

March 29, 2023

**ORDINARY MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL MEETING**

TO BE HELD

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2023

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA No. 1

**JAY NANKIVELL
GENERAL MANAGER**

FURTHER BUSINESS

1. MAYORAL MINUTE NO. 5/23 - DATED MARCH 29, 2023 - MENINDEE LAKES
FISH KILLS (D23/16597)..... 3

ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
March 29, 2023**ITEM 1**MAYORAL MINUTE NO. 5/23SUBJECT: MENINDEE LAKES FISH KILLSD23/16597**Summary**

I provide the following Mayoral Minute in response to the March 2023 mass fish kills at Menindee Lakes that is a result of eutrophication of water bodies caused by excess phosphorus and nitrogen likely from runoff from farm irrigation; and to call on the government to conduct a parliamentary enquiry to ensure we never experience a fish kill of this magnitude at Menindee Lakes again.

Recommendation

1. That Mayoral Minute No. 5/23 dated March 29, 2023, be received.
2. That Council sends correspondence to the State and Federal Water Ministers and Shadow Ministers, MP Roy Butler and MP Mark Coulton asking for action and acknowledgment of fish kills in and around Menindee Lake, that is a result of eutrophication of water bodies caused by excess phosphorus and nitrogen likely from runoff from irrigation.
3. That Council notes excess nitrogen and phosphorus can be washed from farm fields and into waterways during rain events and can also leach through the soil and into groundwater over time. High levels of nitrogen and phosphorus can cause eutrophication of water bodies. Eutrophication can lead to hypoxia (“dead zones”), causing fish kills and a decrease in aquatic life. Excess nutrients can cause harmful algal blooms in freshwater systems, which not only disrupt wildlife but can also produce toxins harmful to humans. Farmers apply nutrients on their fields in the form of chemical fertilisers and animal manure, which provide crops with the nitrogen and phosphorus necessary to grow and produce our food or fibre. However, when nitrogen and phosphorus are not fully utilised by the growing plants, they can be lost from the farm fields and negatively impact downstream water quality.
4. That Council rejects the concept that the Eutrophication that led to hypoxia (“dead zones”), was part of a normal flooding event and is of the opinion it was directly caused by excess fertilisers washing from farms used for crops which increased algal blooms that ultimately caused the dead zones, and that all governments take immediate action by way of a parliamentary enquiry to ensure we never experience a fish kill of the magnitude we face now.
5. That all mentioned parliamentarians are directed to the many similar cases of Eutrophication that led to hypoxia (“dead zones”) on the Mississippi River and around the world.

Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

T. KENNEDY
MAYOR

CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

1. MAYORAL MINUTE NO. 6/23 - DATED MARCH 29, 2023 - CIVIC CENTRE LEGAL MATTER UPDATE - **CONFIDENTIAL**

(General Manager's Note: This report considers a current legal matter and is deemed confidential under Section 10A(2) (e) (g) of the Local Government Act, 1993 which provides for information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law; AND which contains advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege).



CITY COUNCIL

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