



Northern Adelaide Irrigation Scheme (NAIS)

Guidelines for NAIS water delivery contract registrations of interest

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**Government of
South Australia**

1 The Northern Adelaide Irrigation Scheme

The Northern Adelaide Irrigation Scheme (NAIS) will deliver recycled water suitable for commercial food production, opening up a new agribusiness precinct on the Northern Adelaide Plains. NAIS infrastructure will treat, store, and transport climate- and season-independent water to the farm gate.

The NAIS is jointly funded by the South Australian and Australian Governments. This comprises a \$45.6 million contribution from the Australian Government's National Water Infrastructure Development Fund (NWIDF) Capital Component; and a matching \$45.6 million contribution from the State Government; with the remaining \$64.4 million to be funded by NAIS participants through connection fees, availability charges, and metered water use charges.

Construction commenced in April 2018. The project is on track to deliver first water to customers in 2019.

Stage 1 will provide up to 12 GL of NAIS water. Additional water may be released in future stages.

The release of water on this scale represents a once in a generation opportunity to secure a reliable supply of climate-independent water at stable prices under long-term agreements, and supply booming export markets in Asia and across the globe efficiently, sustainably, and profitably.

2 Registrations of Interest

A competitive tender process has demonstrated that there is significant interest in NAIS water. However, SA Water continues to be interested in receiving proposals from relevant businesses with feasible projects.

Accordingly, SA Water is now calling for Registrations of Interest in NAIS water for high-technology horticulture and other advanced agricultural purposes, such as protected fruit and nut orchards, table and wine grapes, high-value field crops, intensive animal husbandry, and aquaculture.

3 Purpose of these Guidelines

These Guidelines are intended to assist project proponents seeking to register their interest in acquiring NAIS water.

4 Eligibility

To be eligible, proponents must be a legal entity with which SA Water can enter into a legally binding contract (i.e. a company, an association, an individual or a trustee of a trust, hold an ABN and if required under the Corporations Act 2001 (Commonwealth) to do so, hold an ACN).

5 Submission

Registrations of Interest should be submitted electronically via email to nais@sawater.com.au.

All Registrations of Interest and supporting material should be in the English language. All attachments should be in an MS Office or Adobe Acrobat format.

If a Registration of Interest cannot be submitted electronically, a hard copy can be posted to:

Northern Adelaide Irrigation Scheme
SA Water Business Development Team
GPO Box 1751
Adelaide SA 5001

It is recommended that Registrations of Interest be sent by registered mail.

6 Characteristics of Desirable Projects

In line with the objectives of the Northern Adelaide Irrigation Scheme, the most desirable projects will:

- demonstrate business viability and project feasibility
- employ state of the art production systems
- focus on interstate and international export markets rather than local markets
- maximise long-term investment and employment outcomes

The most desirable projects will rate highly against the following criteria:

- financial viability of the proponent's business, including capitalization, solvency, profitability, and the proponent's capacity to enter into long-term contractual arrangements with SA Water
- the expertise, capabilities, resources, track record, and financial strength of the proponent
- feasibility of the proposed project, including the market prospects of the product category locally, nationally, and internationally
- geographical location of the proposed project within the Scheme footprint
- potential contribution to South Australia's Gross State Product, including investment value, export revenues, sustainable job creation, and economic multipliers
- anticipated social and environmental impacts

Long-term NAIS Water Delivery Contracts are not available to speculative water traders. However, this does not preclude the use of sophisticated water funding mechanisms by project proponents.

7 Consideration of Registrations of Interest

SA Water will consider Registrations of Interest in line with its commercial objectives and the objectives of the Northern Adelaide Irrigation Scheme. SA Water is under no obligation to offer NAIS Water Delivery Contracts to any proponent.

8 Further Information

Further details about the NAIS are contained in the Call for Project Proposals document and supporting documentation. These documents are available online at nais@sawater.com.au

SA Water has used its best endeavours to ensure the accuracy of this information. However, project proponents should independently verify this information, and make their own judgments about business opportunities and risks. Project proponents should also seek professional advice from agricultural consultants, management consultants, accountants, lawyers, and other relevant professional advisors.

SA Water accepts no responsibility for any adverse business outcomes experienced by businesses participating in the Northern Adelaide Irrigation Scheme.

9 Terms and Conditions

The Call for Project Proposals, the Registration of Interest template, and supporting documents do not constitute an offer of water or other products and services.

The example NAIS Water Delivery Contract is an example only. It does not constitute a promise, offer, or contract. It should not create any legitimate expectation on the part of project proponents.

If SA Water agrees to contract with a project proponent, a formal Water Delivery Contract will be executed by SA Water and the proponent. All terms and conditions for NAIS water will be contained in that executed contract. SA Water's obligations to proponents are strictly limited to those terms and conditions.

10 Confidentiality and Commercial-in-Confidence

If a proponent believes that any information provided in their Registration of Interest is Confidential or Commercial-in-Confidence, they should clearly identify such information and the reason for its confidentiality.

Proponents should be aware that SA Water is subject to certain legislative and administrative accountability and transparency requirements of the Australian Government and Government of South Australia, including public disclosure in accordance with Department of Premier and Cabinet policy.

SA Water will treat information provided by the proponent sensitively. However, SA Water may be required to disclose information contained in or relating to the Registration of Interest, including information identified by the proponent as confidential:

- to its own employees, advisors, contracted third parties, or other government agency partners in order to assess the Registration of Interest
- in response to a request by a House or Committee of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia or South Australia
- promotion of project activities and outcomes
- where information is authorised or permitted by law to be disclosed
- where the information is already in the public domain

11 Enquiries

Proponents are encouraged to make contact with SA Water as they develop their proposed project:

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