



GRAIN PRODUCERS SA
The voice of South Australian growers

News

AUGUST 2018

GPSA is a hit at Cleve Field Days

GPSA's exhibit at the Cleve Field Days was a great forum to bring government representatives together with South Australian grain producers. In addition, our exhibit provided growers with the opportunity to engage directly with the Small Business Commissioner, Rural Business Support, the Ag Excellence Alliance, Livestock SA as well as the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator.

Throughout the course of the field days



we provided direct access to political representatives for growers, including Tim Whetstone, Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development,

along with Eddie Hughes, Shadow Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, as well as Adrian Pederick MP and Peter Treloar MP.

SA Government introduces proposed Mining Act

Last month, the Marshall Government introduced amendments to the Mining Act 1971 to begin consultation on improving mining regulation in South Australia. This topic has been a major policy focus for GPSA over past years, reflecting the concerns of our membership base.

A major review of SA's mining legislation was commissioned by the previous State Government in 2016 which resulted in the Statutes Amendment (Leading Practice in Mining) Bill 2017. This Bill proposed amendments to the Mining Act 1971, amongst others, but lapsed due to the timing of the 2018 South Australian election.

In its 2018 election policy statement,

GPSA identified the need to balance agriculture with competing land uses. This statement was released to all major parties for response. In the document, GPSA also lobbied for an independent review of the Mining Act.

Together with other peak bodies, the farm sector has called for a dedicated, government-funded resource to be situated in Primary Producers SA to help farmers access information on their rights when faced with a mining company wanting to explore on their property.

In Opposition, the State Liberals committed to thorough and meaningful consultation with primary industry as part of the legislative process, and support for the Small Business Commissioner to administer a Code of Conduct and dispute resolution service.

The Statutes Amendment (Mineral Resources) Bill 2018 was introduced into Parliament on 2 August, however many issues remain unresolved for agriculture and further consultation is urgently required. We welcome the Minister's commitment to identify improvements.

GPSA will now be seeking amendments to strengthen the rights of land holders and address the imbalance which has been carried forward from the previous Bill, which lapsed in the last Parliament.

GPSA will continue to engage with the government and key stakeholders on the Mining Act while seeking improved clarity and outcomes for growers, when dealing with explorers or miners on their properties.

Read more: www.bit.ly/MiningAct18

Grain Producer - Spring 2018 out now

The Spring 2018 edition of GPSA's Grain Producer magazine is now online!

Top stories include program highlights of the upcoming GrowingSA Conference.

Head to the website to view or download the magazine at www.bit.ly/GrainProducer-Spring18



Hardship support packages

Rainfall across many parts of the state have been below average for the year to date and the forecast is for less than average rainfall for the remainder of the cropping season.

These dry conditions across large parts of South Australia have led to the formation of a Dry Conditions Working Group, convened by PIRSA and chaired by PPSA's Rob Kerin. The areas of particular concern are in the Upper Eyre Peninsula, the Murray Mallee and the North West Pastoral districts.

Farmers experiencing hardship are encouraged to check their eligibility for the Federal Government's Farm Household allowance. Producers may be able to access support in completing the application through Rural Business Support (RBS). RBS also provide free, independent, and confidential counselling services for those experiencing financial difficulties.

Contact RBS on 1800 836 211 or via their website:

www.ruralbusinesssupport.org.au/rural-financial-counselling-service/

Reminder - GPSA AGM

Notice has been given that the annual general meeting (AGM) of Grain Producers SA will be held at the Adelaide Hills Convention Centre, 145A Mount Barker Road, Hahndorf SA 5245 on Friday 14 September 2018 commencing at 11:00am (Adelaide time).

Voting registration will commence at 9:00am.

Draft ESCOSA report released

The Essential Services Commission of South Australia has released its draft report of its inquiry into the South Australian bulk grain export supply chain costs, giving industry the opportunity to consider its draft findings.

The draft report states that at this time the grain export supply chain is not demonstrably inefficient in terms of costs from both an overall and individual supply chain segment perspective. Further, it states that Viterra's returns are not demonstrably unreasonable and strongly dependent on yearly harvest yields.

GPSA has long held the view that Viterra's supply chain costs must be independently reviewed given its dominant market position in SA and impact on grower profitability and competition. The ESCOSA Inquiry is also a means to identify supply chain inefficiencies and how new entrants can sustain and improve their current market. GPSA will be working with ESCOSA in the coming weeks to study and test the report's draft findings and consider new evidence or information

from growers that may be required.

Submissions close on Monday 17 September 2018, with the final report to the Treasurer due by 31 October 2018.

Following the release of the report, GPSA will now be working with ESCOSA in the coming weeks to consider and test the report's draft findings, and consider new evidence or information from growers that may be required.

We are helping ESCOSA to coordinate regional meetings, and we encourage growers to attend and to ensure local issues can be taken into account. The first meetings have been held in Wudinna and Cummins. The next scheduled meeting is:

> **Minlaton: Tuesday 4 September 2018, Minlaton Sporting Club. 7pm for 7:30pm start.**

Light refreshments will be provided.

RSVP to Shane Gale:
shane@grainproducerssa.com.au

Read the draft report at
www.bit.ly/ESCOSAreport

Registrations open for GROWING SA

Registrations are OPEN for the 2018 GROWING SA conference hosted by Grain Producers SA and Livestock SA.

GROWING SA is an opportunity for primary producers to hear the latest in policy developments, farm business advice and commodity research while networking with each other and industry service providers and policy decision-makers.

Register your attendance at <http://www.cvent.com/d/6gqskp/4W>



Minister Whetstone and GPSA Chair Wade Dabinett at the EP Field Days

Help GPSA better advocate for you

GPSA's 2018 Grower Priorities Survey is now online. The survey helps GPSA to better identify areas of concern for members and for the broader industry.

Complete the Grower Priorities survey online at www.bit.ly/GrowerSurvey18 and you'll go in the running to win a \$500 fuel voucher!*

*Fuel voucher entries close September 10



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