



Nathan Rees MP
Minister for Emergency Services
Minister for Water

NEWS RELEASE

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CARRYOVER INCREASED TO 30 % IN THE MURRUMBIDGEE VALLEY

NSW Minister for Water, Nathan Rees today announced a permanent change to the general security carryover rules for licensed water users in the Murrumbidgee Valley.

“Carryover for general security entitlements in the Murrumbidgee Valley will be increased from 15 per cent to 30 per cent of entitlement. This will apply to carryover from the 2008/09 water year to the 2009/2010 water year”, said Mr Rees

“While above-average widespread rainfall has occurred along the majority of the eastern sea-board since June 2007, many parts of New South Wales are still suffering under the grip of the longest and most severe drought in recorded history.

“With today’s announcements that allocations in the Murrumbidgee Valley will be zero for both high and general security users, we need to look at solutions that allow licence holders the flexibility to manage under these difficult circumstances, “said Mr Rees

“Where possible we wish to encourage policy that allows water users to self-insure their water security and carryover is an important tool to provide such insurance,” he said

“This change will give irrigators the opportunity to better plan their risk profiles and manage the effects of potentially lower allocations as a result of climate change, Mr Rees noted

“This move also brings the Murrumbidgee Valley rules closer to those in the Murray Valley and will help to reduce any potential market advantage that there might be,” Mr Rees said.

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