



MEDIA RELEASE

The Hon Bruce Scott MP

QLD Nationals State President and Federal Member for Maranoa

Friday, 24 March 2006

Water saving options investigation to commence soon

The Page Research Centre will conduct a study into options for better targeting of public funds for water projects to deliver the best outcomes identified by the National Water Initiative.

Former Deputy Prime Minister and current Federal Member for Gwydir, John Anderson kicked off the National Water Initiative and now Queensland Nationals President and Federal Member for Maranoa, Bruce Scott will chair the study which will focus on how the Nation can maintain a sustainable use of its water resource.

Mr Scott said he was pleased to take on the study because he is concerned primarily with waste water only being used once.

"It is simply not sustainable for one of the driest continents on earth to be using our precious natural resource of water once only," Mr Scott said

"If we want to meet the demands of water needs from industry agriculture, recreation and the public, it is necessary to develop strategies to re-use and recycle our urban waste water which is currently being used only once.

"Further, targets should be set for ending outflow of urban waste water into the oceans and rivers. It is not sustainable to use water only once if we are to meet growing demands from the public, industry and agriculture.

"Water is a critical issue in order to sustain all forms of life. All communities across Australia need to make some major decisions on how to secure their water resources into the future.

As Chair of the study, Mr Scott plans to talk with many of the major stakeholders in water policy, such as local government, industry and farm organisations.

If you would like to be involved with the study by making a submission, please contact Dr Troy Whitford, Executive Director of the Page Research Centre, on 02 6933 1117 or email him at info@page.org.au.

The final research paper will be delivered in May and the Page Research Centre will hold a round table discussion in Canberra in April.

-ends-
