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CAPRICORN ENTERPRISE STRONGLY SUPPORTS ROOKWOOD WEIR

CEO Mary Carroll: “Get it built”

Capricorn Enterprise has reaffirmed its “unequivocal support” for the earliest possible construction of Rookwood Weir.

Capricorn Enterprise CEO Mary Carroll said today the organisation believed construction of the weir would provide an immediate jobs boost in the region and the longer-term benefits would make a major contribution to the region’s economy.

“Rookwood Weir is a vitally important project for Central Queensland,” Ms Carroll said. “Our position is simple: let’s get it built.

“Central Queensland already produces more than one billion dollars’ worth of agricultural produce every year. With water from Rookwood Weir, that could double in value.

“And, apart from the jobs in construction of the weir, increased production of high-value agriculture produce could create more than 2,000 fulltime jobs in the region.

“Those two things together would give our region a fantastic boost to the economy that would flow through to shops and other businesses in Rockhampton and the whole region.

“The water stored by Rookwood Weir also would give surety to major business operators throughout the whole CQ region, including Gladstone, which industry must have a reliable water supply.”

Ms Carroll said doubling agricultural production from the region would involve converting existing grazing lands into irrigated high-value crop production for human consumption and for feedlot use.

“Plentiful fertile land, water infrastructure and sovereign security provide the region with a secure longer term investment opportunity with adequate investment scale to attract external capital, and there would be other allied investment opportunities across the Central Queensland region as well,” Ms Carroll said.

“All this depends on getting Rookwood Weir built. We want to see it get underway. The sooner it starts, the sooner new investment and new jobs will start flowing.

The owner of *Artisan Gluten Free Bakery*, Simone Lawrie understands that the building of Rookwood Weir will only help the community expand and allow increased custom for small business in Rockhampton.

“It is great that through the support by the LNP for Rookwood Weir, we will see the economic benefits flow through to the regions”.

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