

6 September 2016

Namoi Valley

Water allocation update – to end August 2016

Allocations

Sufficient resources are available to announce an **additional allocation of 30.21 per cent** of entitlement to **Lower Namoi general security** licence holders. An **increase of 40 per cent** of entitlement has also been made to **Upper Namoi general security** licence holders.

This brings the total general security allocations in the 2016/17 water year in the Upper and Lower Namoi valleys to 100 per cent and 38.32 percent of entitlement respectively.

	High Security	General Security
Upper Namoi valley	100%	100%
Lower Namoi valley	100%	38.32%

Key facts

- Keepit Dam was 117 GL (26 per cent) on 1 August and increased to 209 GL (49 per cent) on 31 August.
- Split Rock Dam was 27 GL (6 per cent) on 1 August and increased to 47 GL (11 per cent) on 31 August.
- Copeton Dam was 273 GL (19 per cent) on 1 August and increased to 414 GL (30 per cent) on 31 August.
- Irrigation releases will be made on demand throughout the main growing season.
- Releases from Keepit Dam may not be required until late Spring, as supplementary access has been assisting with water availability.
- In the unlikely event that the valley returns to dry conditions, block release strategies can again be used if necessary for water deliveries.

Dam levels (end of August)

The current combined active storage volume in Split Rock and Keepit dams is over 246 GL, compared to about 91 GL at the same time last year. Storages are currently rising.

Seasonal rainfall outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) climate outlook for spring (September to November 2016) indicates the chances of a wetter or drier spring are about equal. October is likely to be wetter in localised areas. Warmer spring days and nights are likely across western fringes and the eastern catchments have roughly equal chances of warmer or cooler spring days.

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The current outlook reflects a weakening negative Indian Ocean Dipole and tropical Pacific Ocean temperatures potentially approaching La Niña thresholds.

Further information

The next monthly Water Allocation Statement for the Namoi regulated river water sources is scheduled for **Friday 7 October 2016**.

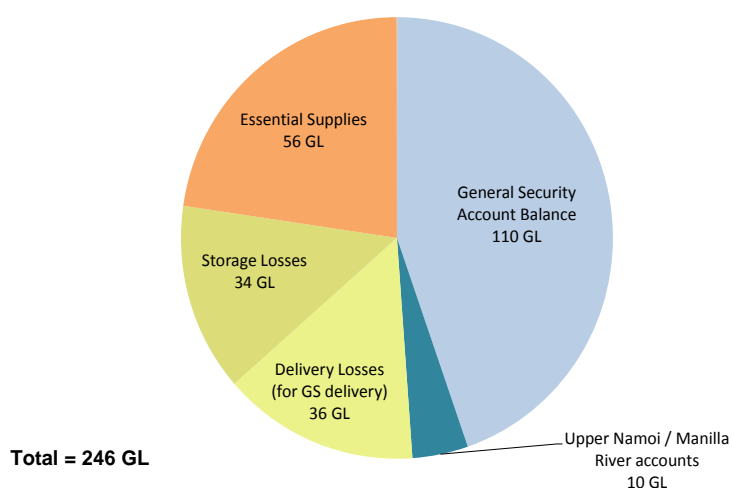
DPI Water website - www.water.nsw.gov.au

Namoi Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (as at 1 September 2016) for 2016-17	
	Volume (GL)
Available Resource ⁽¹⁾	246.91
less	
Storage Losses ⁽²⁾	34.06
Essential Supplies ⁽³⁾	56.00 (100%)
General Security Account Balance	110.33
Upper Namoi/Manilla River accounts	10.32 ⁴ (100%)
Delivery Loss Account	36.20

*See notes below.

Resource Distribution Sep 2016 to Jun 2017 Namoi Valley



Notes:

- (1) Available Resource (246 GL) – includes total active storage (Split Rock & Keepit Dams).
- (2) Storage Losses – evaporation loss based on forecast storage behaviour over 2 years.
- (3) Essential Supplies – water required to be set aside under water sharing plans to provide for Towns, Stock, Domestic, High Security and riverine environments. Includes Gunidgera/Pian stock and domestic replenishments, delivery loss allowance and end-of-system flow requirements. This commitment is offset by minimum forecast inflows into the storages.
- (4) This account includes 10 per cent improvement credited to the upper Namoi general security accounts in the last assessment.

Namoi resource assessment

- Previous Assessment date: 31 July 2016
- Current Assessment date: 31 August 2016

Storage volume	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Storage Balance (GL)
Total (Split Rock plus Keepit)		256.62
Dead storage	9.70	246.92
Storage Loss Committed (projected 2 years)	22.41	224.50

Essential Supplies	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	56.00	
Used and associated loss since last assessment	-0.46	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to General Security	0.00	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss account	0.00	
Current balance	55.54	168.96

Upper Namoi/Manilla Rivers	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	6.63	
Ordered since last assessment	-0.08	
Allocation Assignments from Upper Namoi to Lower Namoi	0.00	
Current balance	6.55	162.41

General Security (D/S Keepit)	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	36.52	
Orders since assessment period	0.00	
Allocation Assignments into Lower Namoi (from HS & Upper Namoi)	0.00	
Current balance	36.52	125.90

Delivery Loss	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	12.94	
Apparent losses since last assessment	0.00	
Credit from Essential Supplies (for Allocation Assignments to GS)	0.00	
Current balance	12.92	112.98

Apparent Losses since last assessment	% of loss	GL
Total		0.00
Essential Supply Loss	85%	0.00
General Security Loss	15%	0.00

Resources available for sharing	GL
Total	112.98

New balances	Limit	Commitments		Balance
		Current	Additional	
		GL	GL	
Storage Loss	34.06	22.41	11.65	34.06
Essential Supplies	56.00	55.54	0.46	56.00
Upper Namoi / Manilla River	9.81	6.55	3.77	10.32
Delivery Loss	150.94	12.92	23.28	36.20
General Security Irrigation	493.40	36.52	73.82	110.33
Uncommitted resources	-	112.98	-112.98	0.00
Total	-	246.92	0.00	246.91

Recommendations Upper Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	3.77	GL
Available Water Determination	0.4000	ML per unit share

Recommendations Lower Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	73.82	GL
Available Water Determination	0.3021	ML per unit share