

# Replacing the Towamba River Water Sharing Plan

The Water Sharing Plan for the Towamba River Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2022 will replace the previous 2010 plan. This document explains how changes to metering provisions may affect you.

## NSW non-urban metering policy

In December 2018, the NSW Government introduced a new non-urban water metering framework to ensure robust and fair water management across the state.

Development of the framework was a key commitment of the NSW Government's 2017 Water Reform Action Plan and the Murray–Darling Basin Compact. It was informed by extensive public consultation with water users and the metering industry.

The new framework will significantly improve the standard and coverage of non-urban water meters in NSW by setting clear rules around who needs a meter and the standards that need to be met. The standards are based on the objective that meters are accurate, tamper-proof and auditable.

The new water metering rules are being rolled out in stages, to be fully implemented by December 2023.

## Metering in the Towamba water sharing plan

The current Towamba water sharing plan includes a condition for all water supply works to have a meter. That requirement will be retained, meaning existing works required to have a meter will need to continue metering. Water supply works approval holders will see this requirement as a mandatory condition on their approval.

The draft plan has rules relating to the NSW non-urban metering policy. The policy is being rolled out across the state. In coastal NSW, the new metering requirements, which require metering for certain sized works and log-keeping for water extracted for smaller works, will come into effect in December 2023.

Works that currently meter will need to ensure those meters adhere to the Australian Standard 4747 before December 2023. Any new works constructed after this time will need to adhere to requirements of the non-urban metering policy.

## Compliance in relation to metering

The Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) is responsible for compliance and enforcement of water laws in NSW. The [Metering Regulations – NRAR compliance approach \(PDF 198 KB\)](#) outlines NRAR's approach to the new metering rules.

Any suspected breaches can be reported to the NRAR's compliance hotline on 1800 633 362 or by email to [water.compliance@nrar.nsw.gov.au](mailto:water.compliance@nrar.nsw.gov.au).

## More information

To find more about the Non-urban metering framework, visit the website <https://water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/nsw-non-urban-water-metering>.