



Media Release

2 August 2019

TENTERFIELD WATER UPDATE – 1 AUGUST 2019

As Tenterfield progresses into the latter stages of winter with still no prospect of substantial rain on the horizon, there has been some potentially positive news with respect to the search for possible bore sites.

Specialist hydrogeologists Geo9 Pty Ltd and Zoic Pty Ltd have been investigating potential sites, which showed promise during the desk top and site exploration investigations.

Of these, sites contained in the railway corridor and the Tenterfield Traditional Archers Club grounds look fair to good and it is anticipated drilling will commence at the Archery Club site late next week. Test Bore Licences have been issued from NRAR for these sites.

Should the Archery Club site prove viable, it will prove the best financial option for Council due to the close proximity to Tenterfield Dam.

Although this news is positive and the delivery of the desalination unit from Rural Aid will assist in sustaining the dam level (currently at 33%), it is stressed that the community needs to continue to abide by the Level 4.5 water restrictions.

Concern has been raised by several members of our community suggesting that Council should move to Level 5 Restrictions to ensure continuity of supply, however the severity of Level 5 Restrictions would have a dire effect on tourism and would close many of our businesses, an impact Council sees as a last resort. As per Council's adopted Drought Management Plan, Level 5 Restrictions would be enforced once the Dam level drops to 15%.

It should be noted that Southern Downs Regional Council moves to Critical Water Restrictions (target of 100 litres per person per day) from 1 September 2019 which will impact our Jennings residents.

ENDS