

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 9 January 2002

Our Ref: MDBC:269 :dc:bwh

10 January, 2002



Rainfall across the Murray-Darling Basin was mostly restricted to the northern areas with falls between 100 and 150 mm recorded in one part of southern Queensland. Little or no rain was recorded in the southern half of the Basin resulting in further decline in tributary inflows from both the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers to the River Murray.

Transfer of water from Dartmouth Reservoir to Hume Reservoir according to 'harmony' operating rules for the two storages has recently been reviewed. As a result of the current storage levels of those storages, release from Dartmouth is being gradually reduced from to 1 000 to 800 ML/day, and the release rate will be kept under review. However, in view of a temporary reduction in electricity generation capability in Victoria, there is a likelihood of increased release from Dartmouth in coming weeks through use of Southern Hydro's power station entitlement (*see attached Media Release*).

Release from Hume Reservoir has been increased from 19 400 to 23 000 ML/day to meet increased requirements; and storage in Hume has continued to steadily decline this week, and has fallen by 128 GL to 1 822 GL (60% of capacity).

Diversion from Lake Mulwala has continued at high rates, and averaged about 11 700 ML/day (89% of capacity) over the week. Release from Yarrowonga Weir has been maintained at about 10 400 ML/day, and will be maintained near this rate over the coming weeks if conditions remain dry.

In the Edward River system, flow downstream of Stevens Weir has been maintained at an average of 1 400 ML/day to augment flow in the River Murray to meeting high demand between Yarrowonga and Wentworth. If conditions remain dry, flow downstream of Stevens Weir is expected to fall slightly as demand at Wakool Canal increases. A combined flow of 400 ML/day continued to be passed by the Wakool and Yallakool Escapes into the Wakool River system this week to assist in meeting flow requirements along the River Murray.

Diversion from Torrumbarry Weir to National Channel was reduced to 3 500 ML/day this week. As a result, additional water (about 400 ML/day) which was called by RMW and being supplied by Victoria from Lake Mokoan has been ceased so that some of the resource in Lake Mokoan is reserved for later use if demand along the Murray rises significantly later this season. Inflows from the Goulburn River will consequently fall to around 350 ML/day next week if conditions remain dry.

Euston Weir pool has continued to be used to assist in meeting demands downstream in the Sunraysia region. The pool level is currently 47.46 m AHD (or 0.14 m below Full Supply Level) and is likely to return close to full supply level over the next couple of weeks. If conditions remain dry, it is currently expected that the pool will again be drawn down to assist in meeting flow requirements along the Murray, however, any forecasts of significant drawdown of more than 0.2 m will be advised by media release. As part of a program of weekly pulsing, flow downstream of Euston has been increased to 3 800 ML/day, and will be reduced to 3 300 ML/day early next week.

DAVID DOLE  
General Manager



# MEDIA RELEASE



Wednesday, 9 January 2002

## Outlook for Release from Dartmouth Reservoir

Southern Hydro and River Murray Water announced today the likelihood of variation in release from Dartmouth Reservoir in coming weeks for the purposes of electricity generation.

Transfer of water from Dartmouth to Hume Reservoir according to 'harmony' operation of the two storages has recently been reviewed, and release from Dartmouth at Colemans (currently 1 000 ML/day) will be reduced to 800 ML/day commencing in the morning of 10 January. Flow at Tallandoon (currently 1 400 ML/day and 1.64 m gauge height) is expected to fall to about 1 100 ML/day (1.54 m gauge height) by the evening of 10 January if conditions remain dry.

However, there is currently a reduced electricity generation capacity in Victoria due to maintenance of generation plant in the Latrobe Valley. Consequently, in coming weeks there is an increased likelihood of entitlement releases from Dartmouth Reservoir for electricity generation, particularly during periods of hot weather and high electricity demand.

In view of the likelihood of entitlement releases for electricity generation, flow at Colemans can be expected to vary between 800 ML/day (1.33 m gauge height) and about 3 000 ML/day (1.91 m gauge height) until further notice.

Further downstream in the Mitta Mitta River, the flow at Tallandoon can be expected to vary from about 1 000 to 3 200 ML/day (1.5 to 2.1 m gauge height) in response to entitlement releases.

If there is a significant change to the outlook for releases, a further media release will be issued.

