

### From the CEO

#### New water market regulations for 1 July 2025 and 2026

Reform of the Murray Darling Basin's water markets is an Australian Government priority. One of the current priorities is the development of new regulations that will enable a new mandatory Code of Conduct for all water market intermediaries.

An intermediary basically means a person who provides a water right trading service on behalf of another person in exchange for a commission or fee.

Intermediaries include brokers, exchanges and irrigation infrastructure operators such as WMI that provide intermediary services.

WMI has been consulting with the Australian Government during the development of the new regulations to minimise regulatory burden. We are satisfied that practical exemptions have been incorporated into the draft regulations.

However, it still means that WMI will be required to meet additional regulatory requirements from 1 July such as setting up a trust account and additional record keeping requirements.

At the same time the Australian Government has tasked the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) to receive and publish water markets information and share information with the regulators such as the ACCC. The proposed new water market hub is expected to start on 1 July 2026. WMI is actively consulting with the BoM on implementation and reviewing our data system capabilities.

We are unsure if the current Australian Government caretaker role will affect any of these timelines.



Will NSW Senator & Shadow Water Minister Perin Davey be the next federal Water Minister?  
Senator Davey was a guest speaker at the March 2025 NSW Irrigators Council meeting

#### Menindee Lakes to benefit from QLD/Northern NSW rains

WaterNSW forecasting has now indicated that approximately 600 to 1,000GL is expected to enter the Menindee Lakes. The peak is currently expected to arrive at Menindee Lakes from late May to early June. While high flows in the Paroo have been observed, during previous events Paroo flows have rarely entered the Darling River. The forecast inflows, subject to change, are expected to almost double the Menindee Lake storage.

Much of the QLD flood waters will make their way to SA's Lake Eyre.

#### Third Quarter Invoice 2024/25

due for payment:  
4:30pm on 15 May 2025

**On-call Officer**  
24 hours / 365 days  
Ph: 0428 596 428

#### Office Hours: 9.00am to 4.30pm

Monday to Friday  
T: (03) 5027 4953

E: [enquiries@westernmurray.com.au](mailto:enquiries@westernmurray.com.au)  
[www.westernmurray.com.au](http://www.westernmurray.com.au)

#### Upcoming office closures:

Easter: 18-21 April  
ANZAC Day: 25 April  
King's Birthday: 10 June 2024

### End of year surplus water allocation trade

Customers who have excess water allocation are able to trade up to the WMI cut-off date of 10am Thursday 26 June 2025.

### Used more water than your Delivery Allowance?

If yes, then you may be charged Usage Above Delivery Allowance Fee (casual user) in your quarterly bill.

On 1 July each year you are issued with 1ML of Delivery Allowance for each Delivery Entitlement you own.

Throughout the year Delivery Allowance can be temporarily transferred from one customer to another customer in the same irrigation area.

A temporary transfer means the customer who receives the delivery allowance enjoys the reduced cost of pumping water (for one season) by reducing the impact of the higher Usage Above Delivery Allowance Fee (casual user).

The delivery allowance trading system is flexible and reactive for customers pumping more water than their delivery allowance in any one quarter, i.e. providing the customer requiring delivery allowance completes a trade onto their account before the last business day of that quarter (30 September, 31 December, 31 March, 30 June) then they will not incur the Usage Above Delivery Allowance Fee.

Customers wishing to buy and/or sell delivery allowance may list their parcel (price & quantity) on WMI's customer portal.

#### Working Example:

**Customer A & B have 10ML of Delivery Allowance and pumped 20ML of water. Customer C has 10ML of Delivery Allowance available to sell.**  
**Note: All other regular fees and charges still apply.**

Customer A - No Trade		
WMI Fees	Per Ent	Total Cost
Delivery Entitlement Fee	\$57.00	570.00
Asset Replacement Fund Fee	\$10.00	100.00
Usage Above Delivery Allowance Fee	\$107.20	1,072.00
<b>Total Cost</b>		<b>\$1,742.00</b>
Customer B - Trades an extra 10ML of Delivery Allowance onto their account		
WMI Fees	Per Ent	Total Cost
Delivery Entitlement Fee	\$57.00	570.00
Asset Replacement Fund Fee	\$10.00	100.00
Usage Above Delivery Allowance Fee	\$107.20	0.00
<b>Temp Trade of Delivery Allowance</b>		
Delivery Allowance (price set by seller)	\$67.00	670.00
Transfer Fee Admin	\$57.20	57.20
<b>Total Cost</b>		<b>\$1,397.20</b>
<b>Customer B saves</b>		<b>\$ 344.80</b>
Customer C - Trades 10ML off their account and receives		
		<b>\$ 670.00</b>

Customers who have excess Delivery Allowance (meaning you pump less water than the quantity of Delivery Allowance on your account) are encouraged to consider trading your allowance to another customer. The 2024-25 year has seen very high water use and demand for delivery allowance particularly in Coomealla.

WMI staff are happy to assist customers with their annual transfer of delivery allowance.

