



MEDIA RELEASE

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Works supporting MIA respond to change

Murrumbidgee Irrigation's extensive winter modernisation works period is drawing to a close, with another significant step taken towards a sustainable, modern and reliable water supply for the MIA.

Murrumbidgee Irrigation (MI) General Manager, Asset Delivery, Jody Rudd, said the works will provide irrigators with a more responsive system, better equipped to adapt to changing conditions.

"This is a challenging period for irrigators due to the ongoing drought and low allocations," he said.

"These infrastructure works will ensure we capture every last drop and are ready for when allocations turn around."

This is the third year in a row of extensive modernisation works, and this winter they included further automation, channel lining and structure upgrades, and the ongoing installation of new, and upgraded, metered farm outlets to be automation ready.

"This year's works have been critical in enabling both irrigators and the Company to maximise the benefits of the projects already completed across the MIA," Mr Rudd said.

"The works will help us respond better to variable allocations by providing greater flexibility in water delivery, as well as consistent flow rates and lower maintenance and operational costs."

MI General Manager, Operations, Alan Shea, said the recent modernisation works were undertaken in conjunction with Water NSW restoration works at Berembed Weir and MI's targeted maintenance programs.

"We worked together with Water NSW to enable them to extend their works, which will reduce the likelihood of further supply interruptions from the river next year," Mr Shea explained.

Rather than shutting down the entire network over the winter period, MI now maintains an ongoing supply.

"We have operated our network this way for the past three years," Mr Shea said.

"This allows us to be more responsive to irrigators critical water needs, 12 months of the year."

Water orders can be placed through MI's water ordering system, EASYWATER, using the regular ordering methods. For further enquiries, customers can contact Murrumbidgee Irrigation on (02) 6962 0200.

MI is working with Australian Government support to deliver projects that will optimise economic, social and environmental outcomes in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area.

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Photos:

1. MI Field Operators John Dellafranca, Trevor Egan and Shane Walker at the upgraded Beltrames Regulator.
2. The gates at Berembed Weir being lowered back into the water by WaterNSW after they were recently painted.

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