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# FUNDING FLOWS FOR OUR WATER

Government investigates region's infrastructure: PAGE 4

## Securing Burnett water

\$2m feasibility study for water infrastructure options

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THE Federal Government has committed \$2 million toward a feasibility study that will investigate options for new infrastructure to increase water supply and security in the North and South Burnett.

Acting PM and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Michael McCormack welcomed the feasibility study announcement, which forms part of a historic expansion of the National Water Infrastructure

Development Fund, worth more than half a billion dollars.

Water is the life-blood of regional Australia and Mr McCormack said the funding will be a game changer for many communities.

Feasibility studies will be used to support the Queensland Government finalise the design and approvals required to

progress critical water infrastructure projects towards construction.

Agriculture and Water Resources Minister David Littleproud said water brings wealth and jobs to the regions.

"As a former rural bank manager, I know the value of a megalitre of water to a rural community," he said.

"We're proud to be delivering water and wealth to rural communities."

Flynn MP Ken O'Dowd said he increased water security would help to drive economic growth.

"The feasibility study is great news for farmers in the region as it will examine a range of options and identify solutions to increase water supply," Mr O'Dowd said.

"It would underpin an expansion of irrigated agriculture, delivering new

jobs and economic growth in the North and South Burnett regions.

"We have provided nearly \$25 million for 15 feasibility studies to identify potential

new water infrastructure projects that could increase water supply and security for farmers, businesses and communities in Queensland."

The expansion brings the fund's value to more than \$1 billion, on top of the existing \$2 billion National Water Infrastructure Loan Facility program.

There is now more than \$3 billion available for State Governments to build new water infrastructure.