

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Water Inquiry](#)
Subject: Re: ACCC Murray-Darling Basin water markets inquiry - submissions and feedback on interim report [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 28 October 2020 10:53:51 AM
Attachments: [SINGLE TRADE RULE FOR TEMPORARY WATER.docx](#)
[Single Trade Water rule change.docx](#)
[Northern Spillable Guide 2013 \(1\).pdf](#)

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope your computer has been behaving itself and not giving you a hard time like it was on Monday . I would like to thank you and your team for organizing for our group to have some input face to face (Well Covid Style face to face) into the ACCC Water inquiry . I know that the other members of our grou also appreciated it. I have attached some notes re the issue we raised on implementing a "Single Trade Rule for Temporary water " . The urgency of the situation here in the GMID cannot be under estimated . As highlighted in our discussions on Monday our Communities are on their knees . We are financially , emotionally and at times physically exhausted . We have all participated in countless consultation processes , spent hours writing submissions, attended town meetings, politicians visits rallies and protests , you name we have tried everything to raise attention to the carnage occurring to our rural areas , not to mention the Environments that surround us. I hope that this inquiry will finally start to implement some changes for the better as if nothing changes Australia's food bowl will become a dust bowl and our country will have to rely on imported food and we all saw how risky that was during that past 8 months . As one of the 5000 dairy farmers left in the whole of Australia I really want to keep producing the safest and healthiest Dairy products under the strictest human and animal welfare laws in the world . However if the water situation does not change in the near future I too will be forced to exit the industry like the 60 farmers who did so from the Cohuna region last year all due to be unable to make a profit due to the current water situation . The skill set that is being lost is also something to consider , who is going to produce our food if no one is passing on this knowledge to the next generation?. You may just think this is another inquiry but trust me you are in charge of a very important opportunity to make the changes needed to ensure Australia's retains it's ability to feed itself as well as protect it's Environment. Privately owned properties make up 70% of the Murray Darling Basin Land Mass and support huge volumes of Native Fauna and Flora . Primary production and Native species co exist hence making Irrigation Water Duel Purpose . Something that is completely ignored in the Current Murray Darling Basin Plan . Imagine the mess it will be in if the farmers who are the care takers leave or stop farming their land !. As we have seen on many of the farms around here once productive farms become playgrounds for feral animals and weeds , not to mention the fire hazards.

Thanks again for your time .

Jodie Hay

SINGLE TRADE RULE FOR TEMPORARY WATER

RULE CHANGE Every megalitre of allocated water is only able to be traded once . The governing of this would be done in a similar fashion to the “over use “rule in place now which is the deterrent system . If an individual /company is found to have traded water that has been purchased on the Temporary Water Market for Example a fine of \$1000(or decided amount) per megalitre would apply .

POSITIVE OUTCOMES OF RULE CHANGE

*Temporary water returns to being a resource for Irrigation food and fibre producers only .

*Speculators , Investors and Brokers would have no interest in buying temporary water when they have no ability to use it and cannot on trade it

*Single Trade of Temporary water would result in downward pressure on the water market as Investors and Speculators are forced out of the market .

IMPLEMENTATION OF RULE CHANGE

*Implementation of the “Single Trade rule for Temporary water “ would be quick to implement as it basically a stroke of a pen .

*It is an inexpensive change to the temporary water market that does not require any infrastructure or capital investment changes

*The software for governing this “Single Trade rule for temporary water “ is already available in the form of the Victorian Water Register Allocation Account Statement “ The Register records all allocations , Trades and carryover water . The rule would be if more water is traded out than was allocated to an account then this is evidence of Temporary Water being traded more than once so therefore a fine would be issued for each megalitre that has been that has been traded more than once

*There may be a need to add an additional part to the “Allocation Account Summary” which would record Traded in Water that has been carried over . This water could not be traded in the following season .*The other option to ensure this rule was not abused by the Carryover rule it may be necessary to implement

a “No Trading of Carry over water rule”

