



7 June 2017

Namoi Valley

Water allocation update – to end May 2017

Allocations

The total allocation for general security licence holders in Lower Namoi regulated river water source for the 2016/17 water year **remains unchanged at 124.67 per cent of entitlement.**

Keepit Dam received small inflows of approximately 5,400 megalitres (ML) during May 2017, whereas Split Rock Dam recorded just 900 megalitres of inflow. Keepit storage levels have been slowly rising since February 2017, while Split Rock Dam levels have remained steady over the same period, with inflows being offset by evaporation losses.

The small improvement in resource in this assessment has been used to ensure that the Upper Namoi essential supply and delivery loss accounts are full for upcoming spring and summer water deliveries.

All other licence categories in the Lower and Upper Namoi valleys have already received their maximum allocation for the 2016/17 water year.

	High Security	General Security
Upper Namoi valley	100%	100%
Lower Namoi valley	100%	124.67%

Dam levels (as at 5 June)

- Keepit Dam is 64 per cent full – steady – holding 272,850 megalitres (ML), compared to 9 per cent full at the same time last year.
- Split Rock Dam is 30 per cent full – steady – holding 120,780 ML, compared to 5 per cent full at the same time last year.

Key facts

- Essential supplies are secure for 2017/18.
- In accordance with the water sharing plan, Upper Namoi regulated river high security and general security licence holders will receive 100 per cent allocation at the start of new water year. Lower Namoi regulated river high security licence holders will also receive 100 per cent allocation.
- Storage releases are not planned during the winter months as the end of system flow requirements are expected to be met from water available in weirs and tributary flows.
- Water shortage delivery strategies, such as block releases, are unlikely to be required before summer.

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www.water.nsw.gov.au

Seasonal rainfall outlook

According to the Bureau of Meteorology, the valley is likely to be drier than average in the three months from June to August, with warmer than average daytime temperatures.

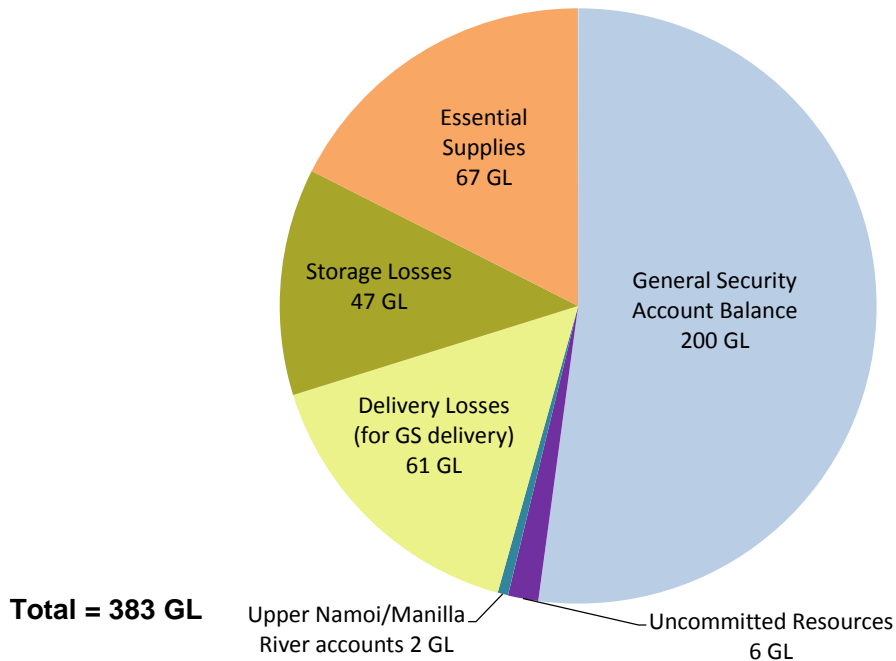
The El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) remains neutral, with the Bureau indicating around a 50 per cent chance of El Niño developing in 2017 – double the normal likelihood. However, several indicators have shown little or no increase for several weeks, suggesting El Niño development has stalled for now.

