

Blowering Dam

FACT SHEET



FACTS AND FIGURES

- Blowering Dam was built to **store water released upstream for electricity generation** in the **Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Scheme** and release it for **agriculture** in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area.
- **Construction** of the dam **began in 1964** and was **completed in 1968**. The dam was **named** after a nearby property, **'Blowering Station'**.
- The dam has a **surface area of 4,460 ha**, equivalent to **more than 6,000 football fields**. The dam wall has a **height of 114 m**, taller than a **35-storey building**.
- The extra water released into the Murrumbidgee River system **opened up 95,000 ha of irrigated agriculture** on the river's southern banks, known as the Coleambally Irrigation Area.
- In addition to irrigated agriculture, the dam provides water for **town supplies, industry and domestic requirements, environmental flows, flood mitigation and recreation**.
- To meet **modern day safety standards** and **increase dam safety** in the event of **extreme flooding**, an upgrade was completed in 2010. Construction involved **raising the dam wall** to its current height of **114 m** and raising the **training walls on the sides of the spillway**.

DID YOU KNOW?



Blowering Dam is famous as the site where Ken Warby set the world water speed record in 1978. His record of 511.1 km per hour still stands today.

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|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Height: | 114 m |
| Length: | 747 m |
| Water depth: | 91 m |
| Full supply level: | 379 m above sea level |
| Storage capacity: | 1,628,000 ML |
| Surface area: | 4,460 ha |
| Catchment area: | 1,606 km ² |
| Spillway capacity: | 230,000 ML per day |

