

# NYORA PUBLIC HALL COMMITTEE INC.

ABN 79 417 258 941

Chairperson: David Mills  
Secretary: Sylvia Casey  
Treasurer: Robyn Mills

Essential Services Commission  
Level 2/35 Spring Street  
MELBOURNE 3000 (forwarded by email to [water@esc.vic.gov.au](mailto:water@esc.vic.gov.au))

24<sup>th</sup> April, 2013

I am writing on behalf of the Nyora Public Hall Committee regarding the Essential Services Commission's Draft Determination for South Gippsland Water Plan 2013 – 2018.

Nine years ago our Committee began planning for the reconstruction of the Nyora Hall to accommodate the needs and expectations of a growing community. At the same time the communities of Loch, Poowong and Nyora were lobbying for a joint sewerage scheme to address the inadequacies of the septic systems which drain into soil that cannot absorb the effluent effectively and the environmental and health risks which are compounded by this situation.

In 2005 the State Government directed South Gippsland Water to budget and provide a sewerage scheme for the towns of Nyora, Loch and Poowong. We were then able to make provision in our plans for additional toilets, including a disabled toilet, which would allow for attendances in excess of 100 people. We are at present restricted in the types and size of activities we can accommodate because of the inability of the septic system to cope.

There have been several dates given for the completion of the scheme, the latest being 2012. If there is a delay of a possible further 5 years before the sewerage scheme can progress to the next stage, our plans for the much needed redevelopment of our 40 year old Hall will be in serious jeopardy. This facility is the venue for activities such as a toddler's playgroup, immunization sessions, craft group, seniors health exercise program, youth karate classes, women's activity group and is the meeting place for many community groups as well as the venue for fund raising activities and family celebrations.

The community deserves and needs this important community facility to operate at a level that provides a safe and healthy environment.

In addition to the restrictions imposed on the use of the Nyora Public Hall, the township of Nyora is desperately in need of basic services and facilities normally found in a town of similar population. This development is hindered by the lack of sewerage infrastructure.

Nyora was first identified as requiring a sewerage facility as a matter of urgency back in the 1970's. The building of new houses in the town centre since that time has escalated the problem in spite of many of the blocks of land being near or in excess of 1 acre.

The Committee respectfully requests that the Commission retains the funding proposed by South Gippsland Water Plan 2013–2018 for the planned joint sewerage scheme for the towns of Nyora, Poowong and Loch, to allow the project to progress as a matter of utmost urgency.



David Mills  
Chairperson.  
Nyora Public Hall Committee Inc.