



CENTRAL NSW  
JOINT ORGANISATION

## MEDIA RELEASE

Date of Release: 2 March 2023

Approved by: Cr Kevin Beatty, Chair of Central NSW Joint Organisation, Mayor of Cabonne Council

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### Saving every drop is harder than you think



“Just because we’ve had rain, it doesn’t mean we can relax when it comes to water security. Drought will come again. Every drop of clean water counts.” said Cr Kevin Beatty, Chair of Central NSW Joint Organisation Board.

“Our national award-winning water utilities’ alliance continues to lead and innovate including through its work over recent years with Sydney University on saving water. This region has gifted to the State our water loss management maturity audit and we are proud to see it has been rolled out across regional NSW,” said Cr Beatty.

“Taking a systematic approach to the problem, Councils across the region have been audited and Council staff are being trained,” said Cr Beatty.

“The training in Parkes earlier in February was very well received by attendees. Detecting and measuring leaks, managing water pressure and using smart systems are all complex and because it is under the ground it is hard to manage and easy to overlook.”

“With the recognition and support of the State Government we are working in partnership to not just deliver results in the next twelve months but to embed innovation and leading practice in water management into the future,” said Cr Beatty.

“We know our towns only use 2% of the region’s water. However, that 2% is very important to our businesses, schools, homes and hospitals. Our towns and cities are important engines for the NSW economy and are growing well above State government projections,” said Cr Beatty.

“We know we have to manage our existing resource as best as possible. We have to do more with less. While making sure we have access to enough water to secure our future we need to say to our funding partners and communities that we are able to save every drop when times are tough,” said Cr Beatty.



The work has been made possible thanks to \$900,000 from the NSW Government’s hugely successful Regional Leakage Reduction Program.



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NSW Minister for Water Kevin Anderson said the NSW Nationals understand that water is the lifeblood of regional communities which is why the NSW Government is investing record funding to guarantee safe, reliable and efficient town water supply.

“Access to safe and reliable drinking water is a basic human right which is why the NSW Nationals in Government have committed \$1 billion to the Safe and Secure Water Program to build, upgrade and modernise critical water infrastructure in regional communities, improving both security and quality,” Mr Anderson said.

“We’ve also supported councils through the hugely successful \$2 million Regional Network Leakage Detection Project which has already surveyed over 4,000 km of network pipes across 23 Local Government Areas, finding a staggering 3.15 billion litres of water leaking each year. Our work in this space has saved more than 1.3 billion litres of water from being lost and we’re aiming to save 7.5 billion litres by the end of next year.”

**ENDS**

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