



Rural Water Task Group

The South East Queensland Regional Water Supply Strategy is now in its second stage. Strategy task groups are examining a range of water issues in the SEQ region. A draft SEQ Regional Water Supply Strategy will be released for public comment in late 2006.

One of the six task groups is the Rural Water Task Group. The Rural Water Task Group is responsible for developing the rural component of the South East Queensland Regional Water Supply Strategy. The task group members include irrigators and rural representatives. Members will validate data and develop and confirm future rural water options as part of the Strategy.

The key objective of this task group is to develop a rural water strategy that achieves optimum outcomes in social, environmental and economic terms.

In doing so, the Rural Water Task Group is to investigate and report on:

- **Rural water use patterns** and productivity across the region.
- **Opportunities to optimise productivity** and sustainability through water use efficiency, alternative water supplies and/or changed cropping mixes and farm management systems.
- **The incremental value of improved reliability** and/or increased volumetric entitlements
- **Reasonable and practical measures** to supplement available water supplies.
- **Existing policy** and institutional arrangements and possible implications for implementation of scenarios to meet rural water demand.