



## SAFETY FIRST

### Keeping employees safe

According to Safe Work Australia, it is now the legal responsibility of the employer to ensure that the skills of staff working on site are up-to-date and compliant. In January 2012, a new set of Workplace Health and Safety laws were introduced, putting more responsibility onto the employer to undertake all reasonably practicable measures to prevent the risk to health and safety occurring. For details, visit: [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/).

### Snowy Advance FAQ

As announced last week, Murray Irrigation has signed a letter of intent to negotiate an advance of nominally 200GL water in the early 2016/17 season - contingent on achieving government approvals. The advance will be an option and exercise product and will be repaid in increments when allocations reach a target percentage with no roll-over fee or fixed repayment date.

For more information, see the frequently asked questions (FAQ) document under the 'Current activities' section of our website: [www.murrayirrigation.com.au/special/current-activities/](http://www.murrayirrigation.com.au/special/current-activities/).

### Water efficiency allocation

The Board agreed last week to make a water efficiency allocation of three percent of permanent delivery entitlements, excluding Class A (Town Water Supply) and domestic supply agreement customers. This increase brings the total water efficiency allocation to six percent for the 2015/16 irrigation season. For full details, see last Friday's *Chairman's report*.

### Allocation update next week

DPI Water's next water allocation statement is due next Tuesday 1 March. Murray Irrigation will pass the announcement on to customers as early as possible. Customers can also access this information, as well as details on Murrumbidgee allocations, via the 'media releases' section of the DPI website [www.water.nsw.gov.au](http://www.water.nsw.gov.au).

### Regional allocation outlook

The Victorian Resource Manager and the South Australian (SA) Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources have updated seasonal outlooks for 2016/17. With storages at the lowest level in five years, neither region will open the season on full allocation. Victorian high reliability water shares in the Murray will open on zero under dry conditions or eight percent in average conditions, while the Goulburn will be at five percent in dry or 19 percent in average. SA Murray entitlement holders (high reliability) will open on reduced allocations for the first time in six years.

### Second quarter invoices due Friday

Payment of second quarter invoices is due by 5.00pm **this Friday 26 February**. To be eligible for the five percent discount, all outstanding accounts must be paid by this date. For assistance, contact our Finance department on T. 1300 138 265.

### Water & climate information session

West Berriquin Irrigators Council is holding a water and climate information session from 6.00pm this Friday 26 February at the Deniliquin RSL Club. For more information, contact Linda Fawns on M. 0409 044 754.

### Precision Agriculture forum

Ricegrowers' Association of Australia (RGA) invites growers and contractors to attend an information forum at the Deniliquin RSL Club from 7.00pm this Wednesday 24 February. The forum will include discussions on data collection and use and contractual arrangements and legalities. For further information contact Leah Morrison from the RGA on M. 0488 071 165.

### RGA cricket fundraiser

The RGA will be hosting a Murrumbidgee versus Murray cricket match at the Conargo Recreational Grounds from 10.00am on Sunday 28 February. All money raised will assist growers in need. For more information or to register an interest to play, contact Neil Bull on M. 0428 603 557.

### 2016 Rice Industry Field Day

The annual Rice Industry Field Day is being held on Thursday 3 March at Rice Research Australia, 'Old Coree', Jerilderie. For more information call Leah Morrison at RGA on T. 02 6953 0042.

**Michael Renehan, CEO**

### Announced allocation

Class C General Security ..... 23 %  
Water Efficiency Allocation ..... 6 %  
(Efficiency Allocation on Delivery Entitlements)

### Water availability and usage

(23/02/16)  
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements.....27 %  
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)  
On-Farm Balance..... 223 GL  
On-Farm Usage ..... 197 GL

### Water exchange

8.30am today  
Water for Sale ..... 8,906 ML  
Price Range ..... \$209 - \$300  
Buy Offer..... \$195  
Yesterday's Sales..... 282 ML  
Price Range ..... \$205 - \$213  
**To buy water call 1300 781 431**

### Water use and trade data

16/02/16 – 22/02/16  
**Murray Water Exchange activity**  
Internal buyers (No. & ML).....14; 743ML  
External buyers (No. & ML).....3; 630ML  
Internal sellers (No. & ML).....21; 1,283ML  
External sellers (No. & ML).....4; 90ML

**Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)**  
Net trade.....-1,052ML(week)...34,038ML(YTD)  
**Crop weekly water use**  
GL used on farm.....5 GL (19% on summer crops)

### Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	2,024	10,000
Wakool Canal	203	2,350
Escape flows	1,695	3,250

### Rainfall and evaporation

16/02/16 – 22/02/16 ..... Rain ..... Evap  
Finley ..... 0.0mm ..... 56.7mm  
Tullakool..... 0.0mm ..... 60.1mm

### Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)  
Dartmouth.....1,718 GL..... 45 %  
Hume.....1,029 GL..... 34 %  
Lake Victoria.....390 GL..... 58 %  
Menindee Lakes .....56 GL..... 3 %  
Active Storage.....3,193 GL..... 35 %

### Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)  
Murray @ Doctors Point ..... 12,994 ML/d  
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir ..... 8,750 ML/d  
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge .....692 ML/d  
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 543 ML/d  
Darling @ Burtundy..... N/A  
Flow to SA..... 9,726 ML/d  
Murray to the Sea ..... 0 gates open