### Third Quarterly Invoice Due for Payment

The third quarter invoice for 2024/25 is now available and due for payment on or before Thursday 15 May 2025.

Please contact the office before the due date if there are any difficulties in prompt payment of accounts.

To have your quarterly invoices paid by direct debit from a nominated bank account, contact the office for a form and your invoice will always be paid on time.

### Additional Water Fee Reminder

Water usage above allocation is billed quarterly at \$1,200/ML (or part thereof).

Please ensure you **always have a positive water allocation balance**. Customers should contact the friendly office staff for more information.

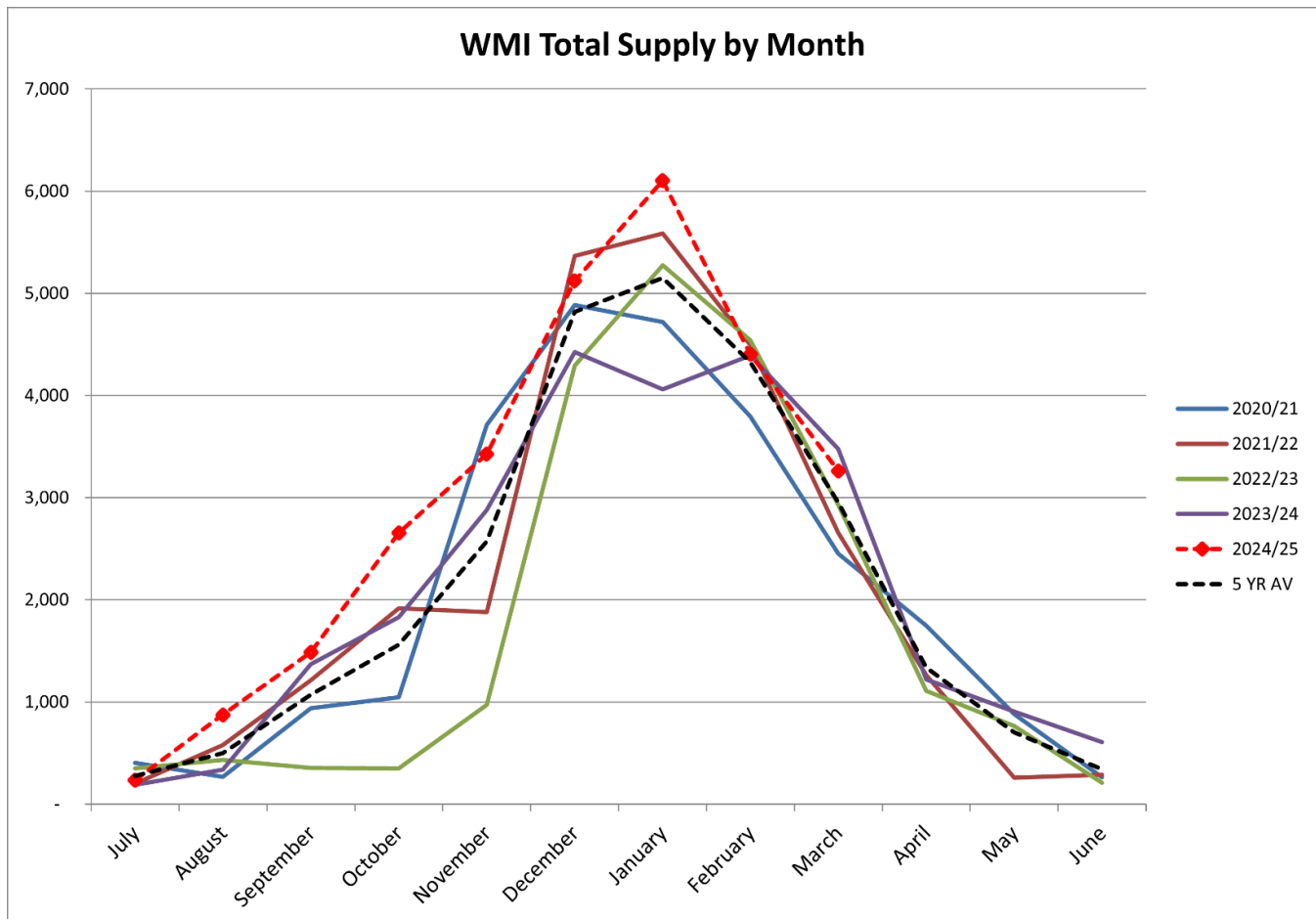
### Coomealla pump station July shutdown

Due to essential maintenance required on the Coomealla rising main this year, a 3-day shutdown is being planned in July.

Further details on the dates will be communicated as soon as the works and contractors are confirmed, giving customers sufficient time to prepare.

### Total Water Pumped Over 5 Years (including Year to Date)

WMI pumped 27,561 ML of water between July 2024 and March 2025, 18.7% higher than the 5-year average.



### Climate Outlook: May to July 2025

The Bureau of Meteorology is forecasting mainly average rainfall but above average maximum and minimum temperatures for Australia:

