

# Nogoa Mackenzie Water Supply Scheme

## Information bulletin and feedback form: Carryover at 193 m AHD Fairbairn Dam

26 May 2020

### Summary

- Sunwater is seeking feedback from Medium Priority and High Priority water allocation customers about whether the current carryover rules in the Nogoa Mackenzie Water Supply Scheme should be changed.
- The current rules mean that if the level in Fairbairn Dam at the start a water year is just less than 193 m AHD, the maximum carryover volume is 25,000 ML.
- If, however, the level in the dam at the start of a water year is just above 193m AHD then the carryover volume jumps up to 75,000 ML which has the perverse effect of significantly reducing the high priority announced allocation percentage.
- An alternative to address this might be to change the current carryover rules and instead introduce a 'sliding scale' that smoothly transitions the maximum carryover volume between 25,000 ML when the dam is at 192.5 m AHD to 75,000 ML when the dam is at 193.42 m AHD.
- This alternative would have the effect of 'levelling out' the total volume of water that might be available to High Priority water users (from High Priority Announced Allocations plus carryover) coupled with a more gradual change in the volume of carryover available to medium priority water users.
- Note that Medium Priority Announced Allocation would be zero across this range of Fairbairn Dam water levels and would not be affected by this change in the carryover rules.
- Sunwater is actively seeking the views of Medium Priority and High Priority allocation customers in the scheme about whether the proposed rule change should be pursued (including whether it should take effect from 1 July 2020) or not.
- You are being asked to provide Sunwater with your feedback about the proposed rule change by 17 June 2020 using the attached form.
- If customers indicate a clear preference for the alternative carryover rule, Sunwater will submit an amended Operations Manual to the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (DNRME).
- The change can only take effect if and when approved by the department.

## Have your say

Sunwater is actively seeking the views of Medium Priority and High Priority allocation customers in the Nogoia Mackenzie Water Supply Scheme about whether the proposed rule change should be pursued, and the timing of its effect.

The rule change will only be progressed if Sunwater has confidence that customers support the proposed rule. If secured, Sunwater will submit an amended Operations Manual with the changed carryover rules to the DNRME for consideration. **Pending any approval, current water sharing rules shall apply.** The timing of any change would also be based on feedback.

To provide feedback, please complete the form below and email to [customersupport@sunwater.com.au](mailto:customersupport@sunwater.com.au) prior to close of business on 17 June 2020. If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Jason Smith, Operations Manager Nogoia Mackenzie, by email at [Jason.Smith@sunwater.com.au](mailto:Jason.Smith@sunwater.com.au).

## Feedback Form

1. I hold the following type(s) of water allocation within the Nogoia Mackenzie WSS:

- High Priority                       Medium Priority

2. My preference is to (*please tick one*):

- Keep the carryover rules as they are  
 Change the carryover rule to the proposed 'sliding-scale' to take effect immediately (from 1 July 2020)  
 Change the carryover rule to the proposed 'sliding-scale' to take effect in 12 months (from 1 July 2021)  
 Another option (please describe in box below):

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If you wish, please attach any additional information relevant to your answer.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Customer Number: \_\_\_\_\_