ROCKHAMPTON’S fitzroy food bowl

SECURE YOUR NEXT IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT IN QUEENSLAND’S MOST RELIABLE AND LARGEST WATER CATCHMENT

A COLLABORATION

This prospectus is funded through the Cooperative Research Centre for Northern Australia, Making Water Work Program
**The Fitzroy Basin**

156,000 km²

**THE FITZROY BASIN** is Australia's second largest water catchment after the Murray-Darling Basin. The Fitzroy Basin is a large, diverse and productive region stretching from the Great Dividing Range to the Great Barrier Reef and covers 156,000 square kilometres. The Fitzroy River is the largest river on the eastern seaboard with an estimated annual water discharge of 5,900 gigalitres.

Activity within the Basin contributes several billion dollars annually to the Australian economy. In the Fitzroy region, approximately 81% of the land area is used for Agriculture, of which 74% is used for grazing and 21% is utilised for broadacre cropping.

The Fitzroy Food Bowl is a key catchment within the Fitzroy Basin and includes the regional hub of Rockhampton, measuring 250km along the Fitzroy River with 45,000 hectares of suitable land for irrigation.

**ROCKHAMPTON’S irrigation strengths**

- 45,800 Hectares of suitable land for irrigation
- 165,000 Megalitres of supplemented water
- 46,800 Megalitres of unsupplemented water

**ROCKHAMPTON**

Capital of Central Queensland

- 260,000 Central Queensland population
- 79.8% Economic Growth 2011-2021
- $5.71B Diversified regional economy
- $770M agricultural and food manufacturing
- 24HR Access to our industrial precincts through developed supply chain infrastructure
- 1HR Flight to Brisbane from Rockhampton's internationally capable airport

**WATER DEVELOPMENT enablers the food bowl**

- 5,900GL (gigalitres) annual flow
- 12 Sydney Harbours

**East Coast's largest and most reliable catchment**

**NOW**

- Eden Bann Weir
- Fitzroy Barrage (Urban water)

**LATE 2023**

- Rookwood Weir (72,000ML) construction to be completed

**FUTURE**

- Raising of Eden Bann Weir (EIS Approved)
FITZROY FOOD BOWL

agricultural opportunities

Currently, the Fitzroy Region produces 13% of Queensland’s $13B annual value of agricultural production focusing on beef, cropping and horticulture.

With the development of water infrastructure in the Fitzroy Food Bowl, the Rockhampton Region Economic Development Strategy has identified that irrigated agriculture alone has the potential to add an extra $280M of annual value to local agricultural production.

Increased access to highly reliable bulk water will unlock the underutilised and highly productive 45,000ha of land located along the Fitzroy River.
The completion of Rookwood Weir and the proposed future Eden Bann expansion will underpin increased high value agricultural production, including horticulture, and encourage value-added industries to consider the Fitzroy Food Bowl. The Fitzroy Food Bowl region presents a number of comparative advantages to other regions:

- **Crop Land**
  - Broadacre and horticulture
  - Horticulture Only
  - Limited Crop Land
  - Sown pastures
  - Pasture Land
- **Pasture Land**
  - Sown pastures, and native pasture on high fertility soils
  - Native pastures
  - Native pastures, light grazing

**Availability of Reliable Water**
Increased water infrastructure development with high and medium security water entitlements in an emerging region and market.

**Strategic Location**
Proximity to domestic and export markets with connection to strong growth markets from the Rockhampton, Townsville and Brisbane transport links.

**Supportive Government and Partners**
Further agricultural and water development supported by partners, such as Advance Rockhampton, DAF, CRCNA, and others.

**Developed Supply Chains**
Access to established road, rail, sea and air export infrastructure. A number of established industrial areas such as the local Gracemere Industrial Area (GIA) – 100,000m².

**Fitzroy Food Bowl Projects**
As a result of these advantages the following developments are in progression:
- 1,000,000 Macadamia trees being planted
- An organic fertiliser factory being constructed
- Expansion of lychee orchards
- Expansion of pulse and legume cropping
- Spice cropping and spice seed banks
- 36,500 head cattle feedlot being constructed
INVESTMENT ENABLING MECHANISMS

THE NORTHERN AUSTRALIA INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITY
Finance and equity investments

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE
International investment and trade

ADVANCE QUEENSLAND
Grants and innovation advice

QUEENSLAND RURAL INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Finance and grants

ROCKHAMPTON MANUFACTURING HUB
Business development programs and grants

ADVANCE ROCKHAMPTON
Lead Economic Development Agency for the Rockhampton Region. What can we do for you?

- Facilitate investment including access to relevant data holds such as GIS mapping
- Organising field trips to potential sites and bulk water assets
- Organise meetings with Council infrastructure planners
- Organise meetings with the Council owned Rockhampton Airport management to discuss airfreight logistics
- Organise pre-lodgement meetings with Council’s planning departments
- Organise direct contact with Sunwater and Fitzroy River Water
- Organise contact with relevant State Government agencies
- Organise contact with employment agencies

Speak to Wade and the Advance Rockhampton team
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