
**LAKE WYANGAN & CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
THURSDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2023 COMMENCING AT 5:00PM**

PRESENT

Mayor Doug Curran (Chair), Councillor Chris Sutton (Councillor - Alternate), Councillor Anne Napoli, Frank Battistel (Community Representative), Peter Borella (Community Representative), Michael Crump (Community Representative), Carmel La Rocca (Community Representative), Thomas Mackerras (Community Representative), Ema Munro (Community Representative), Kelvin Williams (Community Representative), Tom Armstrong (By Invitation)

Quorum = 3

STAFF

General Manager, Brett Stonestreet, Director Utilities, Graham Gordon, Principal Officer Environment, Nagamani Raju Maddi, and Director Sustainable Development, Bruce Gibbs, Minute Taker, Hannah Hall

ABSENT

Jasmeen Patel (Community Representative), Jade Salvestro (Community Representative) and Urban Strategic Design & Major Projects Manager, Peter Badenhorst.

1 APOLOGIES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Carmel La Rocca and Michael Crump that apologies be received from Paul Eldridge & John McFadzen.

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 December 2022, having first been circulated amongst all members, be confirmed.

3 BUSINESS ARISING

Nil

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pecuniary Interests

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

Less Than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

5 ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Ema Munro entered the meeting, the time being 5:03 pm

A presentation via Zoom on Salt Water Use Options was presented by Mark Gabsch, Managing Director of Bactivate.

Councillor Chris Sutton entered the meeting, the time being 5:08 pm.

Mr Gabsch presented four options on Salt Water Use, those being;

1. Reverse Osmosis
2. Forward Osmosis
3. SA1000
4. Water Conditioning

Based on the information he has received regarding Lake Wyangan, Mr Gabsch recommended either SA1000 or Water Conditioning due to low initial capital expenditure and low ongoing costs.

Mayor Doug Curran expressed concern that the option of water conditioning only processes 1ML/day. Mr Gabsch explained that CareFree infrastructure is available in sizes up to 7ML/day.

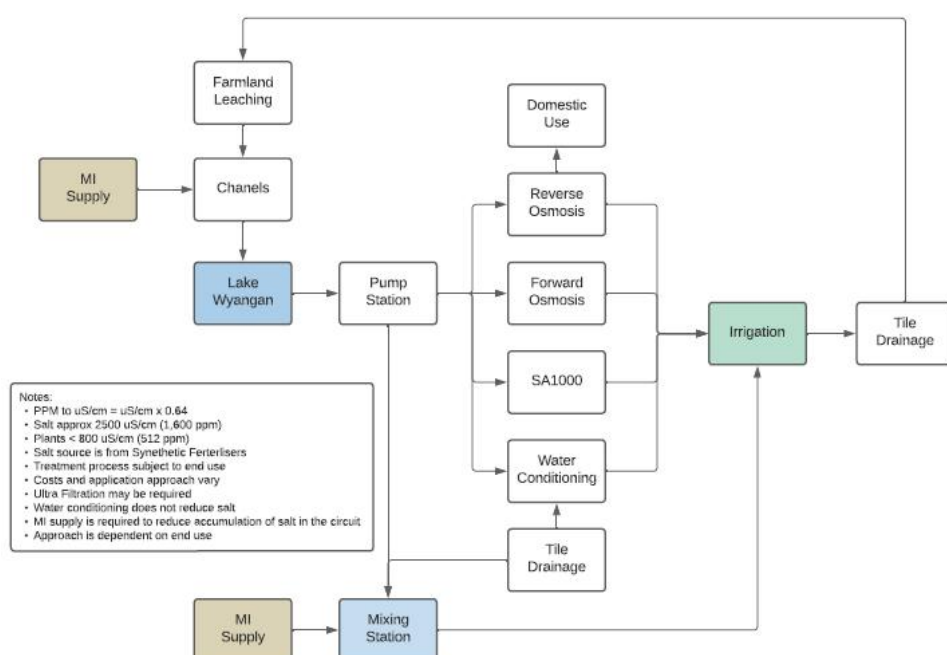
Tom Mackerras entered the meeting, the time being 5:15pm.

Mr Stonestreet questioned the depth of testing that has been conducted on these options. Mr Gabsch advised that extensive testing has been done and will share with the Committee.

Ms Munro asked how the Water Conditioning and the CareFree technology worked, to which Mr Gabsch shared a Video showing how the technology works, by breaking down the salt into smaller particles.

[Care-Free Water Conditioner: How it works - YouTube](#)

Mr Battistel asked if the options of SA1000 and Water Conditioning can be used in conjunction with each other. Mr Gabsch wasn't able to comment, as no testing been conducted.



