



# Central NSW Joint Organisation

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **For immediate release**

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Approved by: Cr John Medcalf, Chair of Central NSW Joint Organisation, Mayor of Lachlan Shire Council

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### **The Chair of Central NSW Councils calls for sensible work on water security**

Cr John Medcalf, Chair of the Central NSW Councils is calling for more common sense and less sensationalism when working on water security in Central NSW.

“Councils in this region and all along the Lachlan are responsible and experienced water utilities,” said Cr Medcalf.

“The communities of the Lachlan will not run out of water in March 2020 and we are very disappointed that we are getting updated on State activities through the press. As a Joint Organisation of Councils tasked with intergovernmental collaboration, we seek to work with the government every step of the way, not pick up the pieces from misinformation,” said Cr Medcalf.

“The current water sharing regime for the Lachlan, which has been in place since July, sees water till mid 2021. Advice from the State, which is regularly updated, informs communities on when they need to trigger water restrictions. More steps will be put in place where Wyangala is currently at 23.6%,” said Cr Medcalf.

“Town water use of State dams is tiny in comparison to other users. Having said that, communities in Central NSW are pretty good at conserving water – we learnt a lot from the last drought. Communities like Orange at the top of the catchment are doing amazing work using only 140 litres per person per day. Sydney folk use 210.” said Cr Medcalf.

“Councils in this region seek to work with all levels of government in water security and have provided advice to the State government on its priorities for emergency infrastructure and water sharing plans. This region has won a national award for its work in water security. We just want to get on with the job of supporting the government in delivering on its statutory commitments for human consumption.”

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