

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 8 October 2008

*Our Ref : M2008/00001/prs, AS
Trim Ref : 08/10626*

10 October, 2008



Rainfall and Inflows

During the past week the best falls of rain (25-50 mm) were on the western slopes and Snowy Mountains of NSW (see Map). Lighter falls were recorded in north-east Victoria (10-25 mm) and in western Victoria and South Australia (up to 10 mm). However, the rain had very little effect on streamflows in the upper catchments of the Murray system. For instance, at Biggara in the upper Murray, the flow only increased very slightly from 1 150 to 1 260 ML/day, and has now reduced to 1 020 ML/day. Similarly, at Rocky Point on the Ovens River, the flow increased from 1 270 to 1 400 ML/day before receding to 1 150 ML/day. If the weather remains dry over the coming week, inflows are expected to continue receding.

River Operations

Storage in Hume Reservoir increased by 16 GL to 1 065 GL (or 35 % capacity). During the last few weeks, the release from Hume has been steadily increased from 460 to 4 300 ML/day and if inflows continue to recede, Hume storage volume is likely to peak in the next couple of weeks. Storage in Dartmouth Reservoir increased by 14 GL to 849 GL (or 22 % capacity) and the release is steady at the minimum of 200 ML/day. Total MDBC active storage increased by 9 GL to 1 981 GL (or 23 % capacity) and a further 453 GL in Menindee Lakes remains under NSW control.

Flow at Doctors Point near Albury is steady at 6 000 ML/day. The water level in Lake Mulwala has increased by 18 cm to 124.47 m AHD (or 43 cm below Full Supply Level) and is expected to continue rising gradually during the coming weeks. The release from Yarrawonga Weir has been held steady at 4 300 ML/day. The water being delivered by NSW to the Wakool River, Niemur River and Merran Creek is slowly moving downstream but could take a few more weeks before it arrives at the end of the river system.

The water level in Torrumbarry Weir is now at Full Supply Level (86.05 m AHD) and the release is 3 300 ML/day. A small volume of inter-valley trade water (100 ML/day) is being delivered to the Murray via Broken Creek (near Barmah) to maintain water quality in that system. Further downstream, the Euston Weir pool is also at Full Supply Level (47.60 m AHD) and the release is 2 500 ML/day.

The release from Menindee Lakes is being held steady by NSW at 4 000 ML/day and the increased flow along the lower Darling has now arrived at Wentworth. The first flush of water passing Burtundy on the lower Darling reached a peak salinity of 500 EC, but is now starting to drop as flows increase. Further upstream at Pooncarie the salinity has reduced to 360 EC. After combining with the fresher water in the Murray, the salinity downstream of Wentworth Weir is not expected to exceed 300 EC (it is currently 145 EC).

Storage in Lake Victoria reduced by 20 GL to 277 GL (or 41 % capacity). The additional water from the Menindee Lakes should allow the level in Lake Victoria to remain fairly steady over the next few weeks. The flow to South Australia is 3 400 ML/day and the pool levels in Locks 1 to 6 are all close to Full Supply Level. The target flow past Lock 1 is 2 000 ML/day. The water level in Lake Alexandrina is -0.27 m AHD and is starting to gradually fall as evaporative losses increase. The level in Lake Albert is slightly higher (-0.21 m AHD) as a result of the ongoing pumping of water from Lake Alexandrina.

