

NSWIC Guiding Principles

Integrity

Environmental health and sustainable resource access is integral to a successful irrigation industry.

Water property rights (including accessibility, reliability and their fundamental characteristics) must be protected regardless of ownership.

Certainty and stability is fundamental for all water users.

All water (agricultural, environmental, cultural and industrial) must be measured, and used efficiently and effectively.

Leadership

Irrigation farmers in NSW and Australia are world leaders in water-efficient production with high ethical and environmental standards.

Developing leadership will strengthen the sector and ensure competitiveness globally.

Industry has zero tolerance for water theft.

Evidence

Evidence-based policy is essential. Research must be on-going, and include review mechanisms, to ensure the best-available data can inform best-practice policy through adaptive processes.

Innovation is fostered through research and development.

Decision-making must ensure no negative unmitigated third-party impacts, including understanding cumulative and socio-economic impacts.

Collaboration

Irrigation farmers are stewards of tremendous knowledge in water management, and extensive consultation is needed to utilise this knowledge.

Government and industry must work together to ensure communication is informative, timely, and accessible.

Irrigation farmers respect the prioritisation of water in the allocation framework.

Collaboration with indigenous nations improves water management.