

Murray-Lower Darling Customer Advisory Group

Minutes of Meeting

Location: Deniliquin RSL Club, 72 End St, Deniliquin

Date: 30 October 2024

Time: 9.00am

Present: Sally Dye (Chair), Gordon Fox, Rachel Strachan, Michael Pisasale, Louise Burge, Sophie Baldwin, Peter Hamilton, Judith Damiani (online), Luca Furla (online) and Anthony Wilson (online).

WaterNSW: Brendan Maher, Jonathan Belej, David Wood, Kristen Carter, Sonia Townsend (online) and Toni Hayes. Online for specific agenda items: David Stockler, Russell Cocks, Ben Arabin, Ben Coffey, Mark Jackson.

Agency and external staff for specific items: David Andersen, T Clay, Frances Guest, Jeanie Dewhurst and Andrew Cooper (NSW DCCEEW, online) and Tom Zouch (MDBA, online).

Meeting Opened: 9.00am

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country:

1.2 **Apologies:** Howard Jones, John Lolicato, Michael Chalmers.

1.3 Confirmation of Agenda Items:

1.4 Declaration of Interest(s):

- Declarations of interest were sought from attendees in relation to the meeting's agenda items. No interests were declared. Items included in the agenda are not considered confidential unless declared as such.

1.5 Election of Chairperson

- Sally Dye was nominated for Chairperson by Rachel Strachan, seconded by Louise Burge. Nil other nominations received. Accepted and carried.
- Rachel Strachan was nominated for Deputy Chairperson by Sally Dye, seconded by Louise Burge. Nil other nominations received. Accepted and carried.

1.6 Minutes of Previous Meeting, 31 July 2024:

- Minutes of meeting held on [31 July 2024](#) – to be carried over to the next meeting.
- Discussion occurred around the Additional Dilution Flows (ADF) presentation by the MDBA at the 31 July meeting (agenda item 2.3) and the discussion around salinity triggers. Members requested NSW DCCEEW be invited to the next meeting to discuss the original intent of the policy and rules and triggers.

Action MLD2410.01: WaterNSW to invite NSW DCCEEW to the next CAG meeting to discuss the ADF rules and triggers.

Responsibility: T Hayes

- Discussion occurred around the Prerequisite Policy Measures (PPMs). Members requested NSW DCCEEW be invited to the next meeting to discuss PPMs, including structure and plans for releases, in conjunction with WaterNSW/MDBA.
- Refer also [Pre-requisite policy measures | NSW Government Water](#) and [Prerequisite policy measures | Murray-Darling Basin Authority](#)

Action MLD2410.02: WaterNSW to invite NSW DCCEEW to the next CAG meeting to discuss Prerequisite Policy Measures (PPMs).

Responsibility: T Hayes

1.7 Actions arising from minutes

Refer to action sheet (attached).

