

Name	Address	Signature
JUDY CASTLE	516 SOUTH BANK RD	J Castle
WEIGH-ANN MESSER	644 South Bank Rd.	A Messer.
Kylie Quelch	408 South Bank Rd,	K. Quelch.
Jack Quelch	408 South Bank Rd,	J Quelch
Douglas Colin Marsh	790 Stk Bank Rd	D.C. Marsh
PETER ROSE	130 McLeay St	P.J. Rose

