

DEVELOPED BY

WBBROC

Wide Bay Burnett Regional Organisation of Councils

Water PRIORITIES OF THE Wide Bay Burnett

Wide Bay Burnett
THE PERFECT PLACE 



WBBROC'S ADVOCACY PRIORITIES



- 💧 **Affordable Water**
- 💧 **Increased Access**
- 💧 **Fund Water Plans**
- 💧 **Work to upgrade dam safety**

“Water drives our economy and needs to be commercially priced and available for utilization”

Why? 9 GOOD REASONS

1 WATER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

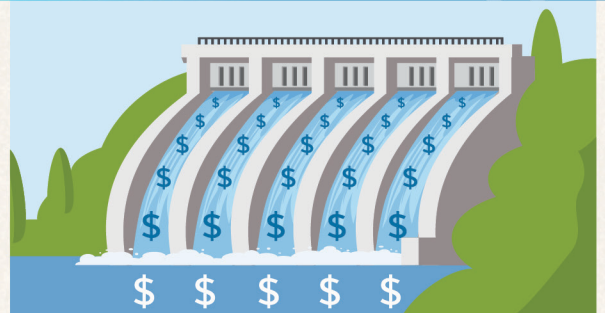
- 💧 Bulk water resources drive investment and economic activity and should receive appropriate support to improve water distribution and storage.



“ **WATER PRODUCTIVITY IN THE WIDE BAY BURNETT IS SECOND HIGHEST IN QLD** *”*



2 AFFORDABILITY



- 💧 Water prices need to reflect the economics of supply and demand as well as asset efficiency.
- 💧 Wide Bay Burnett contributed 32% of State water revenues for 10% of the total volume.

“ **WATER IN THE Wide Bay Burnett GENERATES \$1.3 BILLION in Agriculture Output Annually alone with potential to double** *”*



3 REGIONAL AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY FACTS

“ *The Wide Bay Burnett is Queensland's*
MOST PRODUCTIVE
irrigated agricultural region. ”

- Leading the state in output of citrus, macadamias, avocados, sweet-potatoes, peanuts, navy beans.
- 98,000 hectares of available land for expansion of irrigated agriculture.
- Irrigation productivity averages around \$9,800 per hectare. – highest in Qld
- Produces over 60% of Queensland's softwood timber products.



4 POPULATION FACTS

- Largest urban population outside SEQ.
- Largest available workforce in regional Queensland.

“ **POPULATION
GROWTH OF
1.8%
PER YEAR** ”



5 REGIONAL WATER FACTS

- We use less than 20% of total runoff with 80% left for environmental flow.
- Approximately 144GL water resources available for expansion of water intensive industries.
- Greater utilisation of available water is restricted by a lack of distribution systems

“ *More than*
**\$2.4bn invested
IN WBB WATER
INFRASTRUCTURE.** ”



6 ENERGY FACT

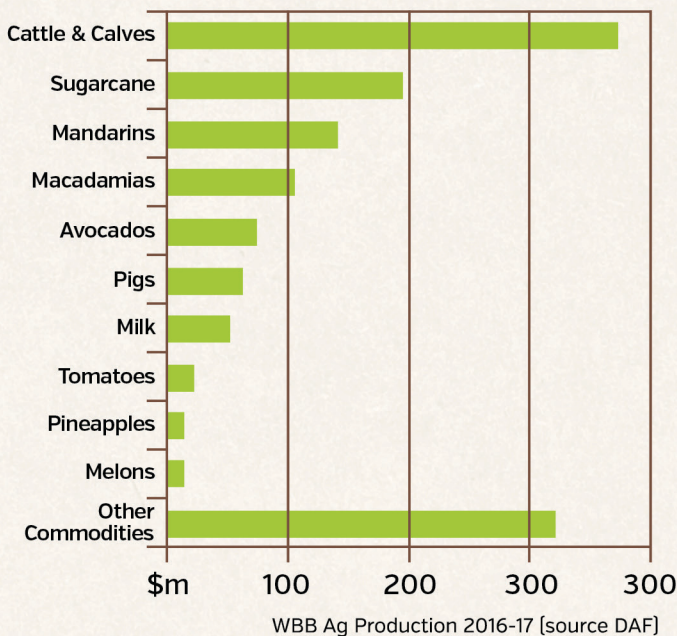


“ *Tarong Power Station provides*
20% of Qld generating capacity
USING 30,000 ML OF WATER
AND EMPLOYS OVER 400 PEOPLE. ”

7 REGIONAL ECONOMIC FACTS

*“ The value of Irrigated agricultural production is approximately **\$775m annually** AND CONTRIBUTES TO A FURTHER **\$700m in support industries** ”*

- Growth potential of irrigation agriculture is \$950M/yr at current productivity.
- Current irrigation production is 45% of potential GRP output.
- Utilising the available water resources would create an additional 2800 direct jobs.



REGIONAL GROSS
REGIONAL PRODUCT IS
\$12.2billion

POPULATION IS
295,000

PRODUCTIVITY IS
**ABOVE
STATE AVERAGE**

8 INFRASTRUCTURE FACTS



- The region has access to three international air-freight terminals and is connected by road and rail to local, metropolitan and export markets.
- Development of the Port of Bundaberg will further increase sea-freight access for emerging mining, forestry and agricultural export opportunities.



9 DAM SAFETY UPGRADES FACTS

- Paradise dam safety improvement program needs to be fully and carefully considered in consultation with the local community and WBBROC.