2. CUSTOMER SERVICES:

2.1 Customer Services update (D Stockler)

- WaterNSW provided a Customer Services update, including water ordering and compliance, third party consent for groundwater temporary trades, customer experience improvements, new features in the water market system (customer portal) and IPART submission update.
- WaterNSW clarified that daily extractions impact **water delivery**, not **water order compliance**. How the volume is taken over the days specified in the water order (100ML over 10 days) has no bearing on compliance but **can impact** water delivery (end of system losses or delivery shortfalls) if the daily extraction is different to the water order.
- To ensure compliance, daily extractions in aggregate must not exceed the total order volume, however **customers are encouraged to be a good neighbour by ordering as you intend to take** to maximise the resource and minimise any third-party impact. This will also assist the Water Planning and Delivery team to effectively manage the system.
- Scenarios and water order behaviour discussed. The key message is if you exceed your water order in the system you are non-compliant. If a customers' intention to take changes after a water order is placed, they should notify the water delivery team as soon as possible so decisions during travel time can be made to minimise delivery losses, maximise AWDs etc.
- A new **third-party consent process** for groundwater temporary trades came into effect on 1 July 2024. Based on customer feedback, WaterNSW has updated documentation and is investigating options to make it easier for applicants whilst still managing our legal obligations (including an objections-style process or an optional fee for facilitation service (cost recovery) where WaterNSW will identify and seek consent on behalf of the applicant). Alternatively, the current consent process will remain in place for applicants who wish to complete the process themselves.
- Members stated the new process appears to encourage new developments, not protect existing bores. WaterNSW stated this is not the case. The process has been solidified to ensure third-party impacts are minimised. The process protects third parties, not the applicant, and goes through a triage process. Trade can only occur within certain parameters.
- Customers can subscribe to receive WaterNSW's advertised applications, as well as customer notifications, IVT notifications, customer newsletters and water trade and market updates at <https://www.waternsw.com.au/customer-services/subscribe>
- Members stated the alerts are great and provided feedback that it doesn't give a lot of detail (parish etc) and what is being proposed. WaterNSW will take on board to look at what other detail could be provided.
- Information on the triage and assessment process and FAQs on trading water can be found at [Trading water - WaterNSW](#) and [Groundwater temporary trades \(71T Dealings\)](#)
- Customer experience improvements include changes to the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system based on customer feedback; enhancement to features in iWAS (ML converter calculator tool and how-to videos); a free opt-in [recording and reporting SMS reminder service](#); and trialling customer outreach days in towns where we don't have a physical presence.
- Members provided feedback regarding iWAS, stating it would be useful for customers to have the ability to record usage in iWAS when an S91i is in place (non-metered usage recording). This would be of benefit to customers so they can enter daily usage to keep track of water ordered and metered. WaterNSW stated this is great feedback and we will take on board to look at.
- Members also stated it would be helpful if WaterNSW can include the iWAS login button at the top of the iWAS webpage for ease of use.

- Enhancements to the Water Market System (customer portal) presented and discussed, including future co-existence between WLS and WMS, allowing registered customers to view the details of their licences and approvals in one place.
- Members stated it would be helpful to see the location of a works approval on the map. WaterNSW advised that there is an option to include nicknames for pumps, however this doesn't relate to work approvals.
- Discussion occurred around the 3-point verification process. WaterNSW advised the information is required to ensure protection of customer data and is not retained once verification is complete. All parties listed on the works approval are required to go through the verification process.
- WaterNSW lodged its Rural and Greater Sydney Bulk Water pricing submissions and joint WAMC submission to IPART on 30 September. Due to time constraints, some WAMC items were not able to be discussed as part of the broader consultation process (metering, floodplain harvesting and consent transactions). WaterNSW will brief customers on these three functions once IPART begins the review process and prior to the public hearings via state-wide online sessions with CAG members and customers.

2.2 Non-Urban Metering Reform (NUMR) review update (D Andersen, NSW DCCEEW)

- NSW DCCEEW provided an update on the Non-Urban Metering (NUM) review. The purpose of the review was to identify ways to accelerate the implementation of the non-urban metering reforms by identifying practical changes to the rules that will help deliver the reform faster, create opportunities to reduce costs, make the rules easier to understand, implement, comply with and enforce, and make the system work more efficiently.
- Key recommendations of the review centre around reprioritising efforts towards larger water users (concentrating resources towards larger water users where they will have the greatest impact), increasing meter installation and validation rate (providing better support and training for the DQP workforce) and supporting integrity in water resource management (enabling more effective use of compliance and enforcement tools).
- Proposed key changes to the metering rules and implementation priorities presented and discussed. A DQP Concierge Program will be available in the coming months, offering tailored support to DQPs and customers by providing access to expert support, simplifying the compliance process and improving data management.
- Public consultation on regulation changes will occur in November 2024, a what we heard report to be released early 2025, changes by March 2025, then a disallowance period of 15 sitting days. Once the regulation is made, new conditions will take effect (current obligations exist until the rules are changed). Unintended works will be phased over 2025.
- NSW DCCEEW advised that under the proposed amended Access Licence Dealing Principles, if a licence is connected to a pump/works approval, it will need a meter to temporarily trade irrespective of size. If a licence is sitting by itself and not connected to a works approval, it will not be required to be metered.

