



MINUTES OF MEETING – 3 August 2010

Meeting opened at 9:30am

Present:

Attendees	Representation
Mike Tweedale	Committee Member
Ian Geldard	Committee Member
John Bender	Committee Member
Ian Wolski	Committee Member
Ross Uebergang	Proxy for David Uebergang
Steve Goudie	SunWater
Graham Hargreaves	SunWater
Gordon Delaney	SunWater
Aaron Beale	SunWater

1. Apologies

- Nil

2. Current Business

Condamine Balonne ROP Amendments

Critical Water Supply Sharings Rules

- SunWater must provide critical water sharing rules to DERM for consideration for inclusion into the ROP amendments – proposed amendments are required in next few weeks.
- The rules are to ensure that high priority water supplies for town supplies are given greater certainty once certain triggers are reached.
- Chinchilla Weir already protects the HP water by use of a trigger level to prevent MP access (EL 292.71m).
- The proposed rules simply clarify the arrangement that exists at Chinchilla, but with some alteration of access arrangements and providing triggers for starting and stopping a critical water supply period. - viz
 - Triggers to start is 292.71m (same as current rule)
 - Trigger to cease is 293.00m - this allows some margin to prevent continual triggering in and out of the period
 - During period HP water will be available
 - During period MP water will not be available
 - During period no passing flows from the weir will take place
 - During period HP water can access below minimum operating level (EL287.71m)

Discussion

- The rules are basically similar to what already occurs with small exception of the town having access to the dead storage.
- Stock and domestic people will be still able to access water supply as they have riparian rights.



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Coal Seam Gas – introduced water

- The ROP needs amendment to deal with introduced water resulting from potential CSG operations.
- This is basically to authorise the take of any introduced water from the water and the use of the watercourse as a conduit for the introduced water.
- The rules are yet to be developed but the principles will be:
 - Not a permanent allocation – albeit could last for a number of years
 - Cannot adversely impact on existing supplemented water allocation holders
 - When the weir spills – the first water spilled is CSG water – ie cannot impact on natural yield of the weir
 - Monthly reconciliation of water accounts based on meter reads
 - Increased meter monitoring – anybody
 - CSG water added to system must be taken out, with adjustment for river and storage losses

Discussion

- Question from IAC: In seasons where the weir might be full with CSG water but there is no remaining allocation, would this be available to allocation holders in critical times? The answer is no, the performance of the scheme must be based purely on natural inflows.
- Q: Will this effect pricing of scheme water – if people become more reliant on CSG water. Ans: These products will remain unrelated – pricing reviews would be based on running costs and revenue from the scheme.

3. Other Business

- The ROP stream flow period at below the weir seriously limits the opportunity for taking water below the weir, particularly because of the 60% cutoff rule. Has SunWater recommended removing this rule – SunWater has discussed this with DERM on a number of occasions since the ROP came out, and has ascertained that there is limited chance of removal or even adjustment of this rule.
- Meeting schedules – Steve asked if the committee was keen to meet on a regular basis or on an as needs basis – the committee suggested to stay on an as needs basis.

4. Correspondence

Nil

5. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be determined as required.

Meeting closed at 11.00am

**Chinchilla
IRRIGATOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE**



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MINUTES CONFIRMED

Chairperson

SunWater Manager

Date