Reverse Osmosis	Reverse Osmosis is a known and well understood process for the removal of salt. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1ML/Day system cost is around \$2.5 to \$3.0M • Energy intensive • Costly to maintain • Produces 30% Brine (High concentrate waste) • Produces drinking quality water
Forward Osmosis	New Technology for the removal of salt. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1ML/Day system cost is around \$1.5 to \$2.0M • Less Energy Intensive • Less Cost to maintain • Produces a brine - qty yet to be defined • Can be adjusted to produce the quality of water required
SA1000	Requires injection on a constant basis at around 10ppm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10Ltr per day required for 1ML @ \$10/Ltr (\$100 per day = \$36,500 a year) + dosing system • Binds the Sodium and Chloride through a process of binding, buffering, immobilisation, detoxification, filtering, or conversion into a non-toxic soil mineral. • Cleans pipes, drippers, irrigators and helps to preserve infrastructure • Improves plant performance + acts as a clay breaker
Water Conditioning	Water conditioning uses a unique technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 ML/Day unit will cost approximately \$20,000 installed and require a small power supply • It has no moving parts • It does not remove the salt, but changes the behaviour of the mineral particles • Improves plant performance



CL01 LAKE WYANGAN PROJECT OFFICER

Mr Stonestreet commended the Committee and past Committee members on the progress made over the years since the Committee's inception. He stated that the Lake Wyangan and associated projects have evolved due to ongoing investigation, science and student support. As current projects such as the new pipeline, salinity and blue-green algae reduction are progressing, Council is confident it has the relevant skillset in its workforce to carry these out.

Due to this, it is recommended that

- recruitment for the role of Lake Wyangan Project Officer will be suspended for a period of up to 12 months.
- A further report be prepared for the Committee by March 2024 in regard to the position of Lake Wyangan Project Officer.

Mayor Doug Curran asked that the report be prepared earlier and be presented to the Committee in January 2024.

Ms Munro communicated that the idea of having someone dedicated to overseeing the project would be beneficial. Mr Stonestreet explained that in the current Position Description for the role of Lake Wyangan Project Officer, it doesn't require specialty skills such as engineering, which will be needed to oversee current projects.

The Committee discussed different options regarding the flow of water in and out of Lake Wyangan and Mr Gordon advised that this will all be looked at during the future Flood Study of the whole catchment.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Tom Mackerras and Frank Battistel that

- (a) Recruitment for the role of Lake Wyangan Project Officer will be suspended for a period of up to 12 months.
- (b) A further report be prepared for the Committee by January 2024 in regard to the position of Lake Wyangan Project Officer.

Tom Armstrong left the meeting, the time being 6:05pm

CL02 OZ FISH FAMILY FISHING DAY AND RE-STOCKING OF NATIVE FISH IN LAKE WYANGAN

Mr Gibbs briefed the Committee on Mr Armstrong's request for dollar-for-dollar funding up to the amount of \$12,000 for the restocking of Lake Wyangan with native fish, and a contribution of \$2,500 for a Family Fishing Day.

The Family Fishing Day will be catch and release of native fish and a bin for Carp will be supplied and be disposed of by the organisers of the event.

Fish that are released during the restocking are of mature size, as to ensure bigger fish do not eat them.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Carmel La Rocca and Tom Mackerras that Council support OzFish Unlimited and Armstrong Plant Hire by providing funding to a maximum of \$14,500.

Tom Armstrong returned to the meeting, the time being 6:09pm.

Mr Armstrong was advised that he was successful in his application to the Committee.

Mr Armstrong explained that the fish are tagged before being released into Lake Wyangan and their growth and viability are monitored. He expressed his excitement that since the merge of the two lakes, that untagged native fish of great size have been caught.

CL03 HOW TO REVIVE A LAKE - ONE INDIA ONE PEOPLE FOUNDATION

Ms Munro tabled an article titled How to Revive a Lake – One India One People Foundation. She explained that the lake had been revived by a community lead initiative where artificial floating wetlands were erected and positively affected the ecosystem of the lake.

Mayor Curran stated that this option was considered by Council to mitigate the blue green algae issue. However, during that process it was found that the salinity was a greater issue.

Councillor Napoli left the meeting, the time being 6:26pm.

6 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

The Committee noted the Action Report.

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

Mr Crump asked that Council provide previous reports stating options that have been considered to minimise the salinity in Lake Wyangan.

Mr Gordon presented a PowerPoint presentation on the progress of the pipeline from Lake Wyangan to Barren Box swamp.

Mr Williams brought to the Committee's attention that a parcel of his land could be beneficial to Council for future discharge of water to Tharbogang Swamp.

8 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Lake Wyangan & Catchment Management Committee is to be held on Thursday, 25 May 2023 at 5:00pm.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 6:42pm.

Confirmed:

CHAIRPERSON