For further information contact:

**Daniel Connell**

Media Liaison Officer  
Phone: 02 6279 0129  
Mobile: 0418 276 498  
E-mail: [daniel.connell@mdbc.gov.au](mailto:daniel.connell@mdbc.gov.au)

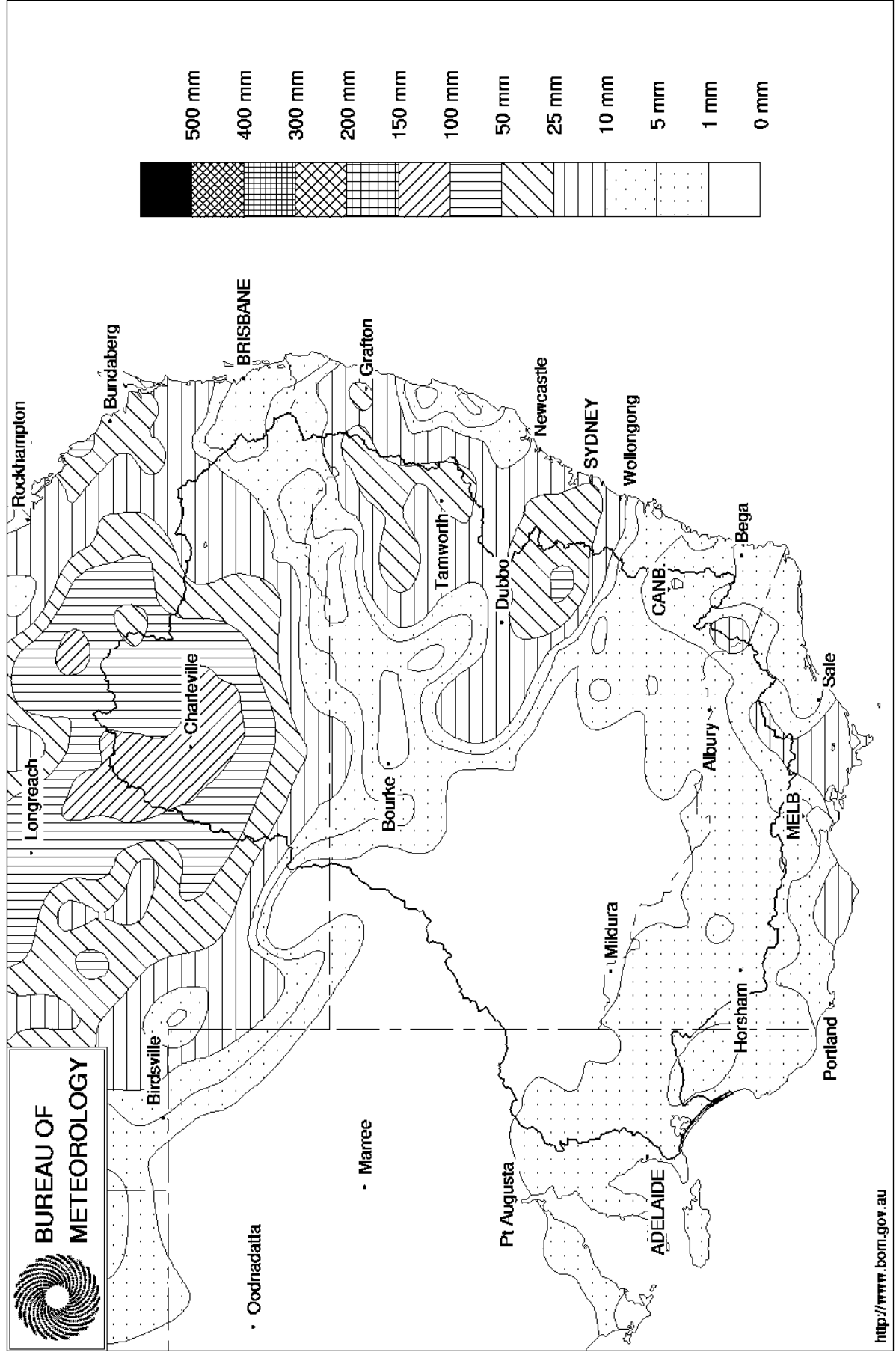
**Peter Billsdon**

Production Manager  
Southern Hydro  
Phone (03) 5754 3220

(Daniel Connell is *not* to be quoted as spokesperson)

# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 9th January 2002

Product of the National Climate Centre



<http://www.bom.gov.au>

Week ending 09-Jan-2002

### Water in Storage

MDBC Storages	Full Supply Level m AHD	Full Supply Capacity GL	Storage Level m AHD	Current Storage		Dead storage GL	Active storage GL	Change for the week GL
				GL	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3906	477.03	3344	86%	80	3264	-1
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3038	185.03	1822	60%	30	1792	-128
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	25.99	568	84%	100	468	-12
Menindee		1682 *		724	43%	480 #	244	-93
<b>Total</b>		<b>9306</b>		<b>6459</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>5769</b>	<b>-234</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **67%**

# NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

### Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1026	273	27%	3	270	-40
Blowering Reservoir	1631	620	38%	24	596	-55
Eildon Reservoir	3390	1202	35%	100	1102	-44

### Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 08-Jan-2002

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1st May
Lake Eucumbene - Total	3143	-29	Snowy-Murray	+18	526
Snowy-Murray Component	1435	-14	Tooma-Tumut	+2	213
Target Storage	1520		Nett Diversion	16.4	314
			Murray 1 Release	+18	806

### Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	57.8	826.1
Wakool System loss	1.8	20.8
Western Murray Irrig.	1.4	14.3
Licensed Pumps	11.9	181.7
Lower Darling	5.3	48.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>78.2</b>	<b>1091.4</b>

Victoria	This week	From 1 July
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	20.0	275.8
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	25.0	441.1
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	7.7	82.5
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1.8	37.7
Licensed pumps - SRW	4.9	105.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>59.4</b>	<b>942.7</b>

### Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	217
Flow this week	49.1
Flow so far this month	63
Flow last month	220

### Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August
Swan Hill	130	132	222
Euston	190	182	243
Red Cliffs	300	290	313
Merbein	280	270	298
Burtundy	520	527	437
Lock 9	460	456	389
L. Victoria	430	423	378
Berri	500	498	438
Waikerie	-	-	528
Morgan	590	588	528
Mannum	560	553	513
Murray Bridge	580	573	551
Meningie	1450	1380	1185
Goolwa Barrages	2150	2240	1357



**River Levels and Flows**

	Minor Flood stage	Gauge height	Flow	Trend	Average flow this week	Average flow last week
	m	m	ML/day		ML/day	ML/day
<b>River Murray</b>						
Khancoban	-	-	3600	R	3190	2330
Jingellic	4.0	1.65	4510	R	4300	3590
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	1.63	1380	F	1420	2170
Heywoods	5.5	3.60	23130	S	21960	20260
Doctors Point	5.5	3.79	23900	S	22770	20960
Albury	4.3	2.87	-	F	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.97	23000	R	22140	22160
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.79	10400	S	10390	10400
Tocumwal	6.4	2.28	9697	R	9740	9850
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.71	4591	F	4680	4120
Stevens Weir (d/s)		1.47	1370	R	1421	1390
Swan Hill	4.5	0.95	3690	R	3260	2780
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.20	4535	R	4310	4090
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.97	3810	R	3420	3300
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.96	6080	R	6440	7210
Rufus Junction	-	3.60	7100	R	6710	6580
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	3980	S	4120	4140
<b>Tributaries</b>						
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.77	320	S	380	590
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.83	421	S	520	620
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.47	860	S	860	740
Edward at Liewah	-	1.76	1150	F	1210	1370
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.36	260	S	250	230
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.39	160	F	190	210
Darling at Bourke	-	4.11	530	R	610	780
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	2.86	4910	F	5220	5880
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.18	30	R	80	200

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	2440	3440
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**Weirs and Locks**

**Pool levels above or below design level**

Murray	FSL (M AHD)	u/s	d/s		FSL (M AHD)	u/s	d/s
Yarrawonga	124.90	-0.10	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.07	+1.29
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.04	+0.12
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.14	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.00	+0.19
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.01	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.67
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.01	+0.32	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.00	+0.18
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.06	+0.01	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.02	+0.13
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.03	+0.09	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.00	-0.01

Murrumbidgee	FSL (M AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. metres	Flow ML/day
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.32	0.75	457
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.95	0.16	278

**Barrages**

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.80	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.75	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.75	All closed