3. OPERATIONS:

3.1 Regional Operations update (B Coffey)

- WaterNSW provided an overview of preventative maintenance plan, corrective maintenance work orders and current issues.
- An update on the issue at Hume Dam was provided (per last meeting, doubling over of the lifting chain on spillway gate number 11 caused the chain to become jammed in the guide chute). A new chute fabrication is underway for planned installation by mid-November.
- An overview of planned outages at Hume Dam, Edward River Offtake and Gulpa Creek Offtake Regulator was provided. There will be no impacts to water delivery.
- Members stated they have heard Neimur Regulator replacement has been fully funded and sought more information. WaterNSW advised this project is part of SDLAM (NSW DCCEEW). Further information is

available at <https://water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/our-work/water-infrastructure-nsw/sdlam> and <https://www.mdba.gov.au/water-management/basin-plan/sustainable-diversion-limit-adjustment-mechanism>

3.2 Water Planning and Delivery update (D Wood)

- WaterNSW presented a review of recent operations in the Murray and Lower Darling valleys, including dam storage and inflows review, rainfall and temperature outlook, water use summary (including e-water and releases), water allocations and availability, weather outlook and an overview of Murray and Lower Darling operations.
- The Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder advised it is currently using CEW as part of its spring multi-site action that is underway at the moment, using a mix of CEW Murray licences, and TLM. The action is due to finish at the end of November.
- Members queried the water use summary data, stating the environmental water should be segmented and not listed as general security.

Overview of Murray operations:

- The MDBA is balance resource storage between Dartmouth and Hume and transferring water to Lake Victoria to manage basin resources.
- Irrigation demand has been high whilst being responsive to weather events.
- The Water Planning and Delivery team is working with eWater holders and major irrigation companies, as the largest water holders, to understand future demands/peaks and system limitations.
- Recent trial delivery for environmental water managers downstream of Stevens Weir (Edwards River) of 3,400ML/d, being supported by higher flows through Wakool/Colligen/Yallakool systems. Additional demand on Edward River Escape (through MIL's system).
- Discussion occurred around volumes going down Neimur with members questioning if additional gauges are required d/s of Stevens Weir. WaterNSW advised that area is unregulated, and a gauge is not operationally required by WaterNSW. Any additional gauges would require funding for installation and ongoing maintenance. Members stated this should be funded under SDLAM (NSW DCCEEW project).

Overview of Lower Darling operations:

- If conditions remain dry, current forecasts have the drought reserve trigger (480GL) being reached in the first quarter of 2025. WaterNSW will continue to work with agencies to understand future operational requirements and transition once 480GL storage is reached.
- Members questioned if releases out of the top 2 lakes can be reduced to hold reserves for summer. WaterNSW advised if further cuts are required, reduction will come from top lakes as much as possible. The other restriction is the capacity limitation (physically getting the water to the outlet).
- Discussion occurred around active storage and operational water component and rules around protection of base water. WaterNSW advised we try to keep as much water as we can in the top lakes and run scenarios to maximise release of water from Menindee. The MDBA makes the call on how much water they require out of Menindee.
- Members stated the Menindee Solution is not workable and utilising the Penelco Channel option would benefit everyone, stating the MDBA is looking at it but needs more voices to push it.

Action MLD2410.03: WaterNSW to request NSW DCCEEW to attend the next meeting to discuss the Penelco Channel option (in liaison with MDBA, refer to agenda item 3.3).

