



Murrumbidgee Irrigation

DPI Water Allocations

Stock & Domestic	100%
Town	100%
High Security	95%
General Security	33%

AS AT 15 SEPTEMBER 2017

Storages at 29 September 2017

Burrinjuck	61%
Blowering	77%

EASYWATER

www.mirrigation.com.au
Freecall 1800 822 450

AGM - Invitation to Shareholders

A reminder that the nineteenth Annual General Meeting of shareholders will be held on:

- Monday, 13 November 2017
- Historic Hydro Motor Inn, Chelmsford Place, Leeton
- Registration is from 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

Annual Report

Our 2017 Annual Report is available on our website: www.mirrigation.com.au/About-Us/Annual-Reports

Member Director Election

Ballot papers have been posted to A Class shareholders to elect an A Class member director. The ballot closes on 7 November 2017.

Our privacy statement can be downloaded from our website: www.mirrigation.com.au

Contact MI if you no longer wish to receive this newsletter.

NEWS IN BRIEF

SEPTEMBER 2017 Newsletter

House of Representatives Agriculture and Water Resources Committee in Griffith (Water Use Efficiency in Australian Agriculture)

Our Chairman Frank Sergi and Acting CEO Jody Rudd, attended the House of Representatives Agriculture and Water Resources Committee hearing in Griffith this month to highlight the benefits of infrastructure funding to our region.

In presenting to the Committee we were able to give examples of our positive experiences with delivering infrastructure programs and the benefits it brings to our region.

Seeking new Customers Focus Group members

Our Customer Focus Group has reached the end of its second term and six of our twelve members have retired. A big thank you to Russell Campbell, Ray Cuccinotta, Greg Eckley, David Rossetto, Scott Williams and Ian Braithwaite, for helping us to improve our services and communication through their contributions on our Customer Focus Group.

Our Customer Focus Group meets around four times a year to discuss and provide feedback on issues impacting customers. Over the last seven years the group has been involved in discussions on corporate planning, our efficiency review and most recently our pricing restructure.

We are currently seeking expressions of interest from customers to join this dynamic group for a three year term. Application forms are available from our website or by calling 02 6962 0200. Applications close 20 October 2017.

Foreign water ownership – new ATO requirements

Recent changes to Commonwealth legislation now require all Water Entitlement that is owned by a foreign entity to be registered with the ATO. If you own Water Entitlement and are classed as a foreign entity for taxation purposes you are required to disclose this information to the ATO by 30 November. You also need to advise Murrumbidgee Irrigation of your foreign entity status if you are an MI shareholder. We will be writing directly to shareholders about this soon. More information on the new requirements is available from the ATO website <https://www.ato.gov.au/General/Foreign-investment-in-Australia/Water-register>

DPI Water - Murrumbidgee Valley Water Allocation Update

The Murrumbidgee general security allocation increased by 4% to 33% of entitlement on 15 September. With carryover, overall general security water availability is 60% in the valley.

The Bureau of Meteorology's forecast for the next few months is for continued 'very dry' conditions. If this dry weather pattern continues, chances of improvement to GS allocations are limited. More details including the full water allocation update is available on our website: www.mirrigation.com.au/Customers/Water-Allocations

All Murrumbidgee Valley trade is open. Water users are encouraged to monitor the WaterNSW website: www.watarnsw.com.au/customer-service/trading/murrumbidgee for information about the Murrumbidgee IVT account balance and closure triggers.

Yanco village network modernisation

As part of our Commonwealth funded modernisation program, we are renewing the Yanco Village irrigation network. This program provides opportunities to realign the network to current customer needs. This may involve some land rehabilitation and beautification works where channels are removed or piped. Modernisation works like these deliver value to all customers through operating and maintenance savings and lower future refurbishment costs, helping us reduce long term costs and keep prices down. For more information please contact us on 6962 0200.



MI is reviewing canal modernisation options around Yanco village.

Transition to automation

Our Main Canal and Division 3 structures are continuing to transition from manual to automated operation. There may be some fluctuations in supply as individual structures are commissioned. Please contact your Division Operator if you experience supply difficulties.

Modernisation updates

South western area modernisation – extended winter shutdown 2018

In 2017/18, we will be undertaking modernisation works throughout the south-western part of our network. Works have already commenced in some areas and we are in the final stages of discussions with customers in these areas to understand their interest in taking up extra flow rate (DEs).

The modernisation works will result in the automation of these systems, including customer outlets. This will involve the upgrade of regulating structures as well as some channel refurbishment. Work has commenced with channel surveys in the area.

Where access is possible, automation and outlet renewal works will continue throughout the current irrigation season. To complete these major works, we are anticipating an extended 2018 winter shutdown period in areas including the Sturt Canal and Benerembah channel systems, as well as the Tabbita and Wah Wah districts.

If you have any questions or would like more information on the modernisation works or expansion opportunity please call (02) 6962 0200.

NBC and LVBC lining complete

The Northern Branch Canal and Lake View Branch Canal lining projects have now been completed and we are beginning to see operational improvements.

As a result of the lining, channel conditions have changed significantly. The new lined channels are very slippery compared to the old earthen/concrete sections. Landholders adjoining the channels have been advised of the changed conditions and we are installing fencing in identified areas to prevent accidental entry to the channels.



INDUSTRY NEWS

2018 Jan Cathcart Scholarship for women

The 2018 Jan Cathcart Scholarship for women in the Australia rice industry is now open. Female students with connections to the Australian rice industry and who are undertaking, or planning to undertake, tertiary studies are encouraged to apply. The scholarship is valued at \$10,000 per year for up to three years of study, starting in Semester 1 of 2018. Applications close on Saturday 14 October 2017, with the winner to be announced in early 2018. For more information visit <https://careers.sunrice.com.au/scholarships/>

Farm safety

While the agriculture industry can be rewarding, it's also one of the most dangerous to work in – but it doesn't have to be.

Safework Australia aims to raise awareness of farm

safety issues across the country and provide some practical steps farmers can take to improve worker health and safety. Visit www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/news-and-events/news/farming-way-life-lets-keep-it-way.