See Attached copy of Victorian Water Register Allocation Account Statement

SINGLE TRADE RULE FOR TEMPORARY WATER

*The implementation of a “Temporary water Single Trade rule would mean that an allocated megalitre of water can only be traded once in the temporary water market

*The governing of this would be done by using the “Victorian Water Register Annual allocation summary” (Or the equivalent depending on irrigation region /state) If more water is traded from the account than has been allocated to it this is evidence that water purchased from the Temporary Water market has been traded more than once .A fine of \$2000(or decided amount) per megalitre will be applied to every megalitre that has been traded more than once .(Similar to the current over use rule)

The implementation of this rule would ensure that irrigation water returns to being a tool for irrigation farmers for food and fibre production , Speculators ,investors and water traders would have no reason to purchase temporary water as they have no way of using it and would be unable to trade this water if the “single trade rule was implemented “

The introduction of this rule would be inexpensive and quick to implement as the soft ware for governing it is already available and no capital works is required .

*Issues to consider Carry over Water purchased from the Temporary water market in the previous season must also not be able to traded

*Mechanisms (Eg A new Water trading Form) will need to be established to ensure irrigators can transfer water to properties linked to their business either owned or leased when linking Accounts is not possible .

Victorian Water Register

Explaining your 2012-13 allocation account statement

NORTHERN SPILLABLE

Your statement gives a complete summary of the seasonal allocations, water use and trade in your account from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013, as recorded in the Victorian Water Register.

Your statement includes:

- Details of your water allocation account, and water entitlements linked to that account.
- A summary of activity, including a closing balance at 30 June 2013.
- Details of all allocation, trade, and usage transactions.

IMPORTANT

Your statement includes all the information you will need to complete an allocation trade form, so please keep it in a safe place.

How to read your statement

Please note that although figures in your statement are presented to three decimal places, you can only order or trade water to the nearest available 0.1 ML. For example if your balance is 20.582 ML you can only order or trade up to 20.5 ML.

Your closing balance

The closing balance on your statement shows the balance of your account at 30 June 2013 that was eligible to be carried over to season 2013-14.

The 5% deduction for evaporation on any unused allocation that you carry over into 2013-14 has been applied prior to calculating your closing balance.

Your closing balance will now match the opening balance of your account on 1 July 2013.

If your balance is positive

If you did not use or trade all the water credited to your account in 2012-13, you will have a positive closing balance. Positive balances will be automatically carried over, subject to the carryover rules in your water system.

More information on the carryover rules that apply in your water system is available at www.waterregister.vic.gov.au.

If your balance is negative

If you used more than the water credited to your account in 2012-13, you will have a negative closing balance. This negative balance has been carried over into the 2013-14 year.

You will not be able to order, use or trade water from an allocation account until it has a positive balance.

If you are in overuse, then unless your negative balance is very small, your water authority will send you a notice advising you to take action.

If the negative balance is not remedied within 30 days, the water authority will apply the overuse charge and use it to purchase allocation to add to the allocation account to eliminate the negative balance.

Your spillable water account

Your statement includes a record of your spillable water account, which is an automatic feature of your allocation account.

A guide to reading your statement is on the next page.

A guide to reading your allocation account statement

Page 1 Shows the details of your water allocation account and any linked entitlements.

Your statement is mailed to the most recently updated address of one of the persons named as a holder of your allocation account, unless you have nominated otherwise.

All account holders are shown in this table.

Trading zones describe where you can trade and use water, please see the explanatory notes.

The entitlements linked to your account. Seasonal allocations issued against these entitlements are credited to this account.

