



MDBA AND NSW INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT

# Final Report

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## 1. Final report – July 2020

The MDBA and the Department of Industry, Planning & Environment signed an agreement on 1 June 2020 relating to specified measures in anticipation of water resource plans coming into effect (the Agreement).

Reporting against these measures is required on or before 30 June 2020. Reporting requirements are set out in the Agreement.

In regard to reporting requirements of the Agreement:

1. Attachment A is the NSW/ACT trade mechanism report. This report describes progress to date against the NSW/ACT agreed workplan to develop a process for enabling two-way inter-jurisdictional retail water trading between NSW and the ACT.
2. Attachment B is the Floodplain Harvesting Action Plan report. This report describes progress against the Floodplain Harvesting Action Plan.

The reports provide the evidence to meet the implementation commitments specified in Schedule 2 of the Agreement.

## 2. Implementation commitment

Certain matters in the Agreement relate to inter-jurisdictional retail water trading between NSW and the ACT and delivery of the Floodplain Harvesting Action Plan. NSW must carry out the actions in Schedule 2 to the Agreement within the specified timeframes. Actions relevant for the purposes of this report are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1. Schedule 2 actions**

Schedule 2 Actions	
<b>Action Item 4:</b>	
4.1	NSW will provide to the Authority a report on delivery of the Floodplain Harvesting Action Plan (NSW Government, September 2019).
4.2	If any part of the delivery of the Floodplain Harvesting Action Plan is not complete, NSW will provide, in addition to the report required by paragraph 4.1, a report explaining the reasons for non-completion.
4.3	This reporting requirement will continue until all floodplain harvesting licences have been issued and there are WRPs for the New South Wales Border Rivers, Barwon-Darling Watercourse, Gwydir, Namoi and Macquarie-Castlereagh WRP areas incorporating floodplain harvesting management policy.
<b>Action Item 5:</b>	
5.1	For the Murrumbidgee WRP area, NSW will:
5.1.1	work with the ACT Government to develop a process for enabling two-way interjurisdictional water trading between NSW and the ACT; and
5.1.2	provide to the Authority a <b>report</b> on progress against the NSW/ACT agreed workplan.
5.2	NSW will engage with the Authority on the possible implications of the approach on interstate trade and any amendments that would be required to either Schedule 1 of the Act or its protocols.

### 3. Reporting and assurance

The Agreement requires reporting against these measures on or before 30 June each year. Under the agreement DPIE must ensure transparency, reporting on the implementation of the measures.

Under this Agreement, the Authority commits to providing responses to any draft reports or material in such time, and of such form and content, that the ability of NSW to meet the implementation commitment is not compromised.