

[REDACTED]
From: [Have Your Say - Agriculture](#)

To: Have Your Say; GAB Secretariat

Subject: [REDACTED] completed Draft Great Artesian Basin Strategic Management Plan 2018 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] just submitted the survey 'Draft Great Artesian Basin Strategic Management Plan 2018' with the responses below.

Respondent Details

Organisation name (if applicable)

Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy

Name

Robert G Dick

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Contact address

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Would you like to complete the submission online or as a written document?

Complete the submission online

Which interest group (if any) do you primarily identify with? (You may tick more than one box)

Local government

Vision

Do you have any feedback about the Vision?

ok

Issues, challenges and opportunities

Do you have any feedback about new or emerging issues, challenges and opportunities?

Challenges Add: Droughts limiting landholder's participation in bore rehabilitation and bore drain replacement funding schemes.

Principle 1: Coordinated governance

Tell us what you think about the principle, its objectives and outcomes.

The principle is clearly explained and appropriate Agree

The objectives of this principle are Not sure

appropriate

The outcomes will measure successful achievement of the objectives Not sure

Do you have any other feedback about this principle and/or its objectives and outcomes?

The downstream (down basin) impacts of CSG water extraction need to be considered, minimised and limited. Under "Objective" a "consistent outcome" could be ongoing unacceptable declining artesian pressure south of Roma with all the CSG water extraction that is occurring between Roma/Chinchilla cutting off recharge from the intake beds as overlying and underlying aquifers drain into the Walloon Coal Measures being dewatered either directly through thin "aquitards" or indirectly through bores screens across multiple aquifers. Positive artesian pressure gains needs to be included in Objective with an associated Outcome dot point.

Principle 2: A healthy resource

Tell us what you think about the principle, its objectives and outcomes.

The principle is clearly explained and appropriate Agree

The objectives of this principle are appropriate Not sure

The outcomes will measure successful achievement of the objectives Not sure

Do you have any other feedback about this principle and/or its objectives and outcomes?

Can take some elements from answers provided to Principle 1 and Principle 4. Objective: Need to refer to "sustainably" meet the needs of communities and industries. Outcomes: Water Resource Plans need to set limits well ahead of 2033 !!! Say 2024.? Also, on Page 10 in the 6th para I disagree that "it is neither possible nor practical to achieve a balance" I think this is a defeatists attitude and setting us down a poor management path. I dislike the last two sentences, viz: "Due to the.....subregional scale.) Some general points from these two sentences could go into the paras that follow in the Plan.

Principle 3: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander values, cultural heritage and other community values

Tell us what you think about the principle, its objectives and outcomes.

The principle is clearly explained and appropriate Disagree

The objectives of this principle are appropriate Strongly agree

The outcomes will measure successful achievement of the objectives Strongly agree

Do you have any other feedback about this principle and/or its objectives and outcomes?

Principle: Reword, delete "means values.....other stakeholders" (The Principle shouldn't need an explanation of what it 'means'. Principle 1 and 2 did not have "means...etc")

Principle 4: Secure and managed access

Tell us what you think about the principle, its objectives and outcomes.

The principle is clearly explained and appropriate Disagree

The objectives of this principle are appropriate Disagree

The outcomes will measure successful achievement of the objectives Disagree

objectives

Do you have any other feedback about this principle and/or its objectives and outcomes?

Principle: Reword to read: Secure and managed access is provided for the environment and authorised water users to have secure entitlements to access, extract and use groundwater in accordance with rights and responsibilities. (The Principle shouldn't need an explanation of what it 'means'. Principle 1 and 2 did not have "means...etc") Objectives: Need to include full accounting of water taken including de-watering for CSG operations, in particular the leaking of overlying and underlying aquifers into the coal bearing strata that are being dewatered. Additionally, bore rehabilitation and bore drain replacement programs need to feature as being a facilitator of water security. Without ALL bores capped and piped there can be NO security of entitlements as pressures will continue to decline due to the ongoing waste and there will be no guarantee of entitlement/security being available. (need to add relevant words to the 3rd, 4th and 6th paras in this section commencing "Both government...", "Over the period..." "To protect security...")

