

## EP Desalination Project: MSRP Meeting – September 2023

| Project Name                                          | EP Desalination Project                                 |   |                                                      |      |                                                        |   |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Purpose                                               | Regular MSRP Meeting (09)                               |   |                                                      |      |                                                        |   |
| Date                                                  | 15/09/2023                                              |   |                                                      | Time | 10am (ACST)                                            |   |
| Venue                                                 | Online (Webex)                                          |   |                                                      |      |                                                        |   |
| Attendance<br>Ab =Absent<br>Ap=Apologies<br>P=Present | Dr Don Plowman<br>MSRP Chair                            | P | Dr Anu Kumar<br>MSRP                                 | P    | Prof Sean Connell<br>MSRP                              | P |
|                                                       | Dr Ian Wallis<br>MSRP                                   | P | Dr John Luick<br>MSRP                                | P    | Dr Beth Fulton<br>MSRP                                 | P |
|                                                       | Dr Hazel Vandeleur<br>SA Water EP<br>Environmental lead | P | David Henchcliffe<br>SA Water EP Project<br>Director | Ap   | Tiani Zollo Semmler<br>SA Water – Executive<br>Officer | P |
|                                                       |                                                         |   |                                                      |      |                                                        |   |

The ninth meeting of the Marine Science Review Panel for the Eyre Peninsula Desalination Project was held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September 2023. The meeting began with an acknowledgement of country.

The agenda for the Panel's meeting included a project update and outline of the draft marine design and preliminary modelling findings by SA Water.

The panel also discussed the MSRP attendance and role at the upcoming marine science forum (to be held on 21/09/2023) as well as the progress and updates within SA Water's marine study programme. In other business the panel discussed the proposal of a whole of bays monitoring program which was suggested in the previous meeting as well the panel's terms of reference.

### Outcomes from the Panel's discussion is summarised below:

Given the project has moved from site selection to engineering design and preparation of the Development Application documents, the panel agreed the current Guidance Principles should be reviewed and determination made as to whether they are still valid or require updating.

The MSRP Chair outlined that he and SA Water representatives met with PIRSA to further discuss the potential to share data across organisations. Given that data collected by SA Water, the EPA and PIRSA could be useful for all Agencies. The discussions also broadly touched on the wider potential for a more holistic 'Whole of bays' monitoring program. These discussions are still ongoing with the hope that commitment for this program will be supported by PIRSA.

The panel will prepare a summary of advice to SA Water regarding the environmental considerations relating to the preliminary marine design and required near field modelling that should be considered as the design progresses.

The panel reviewed the issues raised from the aquaculture industries and provided comments leading up to the Marine Science Forum. The Chair and John Luick will attend the forum on behalf of the MSRP. It was agreed that the MSRP will not have an active role in this forum. They will review the outcome/findings on the meetings and provide further comments as appropriate.

A brief discussion of potential mussel monitoring works. The panel agreed that mussel experiments would be of benefit only if they can be developed in collaboration with the aquaculture industry (which can feed into the proposal whole bay management approach). The panel were also

supportive for the project team to continue to consider how green design and other optimisations (e.g., modification of plant operations in extreme events) can be implemented into the plant's design and operation.

### **Next meeting**

The panel agreed to move to bi-monthly meetings, with the next meeting to be held in November. The next meeting will involve a recap of outcomes of the marine science forum. The meeting will also allow for discussions regarding the progression of developing the marine design and associated modelling as well the marine studies program.