



## David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

---

# Media Statement

November 17, 2017

### **Northern Basin's proposed target reduction tabled in the Senate today**

MARANOA MP David Littleproud has called for Labor Senators to back Queensland communities as the Greens in the Upper House yesterday toyed with the Murray Darling Basin Authority's (MDBA) proposed amendments to the Basin Plan 2012.

"The Greens are hell-bent on destroying agriculture in Qld and challenging the very existence of towns like St George and Dirranbandi by putting forward a disallowance motion in the Senate yesterday to the Basin Plan amendments," Mr Littleproud said.

"The MDBA recommended to the Federal Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources that the Northern Basin's target be reduced from 390GL to 320GL – this reduction is an acknowledgment of the profound recovery target impact on St George and Dirranbandi but here's the Greens throwing the whole thing into uncertainty.

"All affected state water ministers support this reduced recovery target and it's gone through an independent review but the Greens haven't got a clue and think cotton grows fully-formed in the shape of a t-shirt.

"I'm calling for Labor to back Queensland and support these amendments as this recommendation goes towards protecting family farms and small businesses which support smaller irrigators in the Lower Balonne from further buyback affects.

"Qld Labor Senators Watt, Ketter, Chisholm and Moore must now stand up and be counted for our state today and commit to vote with the Coalition and pass these amendments.

"I've lived in St George so I understand the value of water to this region and the economy – the Greens are out of touch.

"Affected communities in my electorate want to get on with life and get back to business by producing the world's best food, fibre and cotton.

"Certainty surrounding this plan is what's needed for us to move forward – that's why this plan needs to be resolved and I'm calling for Labor to Queensland support."

For more information on the proposed Basin Plan amendments, visit:

[www.mdba.gov.au/basin-plan-roll-out/basin-plan-amendments](http://www.mdba.gov.au/basin-plan-roll-out/basin-plan-amendments)

–ENDS–

**Media Contact:** Eloise Handley

M: 0411 095 860

E: [eloise.handley@aph.gov.au](mailto:eloise.handley@aph.gov.au)

---