

# Talking Water

Tuesday 23 December 2014



Murray Irrigation

## OFIEP Round 4

The Funding Agreement for Round 4 of the On-farm Irrigation Efficiency Program (OFIEP) is expected to be signed by the Commonwealth this week. Once this agreement is signed, the Landholder Infrastructure Works Contracts will be issued to customers, which we expect to occur in early January 2015. More information regarding workshops for the recently announced Round 5 program will be in the next edition of *Talking Water*.

## Maintaining a positive water balance

Customers are reminded to ensure their landholdings have positive water balances. Customers can nominate to receive a notification via SMS or email that their allocation account is approaching a zero balance. Customers who have been sent a notification, or have been contacted previously, may find that their outlets are switched off when a zero balance is reached. Once contacted by staff, customers need to transfer water or risk having their outlet switched off and then having to wait up to four days for it to re-start.

If you have more than one landholding, it may be possible to merge your allocation accounts which removes the need to transfer water between landholdings to maintain a positive balance. For more information, contact reception on T. 1300 138 265.

## Emergency number

The Murray Irrigation emergency number (T. 1300 657 313) is for emergencies only. Customers should only ring this number after hours for an emergency that cannot wait until normal business hours (for example, a major channel breach, regulator failure, etc.).

Regional Planners can be contacted up until 8.30pm each night. If calling outside of business hours, customers should leave a message via reception (T. 1300 138 265), or leave a message with their water order. Please remember to leave your name, landholding reference number and contact telephone number, along with a brief description of the issue. These messages will be dealt with as soon as possible.

## Ley and Birmingham promoted

Local parliamentarian and Member for Farrer, Sussan Ley has been promoted to Cabinet as Minister for Health and Sport,

while Senator Simon Birmingham fills her old position in the outer Ministry as Assistant Education Minister. These appointments follow a Cabinet reshuffle over the weekend. Senator Birmingham's environment portfolio has been given to Bob Baldwin, Member for Paterson, based in the Newcastle suburb of Raymond Terrace.

Murray Irrigation congratulates Ms Ley and Senator Birmingham on their respective promotions and looks forward to working with the new Parliamentary Secretary for the Environment, Bob Baldwin, to ensure the concerns of irrigators in our region are heard.

## State Water storage report

Water NSW (formerly State Water) has developed a new water operations and storage report to provide an update on the status of water storages across NSW. The report can be accessed online via: [www.statewater.com.au/Water%20delivery/weeklystoragereport](http://www.statewater.com.au/Water%20delivery/weeklystoragereport).

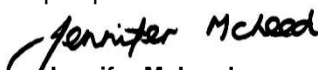
## Rice scholarships now open

Applications for the Ricegrowers' Association of Australia (RGA) 2015 tertiary scholarships are now open. The RGA awards two scholarships to the children or grandchildren of RGA members to assist with their tertiary education costs as part of their commitment to the industry's long term future. Applications close Friday 16 January 2015. For more information, or to obtain an application form, call the RGA on T. 02 6953 0433, or visit [www.rga.org.au](http://www.rga.org.au).

## Christmas-New Year operations

All Murray Irrigation offices will be closed from noon Wednesday 24 December, reopening 8.30am Monday 5 January. For full details on the company's operations during this period, see the special *Talking Water* released yesterday. This document is available via our website [www.murrayirrigation.com.au](http://www.murrayirrigation.com.au) or by contacting reception on T. 1300 138 265. The next edition of *Talking Water* will be issued on Tuesday 6 January 2015.

On behalf of everyone at Murray Irrigation, I sincerely wish all customers a merry Christmas and a safe, happy and prosperous New Year.

  
Jennifer McLeod  
Executive Manager

## Announced allocation

Class C General Security ..... 49 %  
Water Efficiency Allocation ..... 0 %  
(Efficiency Allocation on Delivery Entitlements)

## Water availability and usage

(23/12/14)  
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements..... 35 %  
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)  
On-Farm Balance..... 303 GL  
On-Farm Usage ..... 351 GL  
(Including Off-Allocation usage of .... 3 GL)

## Water exchange

8.30am today  
Water for Sale ..... 7,658 ML  
Price Range ..... \$128 - \$160  
Buy Offer..... \$125  
Yesterday's Sales..... 67 ML  
Price Range ..... \$126  
**To buy water call 1300 781 431**

## Water use and trade data

16/12/14 – 22/12/14  
**Murray Water Exchange activity**  
Internal buyers (No. & ML)..... 11; 1,126ML  
External buyers (No. & ML)..... 1; 1,175ML  
Internal sellers (No. & ML)..... 18; 2,094ML  
External sellers (No. & ML)..... 2; 207ML  
**Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)**  
Net trade -209ML (week).....+77,747ML(YTD)  
**Crop weekly water use**  
ML used on farm..... 28GL (71% on rice)

## Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	6,613	10,000
Wakool Canal	1,113	2,350
Escape flows	2,450	3,250

## Rainfall and evaporation

16/12/14 – 22/12/14 ..... Rain ..... Evap  
Finley ..... 0.5mm ..... 64.2mm  
Tullakool..... 0.2mm ..... 70.7mm

## Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)  
Dartmouth.....3,270 GL.....85 %  
Hume.....1,807 GL.....60 %  
Lake Victoria.....533 GL.....79 %  
Menindee Lakes .....198 GL.....11 %  
Active Storage.....5,808 GL.....63 %

## Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)  
Murray @ Doctors Point ..... 18,316 ML/d  
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir ..... 10,168 ML/d  
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge .....921 ML/d  
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 1,425 ML/d  
Darling @ Burtundy.....24 ML/d  
Flow to SA..... 7,942 ML/d  
Murray to the Sea ..... 8 gates open

**Tune into 'On The Land' every  
Tuesday from 6.45am on 1521 2QN.**