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Dear Customer

Upper Condamine Releases

SunWater is currently releasing medium priority water in the Upper Condamine Water Supply Scheme based on orders from customers. Initially it was planned to be undertaken with two releases, one in December and one in February/March 2017.

Since the release has commenced SunWater have become aware of a discrepancy between the volume released (measured at the tailwater gauge) versus the expected reduction in storage volume according to the existing storage curve.

SunWater are investigating this discrepancy as a matter of priority and commit to providing further information as it comes to hand. SunWater are planning to undertake a bathymetric survey of the dam to confirm to the storage curve accuracy. The results of the survey are likely to be available during the first quarter of the New Year.

Current Situation:

- Remaining volume in the dam is 26,951ML (which is 11,951ML above the Medium priority cut-off level of approximately 15,000 ML)
- SunWater estimate the residual demand downstream of Talgai Weir is 9,787ML and 1,500ML above Talgai Weir. This a conservative estimate since the last meter reads were done in September and we will know more after the meter readings in early January 2017.
- Releases to date are approximately 3,383ML (measured at the tailwater gauge).
- Estimated future transmission losses are approximately 1000ML.

Considering the data above and following extensive on ground consultation across the customer group by Daryl McKinley and communication with the Irrigation Advisory Committee, SunWater will continue the current release to assist irrigators in maximising the receipt of their announced allocation (currently 53%).

It is of critical importance when the river is dry and the storage volume in Leslie Dam is low that irrigators take water that they order. If you find yourself in a situation where you cannot take the water you have ordered please contact your water officer who will assist you in making alternative arrangements for the water.

SunWater will continue to monitor Leslie Dam for inflows into the system from storm activity. Until there is a change in the current situation applications for temporary transfer will not be approved. SunWater will provide further advice around temporary transfers when the situation changes.

It is expected that the water under the announced allocation can be delivered prior to the Leslie Dam reaching the ROP cut off rule for release of medium priority water at EL 460.35mAHD.

Should you have any further inquiries in relation to this release please contact Darrell McKinlay on 0427 683 322 or Karan Quartermaine on 0408 987 151.

Yours sincerely

Karan Quartermaine
Service Manager - Goondiwindi.