



DEWNRD-00006862

June 2016

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Dear Russell

As part of developing the SA Murray Region Water Resource Plan (WRP), I would like to initiate the process for recalculation of the baseline diversion limit (BDL) for South Australian Non-Prescribed Areas (SS10).

A development program for the SA Murray Region WRP area was provided to the Murray-Darling Basin Authority by Julia Grant, Executive Director, Water and Climate Change in March 2015. This included an analysis of sustainable diversion limit (SDL) compliance requirements, which identified that the BDL for the South Australian Non-Prescribed Areas (SS10) would need to be re-calculated to include the effect of statutory limits for farm dam development and farm dams that were in place at 30 June 2009, but which were not included in the original calculation.

Departmental officers have analysed the data and methods used to determine the estimate of the BDL in the Basin Plan and a proposal for revising this BDL has been formulated. In line with MDBA Position Statement 3D, the new BDL estimate and appropriate documentation are put forward to the MDBA. However, due to the need to alter documents that have effect under State law to reflect the management of the SDL, South Australia requests that the BDL review process occurs as part of the review of the draft WRP rather than as part of the final WRP assessment.

South Australia has attached a summary of findings regarding the original BDL calculations and a proposed approach for recalculation (**attachment 1**). A draft technical report outlining the method and results of the GIS analysis is also provided (**attachment 2**). We would appreciate if Authority staff could review the information and proposed approach by 30 June 2016 and then meet with Departmental officers to discuss any queries and agree on the process and timeframe for recalculation of the BDL to enable a timely outcome.

Ms Ingrid Franssen, Manager State and National Water Policy is the Departmental contact for this matter and will be in touch with the relevant Authority officers to arrange the meeting. Ms Franssen can be contacted on telephone (08) 8463 7179.

Yours sincerely

Tim Goodes  
**DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE,**

Cc: Di Mead, Director Basin Plan Evaluation and Coordination