

Chinchilla Customer Advisory Committee

Date: 13 March 2024

Time: 8:30am – 9:15am

Location: Chinchilla RSL, 61 Heeney Street

Attendees: Leigh Cook, Mark Jenyns, Ross Uebergang

Sunwater representatives: Craig Cahill, Darrell McKinley, Ally Timms, Alice Collyer, Glen Storey

Department Representatives: Peter Brownhalls, Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water (DRDMW)

Apologies: Ian Wolski, John Bender

Minutes:

Agenda items		
Item no.	Item	Presenter
1	Meeting open	Craig Cahill
2	Water usage and events to date	Craig Cahill
3	Metering upgrades progress and plans	Craig Cahill
4	Chinchilla Operations reporting	Craig Cahill
5	Planned corrective maintenance program 2024 to 2025	Craig Cahill
6	General Business	Craig Cahill

1. Meeting open

- Sunwater gave an overview of the agenda.
- Acknowledgement of Country.
- Attendees were introduced.
- Minutes of previous meeting accepted.

2. Water usage and events to date

- Sunwater presented to slide deck and provided graphs of behaviour in relation to CSG water.

3. Metering upgrades progress and plans

- Sunwater presented from slide deck with details of dual-purpose meters update project, including table with number of meters that need to be replaced and validated.
- Glen Storey (Project Manager at Sunwater) is leading the dual meter upgrade project.
- Member asked if the requirement for updating meters also applies to meters not included in the table presented. Sunwater confirmed there isn't a requirement today, however, Sunwater has received funding to install point orange telemetry devices to all meters in the future. At this stage Sunwater doesn't have a validation date for allocation meters and is only updating the dual-purpose meters.
- Sunwater confirmed timelines were created around risk. The water harvesting components present a higher risk than supplemented water meters.

4. Chinchilla Operations reporting

- Sunwater presented from slide deck outlining Operations reporting.
- Member asked if the allocation was still 90% when the weir was low. Sunwater confirmed yes, the last allocation was announced on 11 October 2023 at 90%.
- Member advised if it didn't rain, customers wouldn't have the allocation until June. Member asked if allocations last until the end of the year. Sunwater confirmed yes, the Downstream Rule started in November which made upstream water allocated for upstream use. There is a requirement some of this allocation is for town water use.

5. Planned Corrective Maintenance work 2024 to 2025

- Sunwater presented from slide deck outlining upcoming corrective maintenance work.
- It was noted that the entire value of the arc flash funding may not be needed.
- Member asked for Sunwater to explain what arc flash is. Sunwater explained that an arc flash event is when a short circuit or fault occurs in an electrical system, causing a sudden release of energy in the form of heat, light, and sound. The result can be a violent and explosive electrical discharge that can cause serious injuries and even death to those in the vicinity. In the short term, Sunwater has developed warning labels, signs, and a system of PPE to reduce the risk of harm to staff and contractors, but the arc flash project will involve switchboard replacement to eliminate the hazard.

6. General business

- Member asked if there are other schemes that integrate CSG water. Sunwater confirmed that Chinchilla is the only scheme of this nature.
- Department representative provided update on water recovery. The Commonwealth completed strategic tender on 'bridging the gap' to achieve sustainable diversion. They've recovered 5.5 ML and still need 8 ML. They will return with another program aimed at recovering the shortfall. It may be an infrastructure program where people can do works on farm to establish efficiency and share those gains as a subdivision of the entitlement.
- The next CAC meeting is scheduled for 13 June 2024 and invitations will be sent shortly.
- Meeting close.

7. Approval and review

Chair:	Craig Cahill
Minutes:	Ally Timms
Date:	27 March 2024

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