



MEDIA RELEASE

Phil Koperberg

NSW Minister for Climate Change, Environment and Water

INCREASE FOR MURRUMBIDGEE VALLEY'S HIGH SECURITY IRRIGATORS

State Plan Priority E1: A secure and sustainable water supply for all users

EMBARGO 5:30am Tuesday 28th August, 2007

Minister for Climate Change, Environment and Water Phil Koperberg today increased water allocations for NSW high security water users in the Murrumbidgee Valley to 60%.

“Thanks to better than expected inflows into the Burrinjuck and Blowering dams over the past few weeks and above target contributions from the Snowy Hydro, I am pleased to increase allocations for high security users from 30 per cent to 60 per cent,” Mr Koperberg said.

“We have sufficient water available for town water supply for the whole of 2007/08 and towns have been advised that they may now ease water restrictions from level 4 to level 3a which allows some outside watering in the warmer months.

“There is also enough water to meet the restricted needs of stock, domestic and critical industry for the full season.

“This will be very welcome news for farmers and other property owners who have been operating under very difficult conditions however whilst we have had some decent rain it is still well below average.

“We need to stick with the good water saving habits we have learnt and continue to be conservative with all water use.”

Information about water availability in the Murrumbidgee Valley will be made available on the 15th of each month through the Murrumbidgee Critical Water Communiqués.

These communiqués are available from the Department of Water and Energy's (DWE) website <http://www.dnr.nsw.gov.au/>

Alternatively licence holders can phone their local DWE office for more information.

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