



Murrumbidgee
Irrigation



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JOINT MEDIA RELEASE GCC AND MI

MURRUMBIDGEE RIVER WATER BACK ONLINE

Access to the Murrumbidgee River has been restored for irrigator and residents, Murrumbidgee Irrigation (MI) and Griffith City Council (GCC) advised today.

NSW Water's works at Berembed Weir meant the MI network had no access to river water since early June with only water contained in the MI network available for town supply.

During the works, water was drawn from the channel network storage including Lake Wyangan and Yenda and was treated at Council's Water Treatment Plant to ensure it was safe for consumption, however the taste experienced was different from normal.

Mayor Dal Broi said now that works have been completed, the Hayes Reservoir (Council's off channel storage) has been topping up with canal water released from regulators and in MI's off channel storage in Yenda since 28 July.

"Hayes Lease Reservoir contains enough water for use and no further water will be drawn from Lake Wyangan. The normal water supply is expected to resume by the end of this week," said Councillor Dal Broi.

"Water users can expect a gradual return to the normal taste of our water. Council would like to thank the community for the cooperation in reducing water use during the canal shut down."

MI CEO, Brett Jones, said that MI had been working closely with WaterNSW to expedite water availability across the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area.

"With the continued dry weather and our extensive works program, it has been a real challenge to manage critical water needs this winter," he said,

"Our staff have worked closely with Council to ensure impacts to town supply were minimal and to complete our works as soon as possible."

Mr Jones also acknowledged the cooperation of WaterNSW and the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), who are currently managing an environmental flow down the Murrumbidgee River, "They understand the situation and worked with us to open up the network sooner than expected to protect town and critical irrigation needs," he said.

Councillor Dal Broi congratulated MI on these works and the level of cooperation they provided to Council during the shutdown.

"MI worked very hard to complete the works as quickly and efficiently as possible and kept Council updated throughout the project," said Councillor Dal Broi.

"Council enjoys a strong relationship with MI which is important in a region which relies so heavily on irrigation and water management."

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