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Lake Eyre Basin Secretariat  
Water Division  
Department of Agriculture and Water Resources  
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### **Review of the Lake Eyre Basin Intergovernmental Agreement**

Livestock SA was formed in 2013 to represent the interests of beef cattle, sheep and goat producers in South Australia. Currently Livestock SA has 3,500 members including pastoralists with pastoral leases in the Lake Eyre Basin within South Australia. It is on their behalf that Livestock SA makes the following comments.

The purpose of the Lake Eyre Basin Intergovernmental Agreement is to provide for the development, adoption or implementation of policies and strategies concerning water and related natural resources to avoid or eliminate, as reasonably practicable, adverse cross-border impacts. Not only does the Agreement need to continue, but it must be strengthened to provide for formal structures for both the Community Advisory Committee and the Scientific Advisory Panel. There also needs to be a more sustainable funding model for the Agreement into the future.

It is essential that not only are South Australian interests taken into account but that the interests of South Australian pastoralists are always considered. They are as a whole major stakeholders within this State.

In the case of water, it is highly unpredictable when rainfall will be sufficient to allow flows into South Australia predominantly from the western Queensland Channel Country. Any water capture occurring in Queensland needs to be kept at a minimum to ensure that whenever the opportunity arises these natural flows into South Australia can take place. As much as possible there needs to be a sustainable surface water supply.

Livestock SA wants to ensure that the interests of the pastoralists in the SA GAB are taken into consideration.

For this reason, it is essential that there continue to be a representative from South Australian pastoralists on the Community Advisory Committee.

Currently no irrigation is allowed within South Australia on pastoral leases. Livestock SA is concerned that any increase in irrigation in Queensland plus other extraction will have serious implications for this region of South Australia.

It appears that overall the current Agreement is working as the 2016 assessment of the state of the Basin found the riverine aquatic ecosystem is in relatively good condition. The whole-of-basin approach must continue.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A Curtis', is positioned above the typed name.

Andrew Curtis  
CEO Livestock SA