



**Media Statement**

**March 21, 2018**

**EPA gives green light for irrigated agriculture proposal in the Kimberley**

The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) has recommended the implementation of Kimberley Agriculture Investment's *Carlton Plain: Stage 1* irrigated agriculture proposal, subject to certain conditions.

EPA Chair Dr Tom Hatton said *Carlton Plain Stage 1*, is one of four separate irrigated agriculture proposals across the State undergoing EPA assessment.

"This particular proposal to develop 3,055 hectares of land for irrigated agriculture to grow grains, cotton, perennial horticulture and the like, is the initial component of a three-staged development, within the overall Carlton Plain freehold area," Dr Hatton said

"The EPA considered the proposal's potential impacts on riparian vegetation, the Ord River as well as impacts to local Aboriginal heritage and placed conditions on the proponent to protect the integrity of these important values.

"A number of irrigated agriculture proposals are currently undergoing environmental assessment, and each proposal will be assessed on its individual environmental impacts."

Other irrigated agriculture proposals under assessment include; Gogo Station Irrigated Agriculture Development; Pardoo Irrigated Agriculture Project-Stage 3 and Shamrock Station Irrigation Development.

The EPA's report to the Minister for Environment is now open for a two-week public appeal period, closing Wednesday 4 April 2018. Appeals can be made at [www.appealsconvenor.wa.gov.au](http://www.appealsconvenor.wa.gov.au)

The Minister for Environment will make the final decision on this proposal.

EPA Report 1614 is available at [www.epa.wa.gov.au](http://www.epa.wa.gov.au)

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