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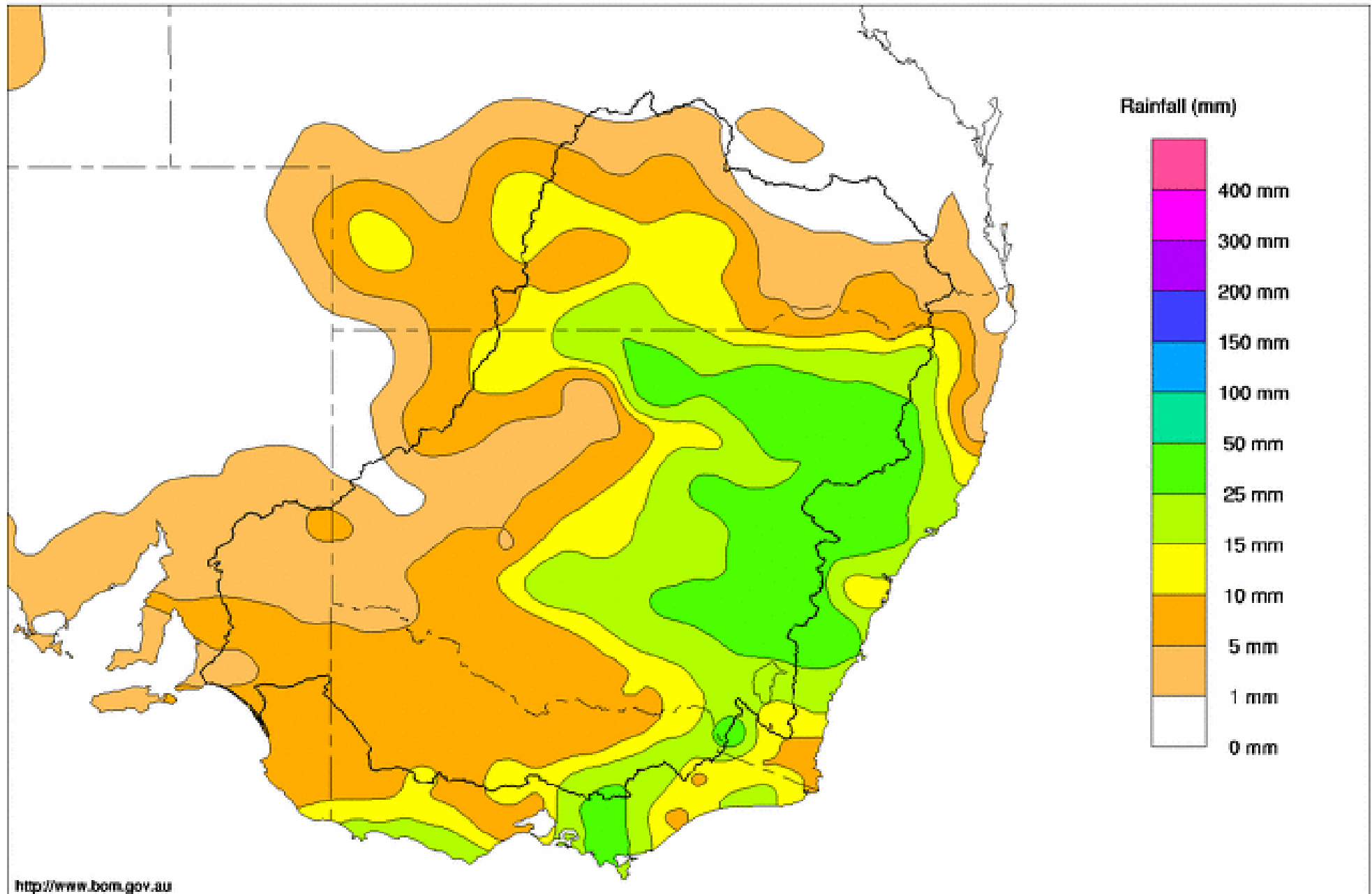
General Manager

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Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 8th October 2008

Product of the National Climate Centre



Water in Storage

MDBC Storages	Full Supply Level (m AHD)	Full Supply Volume (GL)	Current Storage Level (m AHD)	Current Storage		Dead Storage (GL)	MDBC Active Storage (GL)	Change in Storage for the week (GL)
				(GL)	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 906	417.95	849	22%	80	769	+14
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	179.20	1 065	35%	30	1 035	+16
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.32	277	41%	100	177	-20
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		453	26%	(- -) #	0	-27
Total		9 352		2 645	28%	--	1 981	-17

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **23%**

NSW takes control of Menindee Lakes when storage falls below 480 GL, and

control reverts to MDBC when storage next reaches 640 GL

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	510	50%	3	507	+8
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	784	48%	24	760	-7
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	785	23%	100	685	+2

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 07-Oct-2008

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2008
Lake Eucumbene - Total	591	+66	Snowy-Murray	+0	316
Snowy-Murray Component	321	+31	Tooma-Tumut	+12	150
Target Storage	1 400		Nett Diversion	-12.1	166
			Murray 1 Release	+14	466

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) *

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2008
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	2.2	35.6
Wakool System loss	0.5	.9
Western Murray Irrig.	0.4	2.2
Licensed Pumps	1.5	10.9
Lower Darling	0.2	1.3
TOTAL	4.9	50.9

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2008
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	3.9	21
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	5.6	25
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	2.0	11
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	2
Licensed pumps - LMW	0.0	2
TOTAL	11.6	61

* Figures derived from Estimates and Monthly Data. Please note that not all data may have been available at the time of creating this report.

