

5. CENTRAL PLAINS ENHANCEMENT STEERING COMMITTEE : APPROVAL OF TENDER FOR PHASE III FEASIBILITY STUDIES

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The purpose of this report is to obtain ratification of a decision by the Central Plains Water Enhancement Steering Committee to accept a tender for completion of feasibility studies.

In December 2000 the parent Councils agreed to work proceeding on a second stage of the feasibility studies but being aware that the Steering Committee was not funded to complete the full second stage, required the Committee to limit itself to a first phase and report back to the parent Councils before proceeding to the subsequent phases.

In the event the Committee has been able to fund and complete phases I and II, but requires Council approval before proceeding to phase III of stage II. The approval remains conditional because it depends on the final adoption of each Council's 2001/2002 Annual Plans.

A report by the Steering Committee's Project Manager on the decision of the Steering Committee is attached.

Clause 9(a) of the Constitution for the Central Plains Water Enhancement Special Joint Committee provides as follows:

"Pursuant to Section 4 of the Public Bodies Contracts Act 1959 the Councils delegate to the Committee the power to enter into contracts necessary to carry out the Feasibility Studies to a maximum value of \$100,000".

The decision made by the Steering Committee on 20 June 2001 therefore requires the endorsement of both parent Councils on the basis of delegated authority as well as because of the restraint placed by their December resolution.

Recommendation: That the URS quotation of \$374,300 excl GST for completion of the Stage 2, Phase III Feasibility Studies, subject to confirmation of funding, be accepted.

Chairman's Recommendation: That, as funding provision has been made in the Annual Plan, the Council authorise the Steering Committee to accept the quotation of URS for stage II, phase III Feasibility Studies.