



Media Release

4 February 2020

GRANT FUNDING SOUGHT TO AUGMENT URBENVILLE WATER SUPPLY

The ongoing drought situation in the Tenterfield Shire Local Government Area continues to exacerbate risks in the supply of potable water to our communities.

Tooloom Creek in the north of the Shire is the water source for the Urbenville water treatment plant which supplies the towns of Urbenville, Woodenbong and Muli Muli Aboriginal Community. Tooloom Creek has experienced a significant reduction in flow over the past two (2) months.

Users of the Urbenville Water Supply were placed on Level 4 Water Restrictions on 10 January 2020 but despite these measures, there has been a negligible reduction in water consumption to date. Current consumption levels need to drop by 30% to defer imposition of more severe Level 5 restrictions in the near future.

To ensure water security for the 3 impacted communities, Council has applied for emergency relief funding of \$1.9 million to secure additional raw water with the following scope of works:

- Identification of an appropriate ground water source;
- Installation of appropriate water extraction and delivery infrastructure; and
- Provision of a 50 ML off-stream storage (Tooloom Creek).

Ground water sourcing will include water search, drilling and water quality testing and installation of infrastructure being pipework, electrical and bore head components.

“Our norther communities have also been hit hard by this ongoing drought situation”, said Mayor Peter Petty.

“Council will ensure that Urbenville, Woodenbong and Muli Muli communities are guaranteed an adequate, potable, water supply into the future as we face unknown climatic change”, the Mayor added.

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