Responsibility: T Hayes

3.3 Murray-Darling Basin Authority update (Tom Zouch – MDBA)

- The MDBA provide an update on system planning and operations and Annual Operating Outlook under different scenarios.
- There has been below average rainfall in the Murray, with very dry conditions over the last 3-4 months. Storages are high but demand is also high given the dry conditions.
- Members questioned why the MDBA is continuing to target water out of the upper two Lakes rather than Lake Victoria, stating it would make no difference to water quality. The MDBA advised that part of the call for water is to ensure all demands along the systems are met (wholistically). Lake Victoria affects all three states. Menindee enables allocation all the way from the top end of the Murray.
- Members requested more discussion on this to ensure that what happened in 2014-17 doesn't happen again. The MDBA is open to this and looking at ways to provide information to the public regularly and often and sought feedback from members.
- Members questioned if 195GL in the upper lakes is still being operated as dead storage. The MDBA advised there is no agreed target for this year, and this sits with the Basin Officials Committee (BOC) to make a decision. Information should be made publicly available in the next few weeks.
- Members queried how losses are attributed for environmental water delivered from Hume to the Murray mouth. The MDBA advised the modelled loss factor from Hume to South Australia is 20%, which is accounted for and doesn't go against NSW and Victoria. It is debited against environmental water holders and not socialised (Victoria and NSW are not impacted when it gets to the border). This is made clear in the BOC document available online.
- Members questioned if the MDBA has looked at using Penelco Channel to maximise use from the lower lakes to preserve the upper lakes. Taken on notice.

Action MLD2410.04: WaterNSW to request the MDBA includes discussion on losses and Penelco Channel at the next meeting.

Responsibility: T Hayes

- The MDBA is looking at ways to provide information to the public regularly and often and sought feedback from members. Members provided feedback and also suggested regular attendance at the CAG.
- Members stated decisions have been made on river flows without consideration for operators or customer operations (eg PIDs), stating customers want to find a solution to discuss third party impacts so decision makers understand there are consequences to how water is ordered and requires whole of system discussion. The MDBA stated they are open to exploring the possibility of operating differently.
- The Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder advised that eWater flows aim to restore natural components of the flow regime to protect/restore/support native veg, fish and waterbirds etc. When an eWater order is placed, the order is treated equally with all other orders in the system from other licence holders. In terms of engaging with landholders on eWater planning, catchments have EWAGs and Reference Groups.

4. PRESENTATIONS/CONSULTATION:

4.1 Update on 2025 Pricing Proposal (B Maher and T Clay, NSW DCCEEW)

- WaterNSW lodged it's Rural and Greater Sydney Bulk Water pricing submissions and joint WAMC submission to IPART on 30 September.
- IPART will publish submissions and release the issues paper on 1 November inviting feedback from the community, with public hearings to be held on 14 (Rural Valleys and Greater Sydney) and 21 November (WAMC). Customers are encouraged to make a submission to the issues papers and participate in the public hearings.
- Since we last presented, the numbers have remained consistent, and the scenarios presented to CAGs will be reflected in our submission. Valley fixed vs variable ratios have not changed.

4.3 Future CAG Engagement and Next Term of Office (B Maher)

- WaterNSW is taking a refreshed approach to CAGs in 2025 and has included feedback from CAG members to inform future engagement. We will move to 2 face-to-face meetings per year starting 2025, with the option of an additional online meeting as required or requested and is proposing to hold the March meeting at Wentworth, in the Lower Darling.
- Additional engagement opportunities for customers may include community drop-in centres, field days, tailored online information sessions, local dam visits for customers and community, river runs in the lead up to peak water use periods, online Water Planning and Delivery updates in times of need and potential for attendance at water user group meetings (as requested).
- WaterNSW is working on developing a new CAG format with NSW DCCEEW's Water Group, considering the feedback that has been provided by the CAGs. The new format will take better coordination and efficiency of engagement into account and will be launched in 2025. We have also spoken with the MDBA on attendance at the Murray-Lower Darling CAG, and NRAR will attend on an as-needs or as-requested basis. Members will need to be proactive in raising agenda items in advance to allow sufficient time to coordinate with external agencies and get the right people in the room. It is difficult to coordinate on short notice.
- A new policy for engagement with customers and community is being developed (effective 1 July 2025). A draft version will be shared with CAG Chairs in February and with members at the next CAG meeting.
- Members requested additional operational updates (quarterly) if CAGs will only be twice per year, even if just a written report. WaterNSW will discuss internally to see what can be provided. The CAG is only one avenue of engagement with our customers.
- One member was not supportive of reducing face-to-face meeting to twice per year.
- Member suggested NSW DCCEEW could hold a meeting between CAGs to cover off on departmental issues raised or hold a meeting the day after a CAG meeting to allow time to discuss issues. Member feedback will be passed on.