Victorian Water Register

Allocation account statement

JOHN CITIZEN AND OTHERS
10 MAIN ROAD
TATURA VIC 3616

Statement Page 1 of 4

Financial year 2012-2013

Statement issued 10 July 2013

Closing Balance ¹ 9,500 ML

Enquiries Goulburn-Murray Water
1800 013 357

End of year statement Account number: **ABA999999**

Holders: JOHN CITIZEN
MARY CITIZEN

Authorised agents:

Trading zone Water use licence Annual use limit ⁴

Source ²	1A Greater Goulburn	WUL999999	200 ML
Use ³	1A Greater Goulburn		

Water Share ID	Water system source	Water system type	Reliability	Confirmation status	Volume (ML)
WEE999998	Goulburn	Regulated	High	Confirmed	100.0
WEE999999	Goulburn	Regulated	Low	Confirmed	48.0

www.waterregister.vic.gov.au

Your statement is for the 2012-13 Financial year. The closing balance is the balance of your account at 30 June 2013.

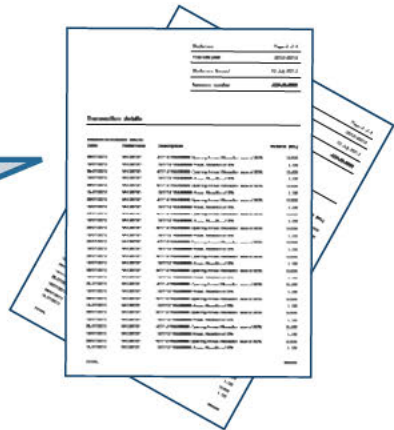
The name of any authorised agent you appointed to transact in this account will be shown here.

The licence (or registration) covering water use on the land linked to your account.

Inflows include any carryover from 2011-12, as well as seasonal allocations in 2012-13 and any water traded into the account.

Any water transferred into your spillable account in 2012-13 will be detailed in this section of your allocation account statement, along with any water written-off due to spill or returned to your available balance when the low-risk-of-spill declaration was made.

There is a complete list of allocation, trade and usage transactions recorded against your allocation account on the remaining pages of your statement.



Page 2 Your account summary gives an overview of transactions in your allocation account in 2012-13.

Statement Page 2 of 4

Financial year 2012-2013

Statement issued 10 July 2013

Account number ABA999999

Statement Page 2 of 4

Financial year 2012-2013

Statement issued 10 July 2013

Account number ABA999999

Water Allocation Account Statement

Inflows	Volume (ML)	Outflows	Volume (ML)
Net carryover at 1 July 2012 ⁵	0.000	Trade out	-21.000
Seasonal allocation issued	59.100	Water use	-40.600
Trade in	12.500	Write-off	0.000
		Evaporation on 30 June	-0.500
Total inflows	71.600	Total outflows	-62.100
Account balance	9.500		

Spillable account			
Inflows	Volume (ML)	Outflows	Volume (ML)
Transferred to spillable account	0.000	Returned to available balance	0.000
		Write-off to spill	0.000
Total inflows	0.000	Total outflows	0.000
Spillable account balance	0.000		

Low spill risk declaration: Made on 10 Dec 2012

Closing balance ¹	9.500
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Explanatory notes:

Please note: While allocation volumes are shown to three decimal places, water can only be used or traded to the nearest available 0.1 ML.

¹ Please note that a negative balance of less than 0.1 ML will not be subject to overseas penalties.

² Where your allocation can be traded to or from depends on its trading zone status. The trading rules are available at www.waterregister.vic.gov.au.

³ The trading zone use limit defines where allocation can be used. Your water use licence (or registration) must be located within this zone.

⁴ The annual use limit identifies how much water can be used on the land covered by the water use licence (or registration) in a financial year.

⁵ Net carryover represents the volume carried over (the closing balance) from 2012-13.

Outflows include usage from your account, any water traded out, and write-off of any unused water at the end of the season.

The 5% deduction for evaporation on any unused allocation that you carry over into 2013-14 has now been applied prior to calculating your closing balance.

Your closing balance at 30 June 2013 is the amount you were eligible to carry over (after evaporation has been deducted). From 1 July your balance is now available in your allocation account for the current season.

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