Principle 5: Judicious use

Tell us what you think about the principle, its objectives and outcomes.

The principle is clearly explained and appropriate Disagree

The objectives of this principle are appropriate Agree

The outcomes will measure successful achievement of the objectives Agree

Do you have any other feedback about this principle and/or its objectives and outcomes?

(The Principle shouldn't need an explanation of what it 'means'. Principle 1 and 2 did not have "means...etc") Principle: Reword to read: "Judicious use is the responsible.....appropriate." In the 3rd para starting, "In the past...." Reference to "the past only" needs to be deleted as there is still declining pressure going on in parts of the Basin.

Principle 6: Information, knowledge and understanding for good management

Tell us what you think about the principle, its objectives and outcomes.

The principle is clearly explained and appropriate Disagree

The objectives of this principle are appropriate Agree

The outcomes will measure successful achievement of the objectives Agree

Do you have any other feedback about this principle and/or its objectives and outcomes?

(The Principle shouldn't need an explanation of what it 'means'. Principle 1 and 2 did not have "means...etc") Principle: Replace "means" with "ensures"

Principle 7: Information management, communication and education

Tell us what you think about the principle, its objectives and outcomes.

The principle is clearly explained and appropriate Disagree

The objectives of this principle are appropriate Agree

The outcomes will measure successful achievement of the objectives Agree

Do you have any other feedback about this principle and/or its objectives and outcomes?

(The Principle shouldn't need an explanation of what it 'means'. Principle 1 and 2 did not have "means...etc") Principle: Replace "means" with "ensures"

Implementation

Do you have any feedback about the implementation section of the draft Plan 2018?

When is the first five-year implementation plan to be developed? This needs to be outlined in this Plan. In the first five-year implementation plan 60% of the remaining works as shown in App. C: Table C7, should be budgeted for with 5 years of Forward Funding to enable bore rehabilitation and piping program efficiencies including extension and design staff being maintained in Qld and NSW, with all works to be completed by 2027 in alignment with Qld 2027 timeframe for water tight systems.

Additional feedback

Do you think the principles, objectives and outcomes provides the necessary framework to guide the actions of governments, traditional owners, water users and other interests to achieve continued improvement in the management of the Basin?

Some editing points: Include Format in Table of Contents. Start page numbering a page earlier. On page 4 in the 2nd para under "New or emerging issues, challenges and opportunities reference is made to mega litres ML/year (abbrev reqd in brackets when first sighted) Also the figure of 514,000 in that para is in conflict with the figure of 315,000 ML/year in the 1st para under "Water extraction" on page 11. On page 34 in App C the 2nd column heading is unclear in Table C3

Is there anything else you want to tell us about the management of the Great Artesian Basin?

Main points are: 1. Forward Funding for rehab/piping program. 2. Water accounting to include CSG water extraction

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Declaration

To be completed by the person making the submission. I understand that: • the Australian Government reserves the right to refuse to publish submissions, or parts of submissions, that contain offensive language, potentially defamatory material or copyright infringing material • a request may be made under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 for a submission marked confidential to be made available. Such requests will be determined in accordance with provisions under that Act • if I provide personal information about an individual other than myself, I must make that person aware of the privacy notice in section I of this form and draw their attention to the department's privacy policy.

Confirm that you have read and understand this declaration.

Yes I understand

Confirm that you have read and understand the privacy notice in this form.

Yes I understand

Contacting you

Can we contact you about future activities and projects relating to the Great Artesian Basin Strategic Management Plan 2018?

Yes

Contact name:

Robert Dick

Email:



Confidentiality

Is all of your submission confidential?

No

Is part of your submission confidential?

No

Publication of submissions on our website

Do you agree to your submission being made publicly available?

Yes

Do you agree to us contacting you about your submission if required?

Yes