

Tasmanian Irrigation Development Board

Tasmanian Dairy Conference
8 October 2008

What is the TIDB?

- The TIDB is a skills based Board whose members are drawn principally from the private sector.
- It was formed in March 2008 and earlier this month given a discrete identity as a proprietary company.

Why the TIDB?

- The TIDB was formed to bring private sector experience to the development of irrigation schemes in Tasmania.

What is the TIDB's job?

- To carry on the projects that were developed under the Water Development Plan and SMART Farming initiative.
- The aim is to supply an extra 300 000 ML per year to underpin a doubling of agricultural production by 2015.
- This will help capture Tasmania's water advantage
 - 11.8 per cent of Australia's total annual run-off from less than one per cent of the total land area.

How is the TIDB going about it's job?

- First, by conducting high level engineering and economic feasibility studies to see if a scheme is potentially viable.
- Then, by making the results of this work available to the communities concerned, to work in partnership with the communities concerned to build the case for the development of the scheme.

Why is the TIDB going about its job this way?

- For a scheme to proceed to be built we will have to, together, kick three goals:
 - the scheme must be economically viable.
 - the scheme must be environmentally sustainable.
 - the scheme must be supported by the communities it will serve.

How will a scheme be built and funded?

- The TIDB will be the proponent and build the scheme.
- The capital (capex) will be provided from two sources:
 - a capital contribution from the water users – who will be issued with tradable water rights in return.
 - a capital contribution from public monies.

How will a scheme be managed?

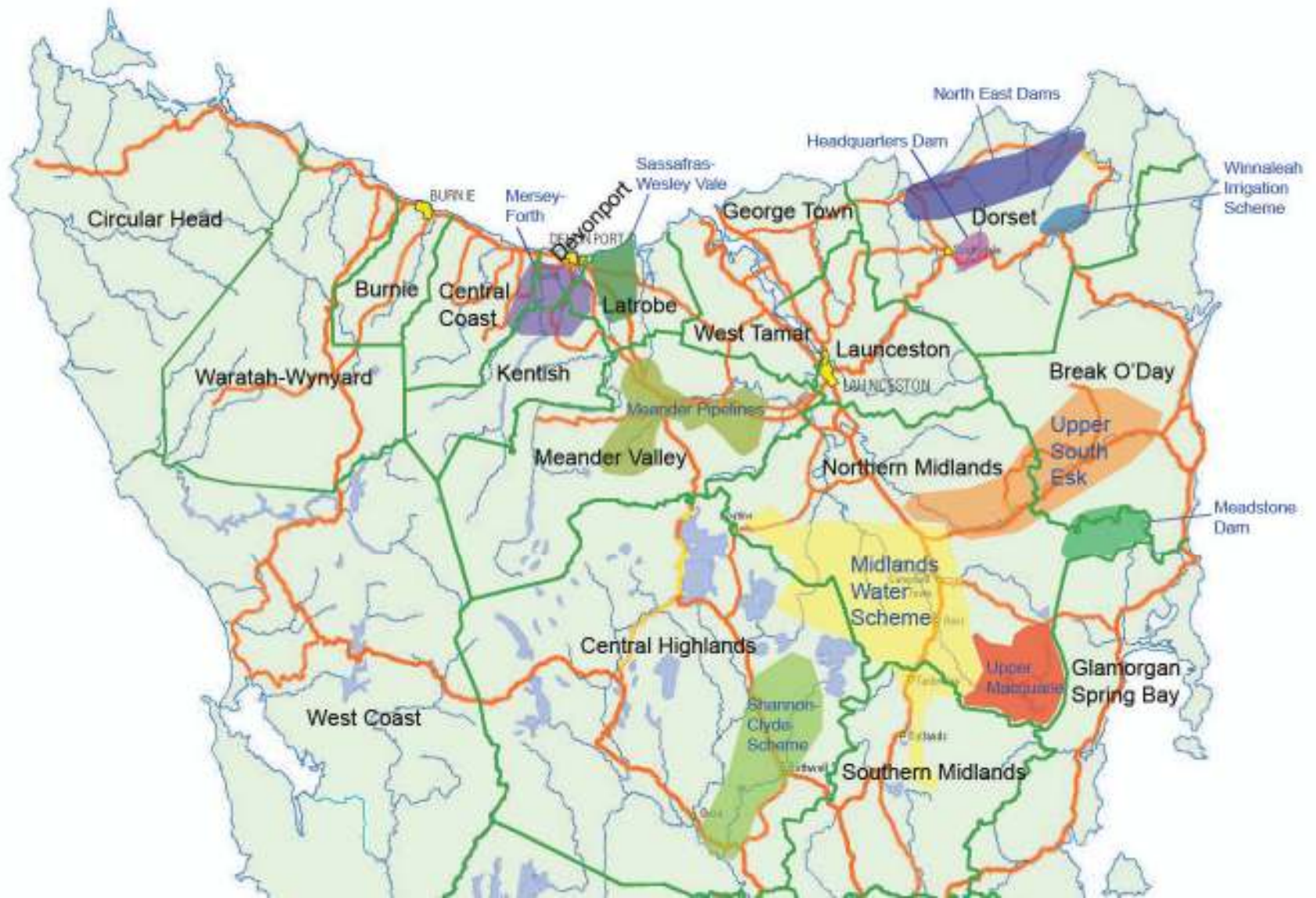
- There will be the opportunity for a scheme to be locally managed, such as is now happening with the Cressy-Longford and Winnaleah Irrigation Schemes.
- There will be the option for a scheme to be managed on an interim basis by Tasmanian Irrigation Schemes Pty Ltd, the operational arm of the Rivers & Water Supply Commission (RWSC).

How will the operation and management of a scheme be funded?

- Ongoing operation costs (opex) will be funded by annual charges paid by the water users.
- There will be no assistance towards opex from the public purse.

Eleven priority projects

- Midlands Water Scheme
- Ouse – Shannon – Clyde Scheme
- North East Dams
- Winnaleah Irrigation Scheme Expansion
- Sassafrass Wesley Vale Irrigation Scheme
- Mersey – Forth Irrigation Schemes
- Meadstone Dam
- Headquarters Road Dam
- Upper Macquarie Dams
- Meander Dam Pipelines
- Upper South Esk Dam



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