Next term of office:

- The current term of office ends 30 June 2025. WaterNSW will call for nominations ~April 2025 by writing to all current members and representative groups as well as advertising via media and social media. Current members are encouraged to reapply through their nominating representative group.
- WaterNSW invited members to bring along other members of their representative group and other eligible organisations to the next CAG meeting to see what the CAGs are about.

4.4 Renewable Energy Storage Program (M Jackson)

- WaterNSW provided an overview of the Renewable Energy Storage Program (RESP) in which WaterNSW sought private investment to unlock suitable land and assets to develop commercially viable, large-scale renewable energy and storage projects. Following a competitive tender process, WaterNSW granted selected developers (ACEN, UHH, ZEN) the right to investigate agreed sections of WaterNSW land.
- All development and construction activities and costs associated with the projects, including property engagement and environmental (EIS) approvals, will be borne by the developer. No water has been allocated and will need to be sourced from the market. There should be no impact on allocation or operations. Project timeline presented and discussed.
- Into the future, WaterNSW is aspiring to bring 2GW of additional shovel-ready pumped hydro energy storage projects to market by leveraging our land and assets. As a first step, WaterNSW will soon start Government-led pumped hydro feasibility studies to identify suitable locations. If the projects progress, they could supply electricity to up to two million homes.
- WaterNSW is exploring how it can build on the success of the RESP, and whether more sites across regional NSW could also host pumped hydro energy storage projects. We hope to start delivering this next phase from late 2024 and will keep customers updated as work progresses.

- Members stated this is great initiative by WaterNSW.
 - More information on the program is available at [Renewable Energy and Storage Program - WaterNSW](#)
- 5. NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (NSW DCCEEW) items**
- 5.1 Southern Inland Floodplain Management Plans (J Meakin/F Guest, NSW DCCEEW)**
- NSW DCCEEW provided an overview of Floodplain Management Plans (FMP) in southern valleys, including overview and status of consultation. Floodplain management plans are legal documents made under the Water Management Act (WMA) which set the rules for flood works on floodplains in rural areas. All flood works, whether they are on a floodplain or not, require a flood work approval (unless an exemption applies). FMPs do not include the take of floodplain water, which is included in Water Sharing Plans.
 - NSW DCCEEW is developing 4 whole of valley FMPs to replace the 10 existing FMPs that were historically developed under the Water Act 1912 to ensure consistent rules for flood works across each valley by 2026. The new plans will include larger areas of the southern floodplains and connect the Lachlan, Murray, Murrumbidgee and Billabong Creek valleys.
 - Stage 1 public consultation is an opportunity for stakeholders to provide early feedback on key elements/ building blocks that will be used to prepare the draft plan, including the proposed floodplain boundary, the floodway network, ecological and cultural assets and localised variances to some rules.
 - Stage 2 will involve public exhibition of the draft plan in the statutory plan format. Stage 1 for Murray is complete with Stage 2 to commence in March 2025.
 - Members raised concerns about approvals for existing and historical flood works and risks that the new rules will change some businesses. NSW DCCEEW advised the draft plans include rules for existing flood works. The FMP will streamline the approval process by making it clear what needs to be complied with. Requirements for flood works are not new, they have been in place under the WMA since 2000.
 - Members questioned the resources required to licence historical flood works, stating WaterNSW will be inundated with applications. NSW DCCEEW will work with WaterNSW to assist landholders to get structures approved, stating landholders only need one flood work approval, not individual approvals for each work. It is known that the scale of historical works in southern basin is large and will take some time to get approved.
 - NSW DCCEEW is updating modelling to consider complying works areas that exist under historical FMP. A consistent theme on the listening tour from the 2022 floods was the impact of unapproved, unmanaged and uncoordinated flood structures on the landscape that caused flooding in areas that hadn't been flooded before. The new plan will require all structures to prove they are not impacting neighbours, other areas etc. A what we heard report is available on NSW DCCEEW website listing the feedback.
 - Members were concerned the 2022 flood is being used as the base case, stating that event was the most extreme ever seen. NSW DCCEEW is aware of this feedback and the conversation is ongoing.
 - Customers raised concerns about the cost to WaterNSW, how they will be able to manage the volume of applications and recover the costs, stating it should not come back on irrigators. It was noted that there is an application fee for processing flood work approvals.
 - Customers are encouraged to contact WaterNSW on what steps they should take and what approval is required.
- 5.2 Reconnecting River Country Program update (A Cooper, NSW DCCEEW)**
- NSW DCCEEW provided an overview of the program, including current status, frequency of proposed environmental flows, and key dates, timeline and major work packages. The program has been extended to December 2026 with the Murrumbidgee Final Business Case (FBC) by February 2025.
 - NSW DCCEEW stated it is important to note that the RRCP is still in development, no flows have ever been delivered under the program and no decision has been made on a flow option. Three options are being assessed.

