

Chinchilla Weir

Date: Wednesday, 24 June 2026

Time: 10.00am - 11.30am

Location: Chinchilla Sunwater Office (Unit 1, 2 Dwyer Court, Chinchilla)

Attendees

Chair: Nathaniel Ash (General Manager South)

Committee members: Ian Wolski, John Bender, Jack Jenyns, Peter Brownhalls

Sunwater representatives: Darrell McKinlay (Senior Project Manager), Brody Gordon (Senior Operator Maintainer), Benita Tiernan (Customer Engagement Advisor), Bianca Donghi (Customer Engagement Manager), Alyssa Sennema (Commercial Advisory Manager)

Invited guests:

Apologies: Leigh Cook

Minutes:

Agenda items		
Item no.	Item	Presenter
1	Meeting open	Nathaniel Ash
2	Operational update	Nathaniel Ash
3	Dual purpose meters & telemetered meters	Nathaniel Ash
4	PCM update	Nathaniel Ash
5	General business	Nathaniel Ash
6	Meeting close	Nathaniel Ash

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1. Introductions

- Meeting opened with introductions from Sunwater representatives and committee members.
- Benita Tiernan introduced herself as acting in the customer engagement role while Keelie O'Sullivan is on parental leave.
- Bianca Donghi welcomed attendees virtually and outlined her role as Customer Engagement Manager.

2. Operational Update

- Water delivery performance remains close to planned targets, with approximately 77 ML/day delivered against a planned 78 ML/day
- Customers were advised that nominations are expected to increase from approximately 25 ML/day to 30–35 ML/day from August–September 2026, subject to advice from Arrow and QGC
- Discussion occurred regarding reliability of future water availability and the dependence on CSG water supply forecasts.

3. Allocations Update

- Current indicative announced allocation outlook for next year remains broad, estimated between 15% and 60%
- Sunwater advised no further allocation updates had been received beyond currently published information
- The scheme is currently sitting at approximately 81% storage capacity.

4. Water Usage and Forecast

- Historical water usage trends were reviewed
- Seasonal forecasts indicate potentially drier conditions later in the year
- Customers expressed interest in receiving ongoing updates regarding future supply forecasts and water availability.

5. Dual Purpose Metering and Telemetry Program

- Sunwater provided an update on the telemetry rollout program
- Most dual-purpose meters within the scheme have been installed, with some remaining works to be completed
- Stage 1 rollout includes Chinchilla, Upper Condamine and St George schemes
- Target date for telemetry agreements within Chinchilla remains 1 December 2026
- Future plans include integration with the Orion platform to allow water ordering and improved visibility of meter readings and allocation usage
- Benefits discussed included:
 - Improved monitoring of allocation and water harvesting
 - Reduced need for manual meter reading
 - Better customer visibility of water usage data.

6. Planned Corrective Maintenance (PCM) and Capital Works Update

- Condition assessment results indicate the Chinchilla Weir is in better condition than previously reported
- Significant planned expenditure on the weir will no longer be required at this stage

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- Monitoring systems remain in place, and minor operational maintenance will continue
- Meter replacements, buoy maintenance and minor operational works will continue
- No major capital works are currently planned for FY27.

7. General Business – Water Supply Concern

- Customers raised concerns regarding the long-term reliability of water supplies associated with gas developments
- Sunwater acknowledged uncertainty around future supply volumes and the reliance on information provided by Arrow and QGC
- Current advice indicates an increase of approximately 10 ML/day from August 2026
- Participants discussed the importance of obtaining longer-term forecasts where possible.

8. Service and Performance Plans (SPPs)

- Bianca Donghi sought feedback on the usefulness of Service and Performance Plans
- Customers indicated limited use of the current PDF reports
- Feedback suggested current information is generally obtained directly through operations staff and CAC meetings
- Sunwater is considering options to make the information more dynamic, accessible and user-friendly.

9. CAC Meeting Improvement

- Participants discussed future meeting content and frequency
- Customers expressed interest in:
 - Water availability forecasts
 - Updates from QGC and Arrow.
 - Longer-term outlooks where available.
 - Attendees were generally satisfied with the current CAC meeting format and agenda.

10. Department Update – Water Planning

- Peter Brownhalls provided a government update covering:
 - Replacement of the Great Artesian Basin and regional aquifer water plans.
 - Future consultation opportunities on draft plans.
 - Commonwealth water recovery programs and SDL (Sustainable Diversion Limit) requirements.
 - Ongoing groundwater recovery activities in Upper Condamine alluvial tributaries.
 - Murray-Darling Basin Plan review progress and upcoming milestones.
 - Commonwealth Water Act review activities.

11. Meeting close

12. Action Items

No.	Action	Owner	Due
CW003	Provide attendee Jack Jenyns with process for committee representation.	Sunwater	Prior to next meeting
CW004	Follow up with customers regarding arrangements and requirements for future telemetry agreements before the 1 December 2026 implementation deadline.	Sunwater Operations Team	Prior to 1 Dec 2026
CW005	Seek and provide longer-term water supply outlook information from Arrow/QGC where possible.	Sunwater Operations Team	Ongoing
CW006	Explore obtaining participation from QGC/Arrow representatives at future CAC meetings and provide updates where available.	Sunwater	Ongoing

13. Approval and Review

Chair:	Nathanial Ash, General Manager South
Minutes:	Benita Tiernan, Customer Engagement Advisor
Date:	Friday 26 June 2026