

1 December 2021

## Macquarie and Cudgegong Regulated Rivers Water Source

### Water allocation update

Burrendong Dam re-entered the Flood Mitigation Zone (FMZ) on 11 November and inflows more than 724,000 megalitres (ML) were observed in November from that time. This inflow volume greatly exceeds the remaining carryover volumes in relevant accounts.

Consequently, clause 44(3) of the water sharing plan resulted in the following adjustments to accounts.

- All remaining balances in Macquarie general security and high security accounts were withdrawn on 30 November.
- All remaining balances in Cudgegong AWD sub-accounts for general security and high security accounts were also withdrawn on 30 November.
- As Windamere Dam is not spilling, Cudgegong carryover balances have not been withdrawn.

**After the withdrawal of the balances as listed above, a new allocation of 100% of entitlement to general security and high security licences in the Macquarie and Cudgegong regulated rivers water source has been made.**

The Environmental Water Allowance (EWA) has also been reset to 160,000 ML in accordance with the water sharing plan.

All entitlements have now reached their maximum allocation level for this water year.

2021-22	High Security	General Security
Cudgegong	100%	100%
Macquarie	100%	100%

The following points summarise the key accounting processes related to this account reset:

- All regulated general security and regulated high security extractions in the Macquarie during November will be debited from the carryover and AWD balances prior to the reset of allocations on 1 December 2021.
- All remaining balances in carryover sub-accounts of general security and high security licences in the Cudgegong River on 30 November 2021 will remain available for use and trade; and will incur evaporation reduction from Windamere Dam.
- Any water assigned from the carryover sub-account of a Macquarie access licence to a Cudgegong access licence has been treated as if it were in a carryover sub-account of a Macquarie access licence. Any remaining balances from that trade were therefore forfeited on 30 November.

- Any carryover allocations from the Cudgegong River traded down to Macquarie River post allocation reset, will incur storage spill reduction and evaporation reduction from Burrendong Dam.
- All AWD sub-accounts of general security and high security licences will continue to be reset to 100% on the day whenever the water level in Burrendong Dam re-enters the FMZ in the current water year.

Ongoing tributary flows and FMZ releases from Burrendong Dam will continue to be managed adaptively to meet higher priority commitments. Translucent releases from Windamere Dam are not being made while flood risks downstream of Burrendong Dam are being mitigated.

## Storage levels (as at 30 November 2021)

- Burrendong Dam is 144.8 % full – rising – holding about 1,708,209 ML
- Windamere Dam is 39.7% full – steady – holding about 146,843 ML

## Seasonal climatic outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for December 2021 to February 2022 indicates that maximum temperatures are likely to be below median, while there is a good chance that rainfall will be above median.

Further details at: [www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary](http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary)

## Next announcement

The planned statement of 10 December 2021 will no longer be required and is replaced by this announcement.

With all the entitlements in this water source now having reached their full allocation, publication of routine water allocations statements will cease. However, there may be statements triggered by a new intrusion into the Burrendong Dam flood mitigation zone and a further reset of accounts.

In addition, statements will resume in April 2022 to outline water availability prospects for opening allocations on 1 July 2022 for the 2022-23 water year.

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