



# MEDIA RELEASE

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Approved by: Cr Gary Rush, Chair of Centroc, Mayor of Bathurst Regional Council, Ms Mary Ewing, Lachlan Valley Water and Mr Michael Payten, Chair, Belubula Landholders Association

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## **Partnership between Centroc, Lachlan Valley Water and the Belubula Landholders Association aims for healthy towns and a successful agricultural sector**

Central NSW Councils, Lachlan Valley Water and the Belubula Landholders Association have consolidated their joint position on investigations into potential new water storage options in the Lachlan catchment.

Chair of Centroc Cr Gary Rush said with the start of Phase Two of the Lachlan Priority Catchment Water Security Investigations by WaterNSW it is crucial the right balance is struck between the region's urban, economic and agricultural water needs and the environment.

"Water security is currently limiting economic development in the towns, industrial, mining and agricultural sectors of the Lachlan Valley; Centroc, Lachlan Valley Water and the Belubula Landholders Association have welcomed announcement of Phase Two investigations."

"The expectation of the three organisations is that investigations will ensure an informed decision is made regarding options for a new storage that will offer substantial improvements for both urban and agricultural water security in the Lachlan catchment while ensuring the health of our environment," said Cr Rush.

"The three organisations represent a broad cross section of our communities' interests and we welcome the opportunity to actively participate in the investigation of options through the stakeholder engagement strategy being developed by WaterNSW."

"While the security of urban water supplies is of the highest priority for Centroc, the prosperity of our region is closely tied to both healthy towns and a successful agricultural sector."

"Investment in additional water storage that addresses urban and agricultural water needs while providing community wide benefits through flood management in the Lachlan and Belubula River Valleys is supported by all three organisations."

"We look forward to continuing this positive partnership with Lachlan Valley Water and the Belubula Landholders Association to ensure the best possible outcomes for Central NSW communities," Cr Rush said.

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**For media enquiry:** Contact Meredith Macpherson, Central NSW Councils 0427 451 085