Action MLD2410.05: NSW DCCEEW to provide “frequency of proposed environmental flows” slide relating to the Murray.

Responsibility: A Cooper (NSW DCCEEW)

- The public exhibition of the draft Landholder Negotiation Scheme (LNS) Regulation process is open from 16 September to 24 November 2024 and webinars are available online. NSW DCCEEW is holding information sessions with landholders in Wagga Wagga and Darlington Point this week to provide more information.
- Members questioned whether compensation for elevated flooding risks is excluded from the LNS. NSW DCCEEW advised it does not take into account insurance for increased flooding risks.
- NSW DCCEEW is working with WaterNSW to develop risk mitigation strategies for the FBC, which includes a buffer to allow for over the limit flows and a number of other mitigation strategies that would make it unlikely the buffer would be exceeded. Members stated this is just an ‘out clause’ for government to remove liability if flows go over the target.
- NSW DCCEEW stated the intent of environmental water is to either provide fresh flow or piggyback on natural events when conditions are right. Water could not be ordered outside certain criteria and WaterNSW wouldn’t accept an order outside criteria. It is unlikely WaterNSW would release flows if there is a heightened risk of additional water/weather.
- NSW DCCEEW advised the LNS regulation does not have a compulsory acquisition component and participation is voluntary. If agreement can’t be made, an assessment will be required to verify that an easement is required and will need Ministerial agreement. This will be done on a case-by-case basis and is intended to be used in rare circumstances and at the discretion of the Minister.
- It is important to note it is not an acquisition of land, it is an acquisition of an easement and will not take away landholder right to access and use of land in this process.
- Members queried if compensation will be attached to land title as opposed to event based. Yes, this will be determined based on impact of easement terms, which will include reference to flow limit, and impact on market value of the property.
- Members questioned how this will be done in the current timeframe, with ~2400 affected landholdings in the Murray. NSW DCCEEW advised it can’t be done in the current timeframe, which is why the MDBA is initiating the constraints roadmap. The intent of the roadmap is to bring the 3 jurisdictions together to map out a pathway to achieving constraints (led by MDBA). There is no change in the fundamental objectives, it is more about how to get to the outcomes.
- Members questioned if there has been any consideration of the impact of salinity under the RRCP. Taken on notice.

Action MLD2410.06: NSW DCCEEW to provide information on any consideration of the impact of salinity in the RRCP.

Responsibility: A Cooper (NSW DCCEEW)

- The public exhibition of the draft LNS Regulation process is open to 24 November and NSW DCCEEW welcomes and feedback from landholders.
- More information can be found at [Reconnecting River Country Program](#) and [Landholder Negotiation Scheme Regulation](#).

6. BUSINESS PAPERS (taken as read):

- Members sought additional information on Capex line items “Flood Operations” and “Water delivery and other operations”. Taken on notice.

Action MLD2410.07: WaterNSW to provide further explanation on Capex line items for “Flood Operations” and “Water delivery and other operations”.

Responsibility: B Maher

7. GENERAL BUSINESS:

- Members stated there is a lot of concern from locals about the Pamamaroo inlet, with concerns it will fail, and requested more information be made available to the public, regular updates etc. WaterNSW has met with the project team and will provide an update.
- Members would like further information on what the MDBA and WaterNSW are looking at doing ongoing from Ellerslie to Wentworth Junction in relation to water quality if there is another event. WaterNSW advised water quality sits with NSW DCCEEW. The Water Quality team do monthly water monitoring and if there is a change will visit more regularly.

