



ALL SAP MEETING | 5 & 6 JUNE 2018 | SESSION 4

Basin Plan amendments

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What amendments were made?

The Basin Plan 2012 included two key processes to finalise the SDL:

- Northern Basin Review – improve the knowledge and science in the Northern Basin
- Sustainable Diversion Limit adjustment mechanism (SDLAM) – both up and down adjustments

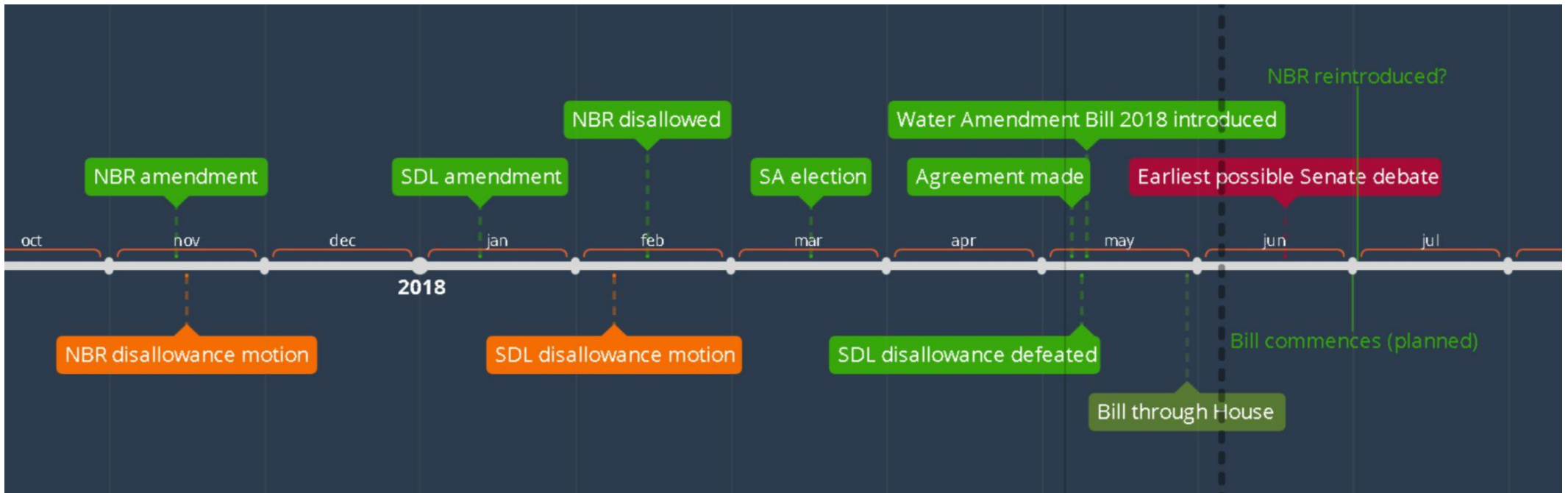
Two amendments were made to the Basin Plan to implement these processes:

Full name	ak	ate
Basin Plan Amendment Instrument 2017 (No. 1)	NBR amendment	14/11/17
Basin Plan Amendment (SDL Adjustments) Instrument 2017	SDL amendment	13/1/18

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- Either house of Parliament can move a motion to disallow an amendment to the Basin Plan (within 15 sitting days)
- This has the effect of repealing the instrument, and rolling back to the previous version of the Basin Plan
- The Senate voted on 14 Feb 2018 to disallow the NBR amendments
 - This amendment was not able to be remade, even if the Senate changed its mind
- A further motion was moved by Sen Hanson-Young to disallow the SDL amendments
- The Commonwealth Gov't and Opposition agreed on 7 May to
 - Not support the disallowance motion
 - Support legislation to allow the reintroduction of the NBR amendments
 - Not support any further disallowance motions
 - Agree a further package of measures (the “Agreement”)
- The disallowance motion was formally defeated on 9 May

Timeline



Current status

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- NBR is not current law – but near certain to be reintroduced next month
- Government working towards a NBR scenario

Commonwealth agreement with opposition

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- States & MDBA not involved
- Strengthening protection of environmental flows
- Strengthening Compliance with Basin Water Laws
- Improving outcomes for indigenous people and addressing the social and economic impacts of the MDB
- Improving confidence in the Northern Basin Review data
- Improving the SDLAM

Key points of Agreement for NSW

- Northern Basin Commissioner
- Commonwealth payments to states to be linked to:
 - Delivery of Basin Compliance Compact
 - Co-operation on efficiency measures
- \$20m for hydrometrics in North, remote sensing across basin
- Staff to support NBAN & MLDRIN
- \$40m for Aboriginal communities to invest in water
- \$20m for economic development
- Local engagement facilitators
- Explore opportunities for entitlements to be allocated to Indigenous communities
- Support for various works eg options for Wilcannia & Cunnamulla Weirs
- EOI & begin progress to 450 GL 'upwater'

What next?

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- At departmental level – agreement is non-negotiable
- Engagement between states & Commonwealth – BOC, MinCo
- Finalise Basin Compliance Compact
- Considering options for investment in hydrometrics
- Seek funding for SDL adjustment mechanism projects – preconstruction
- Discussions on what EOIs on efficiency measures look like
- Socioeconomic neutrality
- Engage with communities & industry on seeking win-win efficiency measure projects
- Will be a key focus of discussion at MinCo on Friday