



*Australian Dairy Industry Council Inc.*

## Media Release

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**Dairy Welcomes Water Buyback Caps Certainty**

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**Monday 14 September 2015**

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**For Immediate Release**

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The [Australian Dairy Industry Council \(ADIC\)](#) has welcomed Federal Parliament's passing of the 2015 Water Amendment Bill, which secures the water buybacks cap in the Murray Darling Basin at 1500 giganlitres (GL).

The ADIC advocated strongly for bipartisan support for the Bill. It will provide Australian dairy farmers and processors in the Murray Darling Basin with certainty about future water availability. This is essential to sustaining their businesses.

The ADIC notes under the legislation environmental water will continue to be recovered through water-saving infrastructure projects. This will benefit the environment, farmers and local communities more effectively than buybacks.

ADIC Chair, Noel Campbell said the certainty of the buybacks cap would give farmers' the confidence to invest in their future sustainability.

"Almost 2000 dairy farms and 16 major milk processing factories are located in the Murray Darling Basin. More than 12,000 people in the region rely on the industry for their livelihood," Mr Campbell said.

"97 % of those farms relying on irrigation for pasture and feed production. Capping buybacks at 1500 GL gives farmers assurance about how the Basin Plan will achieve its targets that they will be able to successfully adapt their practices to produce more milk with less water."

The ADIC recognised the passing of the Commonwealth legislation as an acknowledgement of the importance water access plays across the dairy industry and agriculture more broadly.

To see the ADIC's submission to the 2015 Water Amendment Bill click [here](#).

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