

19 October 2017

Macquarie and Cudgegong Valleys

Water allocation update

There is **no allocation increase for general security licence holders in the Macquarie and Cudgegong valleys at this time.**

The total general security allocation so far for the 2017/18 water year remains at **38 per cent of entitlement.**

Burrendong Dam storage levels have fallen steadily since August and is currently at 70 per cent of capacity. Windamere Dam storage is currently at 48 per cent of capacity.

It is estimated that inflows in excess of 140,000 ML will be required in October to provide any further allocation in November. Inflows to Burrendong Dam so far this water year have totalled just 12,000 ML.

The current assessment indicates that there will be no requirement for a bulk water transfer from Windamere Dam during the current water year.

Carryover balances in general security, high security and Environmental Water Allowance (EWA) accounts have had a reduction applied for evaporation in the September quarter. The reduction for Macquarie accounts has been 0.7 per cent and for Cudgegong accounts 0.5 per cent.

WaterNSW has reminded water users that Water Order Debiting will be applied to licence holders with a history of over-ordering. Please see the fact sheet on the WaterNSW website: http://www.watarnsw.com.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0006/122685/Water-order-debiting_rev3.pdf

	High Security	General Security	Average Carryover In
Macquarie	100%	38%	73%
Cudgegong	100%	38%	151%

Dam levels (as at 19 October 2017)

- Burrendong Dam is currently 70 per cent full – falling - holding 843,000 megalitres (ML).
- Windamere Dam is currently 48 per cent full – steady - holding 176,000 ML.

Outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) has forecast average climate conditions to prevail in the Macquarie and Cudgegong valleys during the three month period from November 2017 to January 2018.

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Tropical Pacific Ocean temperatures may approach La Niña levels over the coming months. However, the corresponding warm sea surface temperatures that typically develop to the north and northwest of Australia during La Niña events are less likely to develop this summer. This means that overall, any effects upon NSW catchments are likely to be reduced.

Macquarie-Cudgegong Resource Assessment Data Sheet

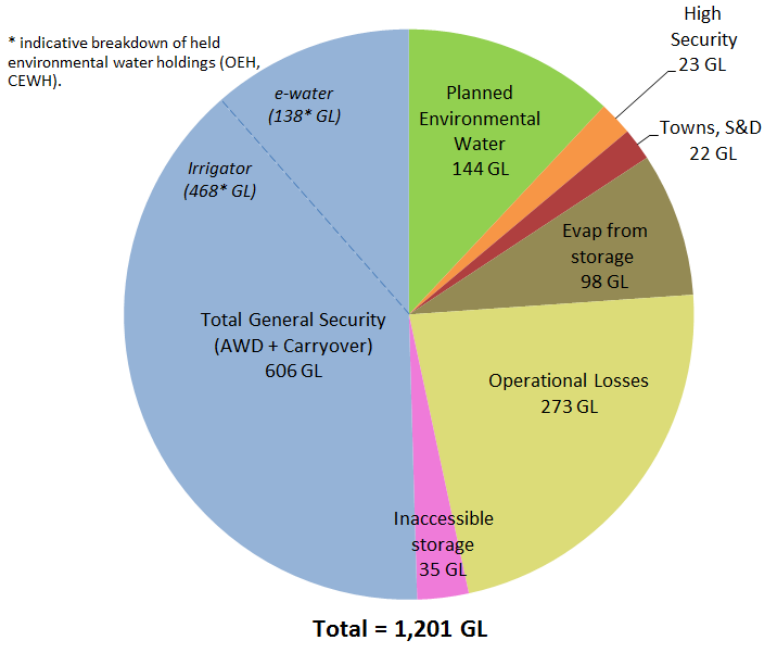
Resource Distribution (October 2017 to May 2019)	
	Volume (GL)
Total Available Resource ⁽¹⁾	1,061
less	
Carryover remaining in accounts ^{(2), (7)}	373
Planned Environmental Water ⁽³⁾	144
Towns, Stock, Domestic ⁽⁴⁾	22 (100%)
Inaccessible storage ⁽⁶⁾	35
High Security ⁽⁴⁾	23 (100%)
General Security 2017/2018 AWD ⁽⁷⁾	233 (38%)
Operational Losses (transmission, operations) ⁽⁵⁾	273
Evaporation from storage	98

*See notes below.

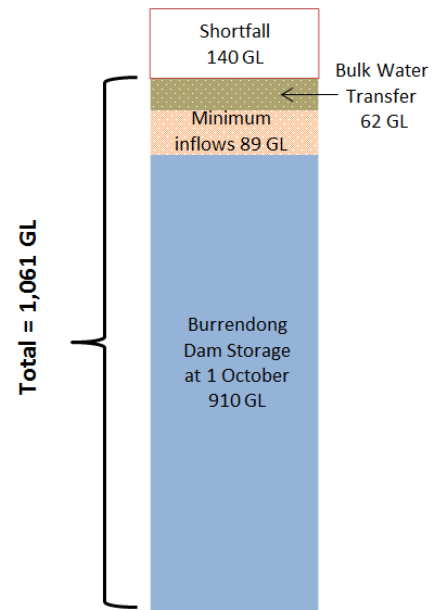
Notes:

- (1) Total available resource: Storage volume in Burrendong Dam (start of current month), plus minimum forecast dam inflows from 1 Nov 2017 plus bulk water transfers from Windamere Dam.
- (2) Carryover remaining in accounts: volume remaining in carryover sub-accounts (excludes Cudgegong), discounted for evaporative losses.
- (3) Planned environmental water: water allocated to the Environmental Water Allowance (EWA) under the water sharing plan (WSP) to provide for the Macquarie Marshes and the riverine environment. Excludes 'licence-based' environmental water.
- (4) Towns, Stock, Domestic and High Security: reserves required to meet 100 per cent of entitlement over the next 20 months. This represents total entitlement below Burrendong Dam.
- (5) 'Operational Losses': best estimate of the volume required to run the river under dry conditions over the next 20 months to meet all demands. This includes transmission losses, operational loss, and replenishment flows. It is conservatively assumed that forecast inflows correspond to dry conditions. This estimate is regularly refined as the year unfolds.
- (6) Inaccessible storage: Dead storage of 34 GL plus 1 GL to ensure valve operations at very low storage levels.
- (7) Held environmental water (HEW) – as a trial, general security account water administered by environmental water holders have been identified in the above pie chart. This reporting of held environmental water is indicative only and prior to reconciliation of usage and net trade. These entitlements are held and/or managed either singly or jointly by various environmental holder groups, including the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH). Interested parties should refer to individual Agency websites for more detailed information on held environmental holdings.

**Resource Distribution October 2017 to May 2019
Macquarie**



Supply Distribution



Chances of improvement

The chances of improved general security allocation, based on different inflow scenarios, are as follows:

Potential Inflow Conditions	General Security AWD (per cent)	
	1 Feb 2018	1 Jul 2018
Dry (80%: 4 chances in 5)	38 + GS c/o [#]	38 + GS c/o [#]
Average (50%: 1 chance in 2)	38 + GS c/o [#]	56 + GS c/o [#]
Wet (20%: 1 chance in 5)	63 + GS c/o [#]	100 + GS c/o [#]

Add carryover from previous water year to these forecasted allocation values.

Further information

The next Water Allocation Statement is scheduled for **January 2018**.

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