

# NSW SUSTAINING THE BASIN *Irrigated farm modernisation*

## Submitting a re-bid application

March 2013

DPI is currently offering irrigators who were unsuccessful in Round 1 a further opportunity to participate in STBIFM.

Round 2 is currently opened and closes at 5pm on 30 April 2013.

Irrigators who were unsuccessful in Round 1 are encouraged to submit a revised funding application.

An application may have been unsuccessful because it failed to comply with the Eligibility Criteria and/or the Essential Criteria, or the submission process specified in the Guidelines.

### The process for submitting a re-bid

Revised applications should be submitted on the official application forms according to the process specified in the Guidelines.

The current application forms are available on the STBIFM secure website. Please do not use earlier versions.

The secure site can be accessed at:

[www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/info/sustainingthebasin/applications](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/info/sustainingthebasin/applications)

Username: STBIFM12

Password: funding

Alternatively, applications can be sourced from your local DPI contact.

### Developing a re-bid

In developing a re-bid the applicant should address the reasons why their original bid was unsuccessful.

If the application was unsuccessful because of technical feasibility or achievable water

savings then the applicant should consider the following.

- Re-scoping the on-farm works (ie altering irrigation designs and/or proposing different works).
- Revising the workplan by identifying new proposed start and completion dates.
- Re-evaluating the water savings and the amount (ML) of water entitlement to be surrendered.

If the application was unsuccessful because of unreasonable costings then the applicant should consider the following.

- Re-costing the works and submitting a revised budget

If the application was unsuccessful on the basis of 'value for money' then the applicant should consider the following.

- Submitting a revised budget including a change in the cost share arrangements (ie applicants may consider contributing more than the minimum 20 per cent of the total cost of the works to reduce the bid price and improve its competitiveness).
- Submitting more than one infrastructure application where there are multiple activities (maximum of three applications per Project ID number (STBIFM Guidelines Section 9.4) Each activity and associated funding application may represent significantly different bid prices.

**Please note:** the same proposed activity cannot be submitted in more than one application and the activity must not be reliant on another application being approved to proceed.

- Revising the bid price (\$/ML) to improve the value for money competitiveness of the re-bid (ie reducing the funds requested and/or

increasing the volume of entitlement to be relinquished).

If an application was unsuccessful because it failed to meet the criteria (eg offered the incorrect water entitlement) the applicant should closely review the project Guidelines to ensure any new application will be deemed eligible for funding.

[DPI project staff](#) are available to help irrigators ensure their application meets eligibility criteria.

### Assessment process

A re-bid application will be assessed according to the same criteria used in Round 1.

STBIFM is being implemented through a competitive tender process. Irrigators have flexibility within the Guidelines of the program to design a water efficiency project which suits their enterprise. The competitive tender process is designed to encourage applicants to develop cost effective water efficiency projects which enhance the sustainability of their business while also offering 'value for money' for the Australian Government's investment.

A [factsheet](#) which explains the basis of the competitive tender process and value for money for taxpayer funded programs is available on the secure section of the project website.

Applications will be assessed on the basis of the information provided by the applicant in their application against the *Merit Criteria* outlined in Section 10.2 of the Guidelines.

Initially an independent Technical and Costings Committee will review applications to determine if each project proposal is technically feasible, the water savings are achievable, it is reasonably costed and in-kind contributions have been calculated on the basis of a sound methodology, or are comparable to quotes for provision of a similar service.

Technically feasible and reasonably costed applications will then be ranked and provided to an independent Investment Panel for assessment against the criteria of value for money (\$/ML).

The estimate of water savings to be provided by the project and the total proposed cost of the project is important. The Application will detail the estimated total water savings to be achieved and describe the activities to achieve those savings.

Most importantly, the Application must identify the overall volume of water entitlement to be transferred to the NSW Government in return for the funding requested (\$/ML). This figure is a key factor in the independent Investment Panel's assessment of applications to determine value for money.

In the event of over subscription of infrastructure funds, additional assessment criteria may be adopted by the Investment Panel to rank eligible projects. The assessment criteria may include a consideration of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, sustainable diversion limits (SDLs) and the relevant water sharing plans.

### Further information

Assistance and further information on submitting a re-bid application is available by emailing [IFM.info@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:IFM.info@dpi.nsw.gov.au) or by contacting your local DPI project staff member.

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Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (March 2013). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the Department of Primary Industries or the user's independent adviser.

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