Action MLD2410.08: WaterNSW to seek further advice from the Water Quality team in relation to Ellerslie to Wentworth Junction.

Responsibility: J Belej

- Members sought an update on the status of fishways at Menindee and trials. WaterNSW will contact NSW Fisheries for information to provide to the CAG out of session.

Action MLD2410.09: WaterNSW to contact NSW Fisheries to seek an update on status of fishways at Menindee and provide to the CAG out of session.

Responsibility: B Maher

Meeting review and close:

Next meeting: 11 March 2025 at Wentworth

Meeting closed: 3.00pm

Murray-Lower Darling Customer Advisory Group – Actions – 30 October 2024

New actions

Action number	Action	Person responsible	Status
MLD2410.01	WaterNSW to invite NSW DCCEEW to the next CAG meeting to discuss the ADF rules and triggers.	T Hayes	In progress.
MLD2410.02	WaterNSW to invite NSW DCCEEW to the next CAG meeting to discuss Prerequisite Policy Measures (PPMs).	T Hayes	In progress.
MLD2410.03	WaterNSW to request NSW DCCEEW to attend the next meeting to discuss the Penelco Channel option (in liaison with MDBA, refer to agenda item 3.3).	T Hayes	In progress.
MLD2410.04	WaterNSW to request the MDBA includes discussion on losses and Penelco Channel at the next meeting.	T Hayes	In progress.
MLD2410.05	NSW DCCEEW to provide “frequency of proposed environmental flows” slide relating to the Murray.	A Cooper (NSW DCCEEW)	Complete. Emailed to members 19/11/24.
MLD2410.06	NSW DCCEEW to provide information on any consideration of the impact of salinity in the RRCP.	A Cooper (NSW DCCEEW)	Complete. The link to the CSIRO report considers the potential for the program to contribute to water quality issues as a result of inundating salinity hotspots. We also have a requirement to evaluate program impacts on the BSMS (i.e. whether it needs to be registered as an accountable action). Response provided to members 19/11/24.
MLD2410.07	WaterNSW to provide further explanation on Capex line items for “Flood Operations” and “Water delivery and other operations.	B Maher	In progress.
MLD2410.08	WaterNSW to seek further advice from the Water Quality team in relation to Ellerslie to Wentworth Junction.	J Belej	
MLD2410.09	WaterNSW to contact NSW Fisheries to seek an update on status of fishways at Menindee and provide to the CAG out of session.	B Maher	

Carried forward actions

Action number	Action	Person responsible	Status
MLD2407.01	NSW DCCEEW to provide breakdown of general security carryover, including volume of high security 'parked' on general security accounts.	S Chowdhury (NSW DCCEEW)	<p>GS users carried over 672.3GL on 1/7/2024. The total volume traded into GS from HS & Conv over WY23/24 was 75.3GL, of which 16.4GL was traded in in June. Accordingly, we can infer that 16.4GL of 672.3GL (or 2.4%) was traded to avoid forfeitures across water year.</p> <p>October 2024 discussion: Members requested additional information/clarity on the 16.4GL carryover and if from both HS and conveyance.</p> <p>Members asked if 10 years of data is available so comparison can be done for HS and conveyance parked.</p> <p>WaterNSW will follow up with NSW DCCEEW for additional information.</p>
MLD2407.02	NSW DCCEEW to review the unintended consequence that allows for high security water to be parked on general security accounts, thus providing the ability for carry over.	A Raine (NSW DCCEEW)	In progress.
MLD2407.04	MDBA to review concerns and issues around changing patterns of water use and reduced river flows (in conjunction with NSW DCCEEW) and report back to the CAG.	J Hickey (MDBA)	In progress.
MLD2403.03	WaterNSW to contact the MDBA and ask if they can provide an update on the trial of releases with return flow to the Murray via the Great Darling Anabranch.	J Belej	The MDBA is currently completing a review and information will be available in due course.
MLD2311.02	WaterNSW to invite NSW DCCEEW to attend the next meeting to present with WaterNSW on the rules and process for licensing of historical flood works.	D Stockler	Complete. Refer to agenda item 5.1.