



**MEDIA RELEASE:
9TH November 2018**

DROUGHT IMPACTS FORCE CHANGES AT EGG FARMERS AUSTRALIA

Egg Farmers Australia (EFA) today announced changes to its operating structure which will see advocacy for the organisation carried out by state and territory-based volunteer Board members in the short-medium term.

Chair Bede Burke said, "This move means we will no longer have paid staff within EFA's structure past December.

"This will deal with the immediate financial constraints on members and allow the organisation to use the coming months to plan for a reenergised EFA.

"Our farmers are being crippled by the drought – with increased costs on feed process it's 50% more expensive to produce eggs. This financial pressure means they are no longer able to pay the voluntary levy that contributed to the wages of our two staff members."

"As a result, EFA CEO John Dunn will leave the organisation next month, along with Angela Griffin who has acted in a Policy Advisor role. On behalf of the EFA Board, I would like to thank John and Angela for their tireless work for egg farmers."

"This decision is made amid a genuine industry crisis. But we plan to rebuild and I'm confident that we can.

"The staff have assisted the board through this period and while our CEO and Policy Advisor will be moving on, EFA will retain a strong voice and will rely on the counsel of our staff over the next month as we plan for a more sustainable structure.

"As the drought eases; I am certain that EFA will emerge stronger than before and resourced appropriately.

"EFA will get through this – just as farmers will rebuild as the drought subsides - we will rebuild too. We will retain our voice on issues that matter to Australia's egg farmers who proudly produce the 16 million eggs that are consumed by Australians every day."

MEDIA CONTACT: (02) 8043 0953