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	170 *	(3 400 ML/day)
Flow this week	23.8	
Flow so far this month	27	
Flow last month	77	

* Reduced to approx. 105 GL during October drought contingency operations

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2008
Swan Hill	70	70	80
Euston	70	70	80
Red Cliffs	130	120	130
Merbein	120	120	130
Burtundy (Darling)	500	490	380
Lock 9	140	140	180
Lake Victoria	240	240	230
Berri	350	350	430
Waikerie	560	560	530
Morgan	610	610	540
Mannum	540	540	510
Murray Bridge	530	520	550
Milang (Lake Alex.)	3 700	3 690	3 560
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	3 280	3 340	3 130
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	5 070	5 210	5 050
Goolwa Barrages	14 910	15 310	17 300



River Levels and Flows

	Minor Flood stage (m)	Gauge height		Flow (ML/day)	Trend	Average flow this week (ML/day)	Average flow last week (ML/day)
		local (m)	(m AHD)				
River Murray							
Khancoban	-	-	-	3 480	S	3 580	4 830
Jingellic	4.0	1.79	208.31	5 550	R	6 120	9 910
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.42	218.31	650	F	700	780
Heywoods	5.5	1.87	155.50	4 370	R	4 210	3 850
Doctors Point	5.5	2.23	150.70	6 020	F	6 120	6 020
Albury	4.3	1.21	148.65	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.52	127.54	5 220	R	5 370	4 150
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.85	115.89	4 290	F	4 450	4 590
Tocumwal	6.4	1.31	105.15	4 550	S	4 600	4 600
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.29	79.84	3 340	R	3 270	2 620
Swan Hill	4.5	0.74	63.66	2 990	R	2 690	2 270
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.67	50.79	3 050	R	2 770	2 670
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.56	42.40	2 560	R	2 410	2 540
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	1 570	F	1 560	1 910
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.87	27.63	2 130	R	1 590	1 740
Rufus Junction	-	2.85	19.78	2 900	S	2 910	2 560
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-0.11	-	1 970	R	1 850	1 810
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.80	155.03	1 910	R	1 960	2 210
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.24	145.92	1 495	R	1 530	1 850
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.05	92.47	280	S	270	280
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	0.70	80.47	430	F	430	450
Edward at Liewah	-	0.91	56.29	401	R	360	490
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.80	54.30	0	F	0	0
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.33	56.29	119	F	120	120
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.16	-	2	F	10	120
Darling at Bourke	-	4.03	-	127	F	110	30
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	1.10	-	1 390	R	940	120

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	11 200	18 660
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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
Yarrowonga	124.90	-0.43	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	-0.11	+0.55
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.03	-0.04
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.03	+0.03
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-0.01	+0.04	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	-0.04	+0.33
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.03	+0.23	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.02	+0.12
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.08	+0.01	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.00	+0.11
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.03	-0.08	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	-0.01	-0.86

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.38	0.51	69.86	178
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-1.27	0.03	61.33	175.733



Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

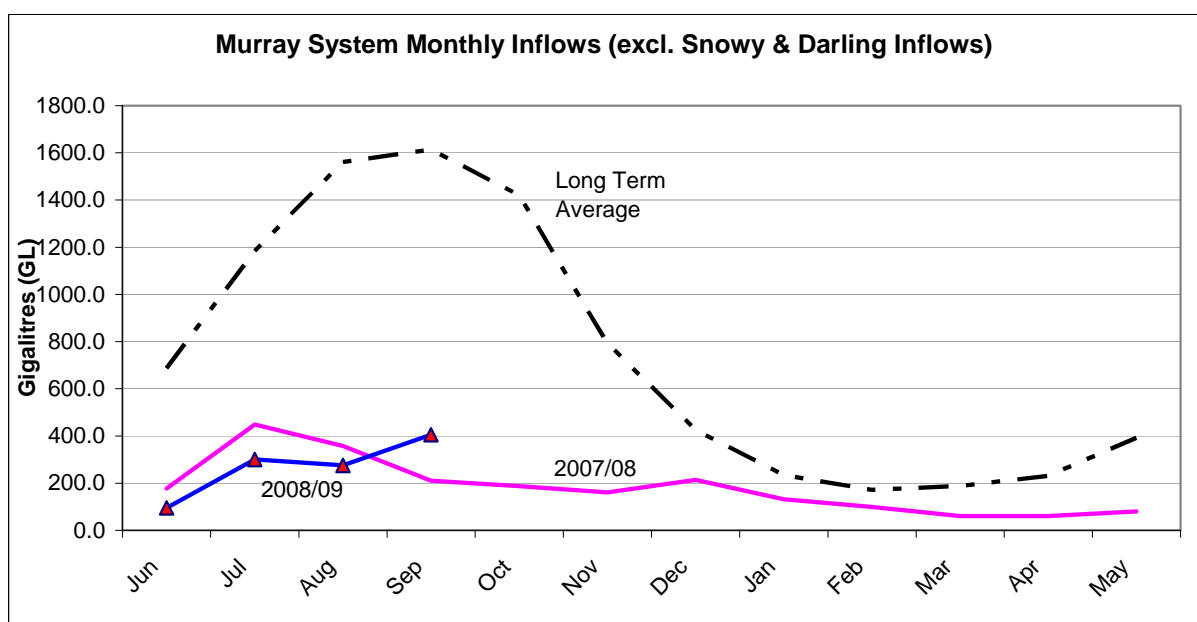
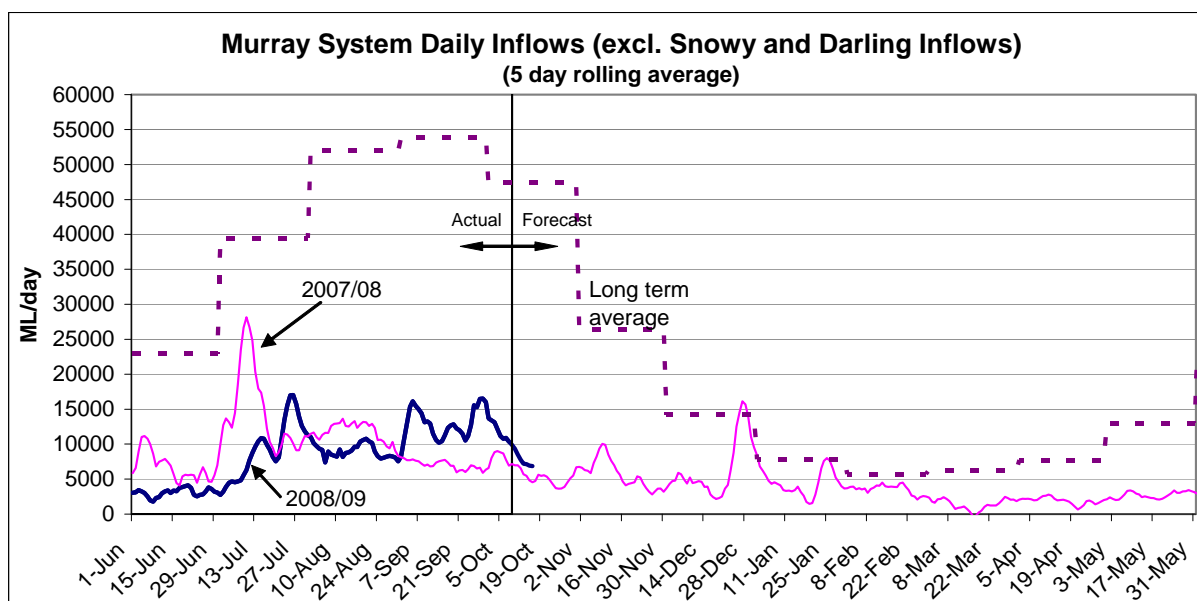
	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	-0.27

Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	-0.25	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-0.24	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwitchere	322 gates	-	All closed	Closed	Closed

AHD = Level relative to Australian Height Datum, i.e. height above sea level



State Allocations (as at 8th October 2008)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	80%
General security	0%

NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	95%
General security	5%

NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	20%

Victoria - Murray Valley

high reliability	13%
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Victoria - Goulburn Valley

high reliability	9%
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South Australia - Murray Valley

irrigation allocation	11%
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NSW : http://www.naturalresources.nsw.gov.au/mediarelnr/mr_toc_currnr.html

VIC : <http://www.g-mwater.com.au/water-resources/allocations/current.asp>

SA : <http://www.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/media.html>