

Funding For Yanakie Water Security Study

South Gippsland Water welcomes Minister Neville's announcement of funding of \$50,000 to undertake a feasibility study to explore long-term water supply options for Yanakie.

The Yanakie district has recently experienced record low rainfall and the local farming community joined forces to look at options for long term water security for the area. The announcement was made on the property of Alex and Tricia Moon who are one of the properties to pump water from a nearby spring during 2015 and 2016. Mr Moon is president of the Yanakie Progress Association, a group committed to exploring options to secure Yanakie's water supply to meet the needs of the community and local farming and tourism industries.

Philippe du Plessis, Managing Director, said, "South Gippsland Water, the Victorian Government and stakeholder agencies have been working with the Yanakie Progress Association to identify a range of different options that could support the area during times of low rainfall and drought."

Funding for this feasibility study is key to determine viable options for securing water for both residential and on-farm supply; the study will take into account possible pipeline options and improvements to on-farm surface water storages.

"It's important for there to be a collective approach to water use and drought relief across the region," added Mr du Plessis. "We are keen to be innovative and supportive in finding water supply solutions for the local community."

"Importantly, now there's been rainfall to ease the pressure, we encourage landholders to work closely with their industry bodies to plan for efficient water use that will support productivity and business during future dry times."

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Caption

L to R – Jim Fawcett, Director South Gippsland Water; Minister Lisa Neville; Alex Moon, President Yanakie Progress Association; Chris Hughes, Southern Rural Water.

Photo supplied by The Foster Mirror.