

Producer Notice Two

Queensland Floods

Disaster Recovery Assistance



28 February 2013

Information

Pig producers directly affected by Tropical Cyclone Oswald and the associated rainfall and flooding between 21-29 January 2013 may be eligible for disaster recovery assistance under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) administered by the Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority (QRAA). Two forms of assistance are available: *Category C - Special Disaster Assistance*, and *Category D – Exceptional Disaster Assistance*.

Who is eligible?

Pig producers who were engaged in their business during TC Oswald, who intend to re-establish the enterprise and who are responsible for meeting the costs being claimed are eligible to apply. You must also be located in the local government areas of Bundaberg, the Fraser Coast, Gladstone, Gympie, the Lockyer Valley, the North Burnett, Scenic Rim and South Burnett. Parts of the Banana Shire, Goondiwindi, Ipswich, Somerset, Southern Downs and Toowoomba Regional Council areas are also eligible. Full details can be viewed at: <http://www.qraa.qld.gov.au/>.

What assistance is available?

Category C: Special Disaster Assistance – Clean-up and Recovery Grants for Primary Producers enable primary producers to claim up to \$25,000 as a reimbursement for expenses associated with the flooding. An initial grant of up to \$5,000 is available to assist you with recovery. A subsequent grant of up to \$20,000 is available to recover costs that you may have paid for in order to repair direct flood damage. Full details are available at:

http://www.qraa.qld.gov.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=370&Itemid=251.

If your enterprise has suffered extreme damage and the *Special Disaster Assistance* is inadequate to meet your recovery needs, you may be eligible under the Exceptional Disaster Assistance Scheme. *Category D – Exceptional Disaster Assistance* comprises the grants of up to \$25,000 under the *Special Disaster Assistance* plus a low interest loan and grant package up to \$650,000 (including a grant up to \$50,000) to assist you to re-establish your primary production enterprise. The maximum grant available is the lesser of 25% of the total amount of the assistance or \$50,000. Loans are interest free for the first two years with no repayments, converting to an initial rate of 1.7% from the third year, over a maximum term of 10 years. Full details are available at: http://www.qraa.qld.gov.au/index.php?option=com_qraa&view=detail&id=227&Itemid=89.

Do I have to use all my cash resources before I apply?

Applicants must use all liquid assets and all normal credit sources up to normal credit limits. This does not mean you cannot apply for assistance until these funds have been exhausted. You may apply for assistance if your cash flows for this and next financial year show that you will need assistance over and above your cash resources and your normal bank account limits.

How do I apply?

To apply, you will need to complete and submit the *Special Disaster Assistance Application Form* to the QRAA by 30 August 2013, available on the website provided above. Queries can be directed to the QRAA on freecall **1 800 623 946**.

Contact details for producers

For life threatening emergencies, call **000** immediately.

For emergency assistance in floods call the State Emergency Service (SES – all States) on **132 500**.

For information on road closures call **131 940**.

For emergency financial assistance, support and counselling call the Community Recovery Hotline on **1 800 173 349**.

A reminder to those producers who have experienced flood impact or damage to effluent ponds to contact the relevant state environmental officer as part of your licensing agreement. Phone Mitch Furness on **07 4688 1374**.

Queries regarding disaster assistance availability and eligibility can be directed to the QRAA on freecall **1 800 623 946**.

Key APL Contacts

General Inquiries and information	John Coward	07 5492 3003 or 0407 622 166
Media Inquiries	Emily Mackintosh	0418 697 595