



## Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.

PO Box 6118 – Clifford Gardens, Toowoomba QLD 4350  
(22 Vacy Street, Toowoomba QLD 4350)  
Ph 07 4639 2135; Email: [office@hopeaustralia.org.au](mailto:office@hopeaustralia.org.au)  
Website: <http://www.hopeaustralia.org.au>  
ABN 48 036 173 161

## MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 16 October 2015

### **“Murray Darling Basin Authority and the Basin Plan” – Free Community Forum, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

The topic of HOPE’s final FREE community forum for 2015 is the “Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) and the Basin Plan”. The forum will be held on Saturday, 7 November at the Dr Price Room, 6 Little Street, Toowoomba starting at 4pm.



Mr Frank Walker, Director Northern Basin, MDBA says that “the Murray Darling Basin is Australia’s most iconic river system stretching over four States and the ACT and containing 70% of Australia’s irrigated land area. The Basin is ecologically diverse, supporting a wide range of nationally and internationally significant plants, animals and ecosystems. Since European settlement of the Basin, our use of its resources has focused on securing water for our domestic and agricultural needs. We had little understanding of the water needs of the natural environment, and as a result, water has been over-allocated for human use. “

Mr Walker will tell us about the Murray Darling Basin Authority and its role in developing a Basin Plan that provides a coordinated approach to water use across the Basin and achieves the fair, efficient and sustainable use of Basin water resources. This includes how the Basin Plan is being implemented in the northern Basin comprising the catchments upstream of Menindee Lakes on the Darling River. (Toowoomba is located in the upper reaches of the northern Basin).

For further information and/or to reserve your seat at the community forum on Saturday 7 November, please contact the HOPE office on ph: 07 4639 2135 or email: [office@hopeaustralia.org.au](mailto:office@hopeaustralia.org.au) .

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Frank Ondrus".

Frank Ondrus, President – HOPE Inc., ph 07 4639 2135

#### Media enquiries:

Frank Walker, Director, Northern Basin, **Murray Darling Basin Authority**, mob: 0434 734 939