1. The Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) is presently preparing a Basin Plan under the provisions of the *Water Act 2007* (Commonwealth). The purpose of this plan is to establish sustainable diversion limits, an environmental watering plan and a water quality plan for the Murray-Darling Basin.
2. In October 2010, the MDBA released a Guide to the proposed Basin Plan, the first formal, though non statutory, consultation step of the basin planning process.
3. Following the release of the Guide, the Commonwealth House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Australia was requested to inquire into and report on the impact of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan in Regional Australia (the Windsor Inquiry). This inquiry is chaired by Tony Windsor MP, Independent member for New England.
4. The Queensland Government’s supplementary submission to the Commonwealth Government’s Inquiry into the Impact of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan in Regional Australia (the Windsor Inquiry) will provide the Inquiry with information on:
* The likely impacts of the Guide to the Proposed Basin Plan on the Queensland Murray-Darling Basin economy and regional communities.
* Options for water-saving measures or water return to improve environmental outcomes.
* The role of governments in supporting water use efficiency within the Murray-Darling Basin.
1. The recommendations resulting from the Commonwealth Inquiry are expected to be used to inform the development of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan which is presently being prepared by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority.
2. Cabinet noted that a supplementary submission will be provided to the Commonwealth Government’s Inquiry into the Impact of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan in Regional Australia (the Windsor Inquiry).
3. Cabinet noted that additional information may be provided to the Windsor Inquiry as it becomes available.
4. *Attachments*
* [Queensland Government Supplementary Submission to the Windsor Inquiry](Attachments/Submission%20to%20Inquiry.pdf).