Namoi Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (as at 31 May 2017)	
	Volume (GL)
Available Resource ⁽¹⁾	383.61
less	
Storage Losses ⁽²⁾	47.28
Essential Supplies ⁽³⁾	67.20
General Security Account Balance	199.99
Upper Namoi/Manilla River accounts	2.17
Peel Trade Account ⁽⁴⁾	0.00
Uncommitted Resources ⁽⁵⁾	6.31
Delivery Loss Account	60.65

**See notes below.*

Resource Distribution as at 31 May 2017 Namoi Valley



Notes:

- (1) Available Resource (383 GL): includes total active storage (Split Rock & Keepit Dams).
- (2) Storage Losses: evaporation loss based on forecast storage behaviour and maximum historical evaporation rates 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) Peel Trade Account – the Peel water sharing plan, at Clause 86(4), provides for limited allocation assignment (temporary trade) from the Peel to the Namoi valleys. It requires a volume to be set aside in Keepit resources equal to the AWD times 3,000 to support trade from the Peel valley. The trade account balance reduces as trade water is released from storage. The account increases with increases to Lower Namoi general security allocation. The current account balance is zero – all traded water has been delivered.
- (5) Uncommitted Resources – small volume of resource set aside in this assessment to ensure that high priority commitments at the start of the new water year on 1 July 2017 can be met and that the Upper Namoi essential supply and delivery loss accounts remain full for spring and summer water deliveries.

Further information

The next allocation announcement for the Namoi regulated river water source will be the announcement of opening allocations for the 2017-18 water year that will be issued for all NSW valleys on **Monday 3 July 2017**.

Information on Available Water Determinations and water sharing plans is available on the DPI Water website - www.water.nsw.gov.au

Namoi resource assessment

- Previous Assessment date: 30 April 2017
- Current Assessment date: 31 May 2017

Storage volume	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Storage Balance (GL)
Total (Split Rock plus Keepit)		393.31
Dead storage	9.70	383.61
Storage Loss Committed - projected 2 years (brought forward)	46.90	336.71

Essential Supplies	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	67.20	
Used and associated loss since last assessment	-0.47	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to General Security	0.00	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss account	0.00	
Current balance	66.73	269.97

Upper Namoi/Manilla Rivers	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	4.44	
Ordered since last assessment	-0.22	
Allocation Assignments from Upper Namoi to Lower Namoi	-2.04	
Current balance	2.17	267.80

General Security (D/S Keepit)	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	198.99	
Orders since assessment period	-1.03	
Allocation Assignments into Lower Namoi (from HS & Upper Namoi & Peel Trade)	2.04	
Current balance	199.99	67.81

Peel Trade Account	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	0.00	
Trade to general security since last assessment	0.00	
Current balance	0.00	67.81

Delivery Loss	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	61.03	
Apparent losses since last assessment	0.00	
Credit from Essential Supplies (for Allocation Assignments to GS)	0.00	
Current balance	60.65	7.16

Apparent Losses since last assessment	% of loss	GL
Total		0.00
Essential Supply Loss	27%	0.00
General Security Loss	73%	0.00

Resources available for sharing	GL
Total	7.16

New balances	Limit	Commitments		Balance
		Current	Additional	
		GL	GL	
Storage Loss	47.28	46.90	0.38	47.28
Essential Supplies	67.20	66.73	0.47	67.20
Upper Namoi / Manilla River	10.90	2.17	0.00	2.17
Delivery Loss	150.94	60.65	0.00	60.65
General Security Irrigation	493.40	199.99	0.00	199.99
Peel Trade Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uncommitted resources	-	7.16	-0.85	6.31
Total	-	383.61	0.00	383.61

Recommendations Upper Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	0.00	GL
Available Water Determination	0.0000	ML per unit share

Recommendations Lower Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	0.00	GL
Available Water Determination	0.000	ML per unit share