



NSW Government

Department of Water & Energy

Media Release

THREE PERCENT GENERAL SECURITY ALLOCATION FOR MURRUMBIDGEE VALLEY IRRIGATORS

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

17 December 2007

Acting Minister for Climate Change, Environment and Water Nathan Rees, today announced a **three per cent** available water determination for general security irrigators in the Murrumbidgee valley.

“Summer storm activity across the Murrumbidgee catchment coupled with less than expected system losses has allowed for the first general security allocation to be made in the southern valleys this year,” he said.

Allocations for high security licence holders will remain on 90 per cent of entitlement and town water supply and stock and domestic users remain at 100 per cent of entitlement.

“I am disappointed that some water authorities have eased local water restrictions, I would encourage all water authorities and local councils to keep restrictions in place in order to conserve as much water as possible to meet the restricted needs of towns, domestic and stock users and industry” said Mr Rees

High security licence holders may carry over up to 15 per cent of their unused entitlement into the 2008/09 season, and delivery of this water will be given a high priority next year.

More information will be available in the Department of Water and Energy’s critical water planning communiqué due for release on 17 December. All the communiqués issued by the Department are available online at www.naturalresources.nsw.gov.au.

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