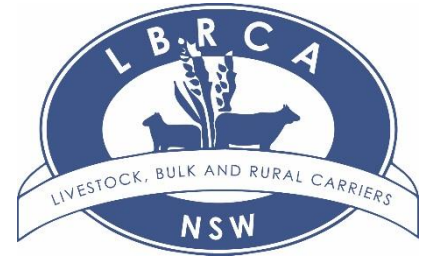


Media Release



COOMA ANNOUNCED AS 12th RECIPIENT OF NSW TRUCK WASH FUNDING

LBRCA President Lynley Miners joined NSW Roads Minister Melinda Pavey this morning to hear the Minister announce a further \$600k of 'Fixing Country Truck Washes' funding to Snowy Monaro Regional Council to address safety and bio-security issues at the existing truck wash site.

Snowy Monaro Regional Council will finally see the fruition of the regions' biggest investment in the saleyards since their construction 24 years ago.

This joint state/federal government cash injection will complement the councils solely funded \$650k saleyards upgrade project that included improvements to drainage, construction of new steel sheep and calf yards, and installation of new water troughs and lighting.

“Current truck wash facilities at the existing site are too short for b-doubles and are located to close to the main highway. For heavy vehicles to use the truck wash facilities they must first reverse the vehicle from the main highway. This manoeuvre is extremely dangerous,” President Miners says.

The funding sought by Snowy Monaro Regional Council will see an additional wash bay constructed, uphill of the existing bays with internal access from the existing circulation road.

President Miners confirmed that “this will provide much safer access for B-double vehicles to use truck wash facilities without the need to undertake an extremely dangerous reversing manoeuvre direct from the main highway”.

The Snowy Monaro region has long battled with contagious diseases including Footrot. A new sludge pumping well immediately down-stream of the existing wash bays will see the diversion of primary effluent to the yard pond, minimising any potential bio-security issues and increasing sustainability practices.

Truck wash facilities are a vital part of the meat and livestock supply chain and are an asset to all primary production areas. Producers and transporters are responsible for ensuring the livelihood of our meat and livestock industry including ensuring the international and domestic reputation of our industry is upheld.

For Cooma, these upgrades will provide economic and social benefits for the whole region from the ACT to the Victorian border and continue to ensure that Cooma remains the regional centre for agribusiness on the Monaro and Snowy Mountains.

Cooma joins Cobar, Barellan Road at Narrandera, Cootamundra and Cowra Saleyards, Walcha, Gunnedah, Upper Hunter, Singleton, Liverpool Plains, Broken Hill and Tenterfield in receiving a slice of funding to under this initiative.

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