

Review of the Snowy Water Licence
Submission DALGETY DISTRICT AND COMMUNITY ASSOC
13 OCTOBER 2017

Snowy Water Licence Review

Intergovernmental and Strategic Stakeholder Relations

Department of Primary Industries Water

Locked Bag 5123

Parramatta, NSW, 2124

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our concerns in regard to issues within the licence.

The Dalgety District and Community Association is a local community group originally set up to prevent the closure of our local council owned caravan park, of which we were successful. It is now a real drawcard for the area, not just due to the excellent service and attitude of the owners but due to its unique location being the only caravan park in NSW on the banks of the Snowy River. The increased flows have benefited it immensely and the spin off for the other businesses in town have been a rewarding result both for them but also for us showing our efforts do deliver results. It is much like what we have seen in recent years with the significant improvement to the health of the Snowy.

But in saying that; there are still issues which we find unacceptable, unsuitable and unsatisfactory. The most

pressing being the reintroduction of the Mowamba as the natural headwater for the Snowy River. The Snowy needs head water but this the also provides the aspects of connectivity; improved triggers for spawning and regulating temperatures as are included in the Snowy water Licence Schedule 3, Part 2. But the environmental aspect of oxygenation and provision of in stream carbon the critical features that the Mowamba can deliver and the Jindabyne Dam waters cannot.

Reviewing the previous responses to the 2007 review of the licence, you would have to acknowledge the majority of responders flagged this as a fundamentally important action to be taken, as the Mowamba provides a type of water that the flows over the Jindabyne outlet cannot. We would imagine this review will see similar numbers of submissions flagging this issue once again and would hope that this issue will be taken seriously and actioned.

We are aware that there was a stakeholder meeting conducted by DPI in Sydney but were unable to attend. We were advised by another advocacy group the Snowy River Alliance that the meeting was very informative and fruitful. This gives us great heart as the relationship in the past has been challenging, adversarial and particularly non transparent with the varying New South Wales ministries that have been in charge managing the restoration of the Snowy. It is the last aspect of non transparency that is another issue of concern. Again it concerns the Mowamba and how the spills are recorded and over estimated. The

ability to really know what the volumes are and how this translates into above target water for Snowy Hydro and therefore the impact and repercussions on Snowy Increased Flows, has always been an issue of debate. This needs to be investigated and become clear and transparent.

Thank you once again, we look forward to reading the other submissions and any contact regarding our submission.

Regards

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President

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