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New procedures deliver improved information for Murrumbidgee Inter-valley Trade

The implementation of a more responsive trade framework in the Murrumbidgee Valley is set to improve transparency and access to information for southern NSW water users, DPI Water announced today.

DPI Water Acting Director Surface Water Management, Brian Graham, said the new arrangements follow feedback from water users regarding processes surrounding trade into and out of the Murrumbidgee Valley.

“DPI Water and WaterNSW are working together to deliver a new, clear and consistent set of procedures for Inter-valley Trade (IVT) and to make available updated, timely information regarding the opening and closing balances that allow trade into and out of the valley,” Mr Graham said.

“This provides water users with improved access to IVT account balance information and clarity regarding account opening and closing processes.

“This is an important step forward in the ongoing development of transparent water markets and will assist water users to make informed business decisions.”

The new arrangements will see daily updates relating to the current account balance and opening or closing triggers, which will be available through the WaterNSW website at www.waternsw.com.au/customer-service/trading/murrumbidgee. Website updates will be made daily at 9.00am.

As a transition to the new operating procedure, when the IVT account balance, as shown on the WaterNSW website, reaches 67 Gigalitres (GL), trade will be opened and WaterNSW will begin to accept and approve applications.

The website will be updated each day and trades will be processed until the IVT account upper limit (100 GL) is reached, at which point approvals will cease and the website will indicate that trade out of the valley is closed.

Following this transitional arrangement, subsequent opening of trade will occur when the account balance, as shown on the WaterNSW website, reaches 85 GL (falling) for trade out, and 15 GL (rising) for trade into the valley.

Trades received will be processed in order of receipt, and applications received on the day trade closes, but not able to be processed within the IVT cap, will be maintained for seven calendar days, during which time applications will be sequentially approved if the account balance moves sufficiently into the operational range. Applications will not be accepted after the day of closure.

Water users wishing to trade into or out of the Murrumbidgee Valley will need to utilise the website to check the current status of trade.

Mr Graham stated that DPI Water will continue to work with water users and representative groups to improve information availability and procedures surrounding water markets.

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www.water.nsw.gov.au