



The Hon Nicola Centofanti MLC
Member of the Legislative Council
Parliament House
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Ms Centofanti

Determination under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991*

I refer to your application made under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* received by the Office of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries on 13 September 2023 requesting access to the following:

“A copy of all correspondence and meeting documents including but not limited to hard copy or electronic briefings, minutes, emails, letters, meeting agendas, and any other correspondence to and from the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development regarding levee management between 12/03/2023 and 13/09/2023.”

Accordingly, the following determination has been finalised.

I have located three documents that are captured within the scope of your request.

Determination 1

I have determined that access to the following document is **granted in part**:

Doc No.	Description of document	No. of Pages
1	Email from Office of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development dated 15/03/2023 encl letter re Irrigators in the Lower Murray	3

The information removed from the above document is pursuant to Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 of the Freedom of Information Act which states:

“6 - Documents affecting personal affairs

(1) A document is an exempt document if it contains matter the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead).”

The information removed consists of an individual’s name and email address. It is considered that members of the public can correspond with Members of Parliament without fear that their identities are released.

Accordingly, it is considered that disclosure of this information would be an unreasonable intrusion into the privacy rights of the individual concerned.

Determination 2

I have determined that access to the following documents is **refused**:

Doc No.	Description of document	No. of Pages
2	Parliamentary Briefing Note dated 15/05/2023	4
3	Parliamentary Briefing Note dated 23/06/2023	5

Access to the above documents is refused pursuant to Clause 17(c) of Schedule 1 of the Freedom of Information Act which states:

“17 – Documents subject to contempt etc

*A document is an exempt document if it contains matter the public disclosure of which would, but for any immunity of the Crown –
(c) infringe the privilege of Parliament.”*

The documents consist of briefing notes which were specifically prepared for the purpose of use in proceedings in Parliament. Disclosure of this information would infringe the privilege of Parliament.

If you are unhappy with this determination you are entitled to exercise your rights of external review with the Ombudsman SA. Alternatively, you can apply to the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (SACAT). If you wish to seek a review, you must do so within 30 calendar days of receiving this determination.

For more information about seeking a review or appeal, please contact the Ombudsman SA on telephone (08) 8226 8699 or SACAT on 1800 723 767.

In accordance with the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045, details of your application, and the documents to which you are given access, will be published in PIRSA’s disclosure log. A copy of PC045 can be found at http://dpc.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/20818/PC045-Disclosure-Log-Policy.pdf. If you disagree with publication, please advise the undersigned in writing within fourteen days from the date of this determination.

Should you require further information or clarification with respect to this matter, please contact Ms Rachael Colegate on 8226 2931 or email: Minister.Scriven@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. M. Scriven', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Hon Clare Scriven MLC
MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR FOREST INDUSTRIES

16 / 10 / 2023

Gonos, Anthea (PIRSA)

From: PIRSA:Minister Scriven
Sent: Wednesday, 15 March 2023 10:38 AM
To: Clause 6(1)
Subject: eA198772 - Minister Scriven Correspondence
Attachments: eA198772 - Minister Scriven Correspondence.pdf

OFFICIAL

Document ID: eA198772

Dear Clause 6(1)

Please see attached correspondence from Minister Scriven regarding irrigators in the Lower Murray

Kind regards

Office of the Hon Clare Scriven MLC
Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries
Government of South Australia | 1 King William Street, Adelaide
GPO Box 1671 Adelaide SA 5001
T: +61 8226 2931 | **E:** Minister.Scriven@sa.gov.au
pir.sa.gov.au



The Department of Primary Industries and Regions respects Aboriginal people as the state's first people and nations. We recognise Aboriginal people as traditional owners and occupants of South Australian land and waters. We pay our respects to Aboriginal cultures and to Elders past, present and emerging.

Disclaimer: The information in this email may be confidential and/or legally privileged. Use or disclosure of the information by anyone other than the intended recipient is prohibited and may be unlawful.

eA198772



Government
of South Australia

The Hon Clare Scriven MLC

Clause 6(1)

Dear Clause 6(1)

Thank you for your email sent to Adrian Pederick MP on 24 January 2023 forwarded to me about irrigators in the Lower Murray.

The complexities of the issues relating to the repair and future management of the levee network and the subsequent impacts on primary producers is well understood by the government. Senior State Government representatives have been in regular contact with producers in the Lower Murray area and relevant industry groups and have seen first-hand the challenges for recovery from this flood event.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA), in collaboration with industry and other state government agencies, has commenced an engagement process with Irrigation Trusts and landholders in the Lower Murray to discuss local issues and options for de-watering.

The Department of Environment and Water (DEW) is the lead agency for the assessment of government owned levees post flood. Inspections will be undertaken once levees are no longer engaged by water and it is deemed safe to do so. In the meantime, drones are being used to monitor water levels around government-owned levees.

Recovery of the Lower Murray Reclaimed Irrigation Areas will require an extended period of time to assess and plan. As the water will recede at different rates along the river system and the issues for each area are unique, the timing of this process will be varied for each irrigation area impacted.

Some de-watering has commenced, but as this is still an ongoing event it is still too early to determine the requirements and how long dewatering will take. In many cases dewatering cannot be undertaken until levees are assessed and repaired.

PIRSA is currently delivering a range of flood recovery assistance to support primary producers with the matters you raise. Assistance includes wellbeing support through the Family and Business Mentor service, financial grants, fodder relief, information services, animal relief and fish kill clean up. More information is available through the PIRSA website under 'River Murray flood'.

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries

GPO Box 1671 Adelaide SA 5001
Telephone 08 8226 2931 | Email minister.scriven@sa.gov.au



If producers have questions about the status of their grant application, I recommend they contact the PIRSA Recovery Team on 1800 931 314 for personalised advice.

I appreciate that the uncertainty related to recovery from a natural disaster, where aspects are beyond human control, is incredibly difficult to deal with.

Thank you for writing to me and I hope this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Clare Scriven". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.

Hon Clare Scriven MLC
MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR FOREST INDUSTRIES

14 / 3 / 2023