

The Hon Rose Jackson MLC

Minister for Water, Minister for Housing,
Minister for Homelessness
Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth



Our Ref: MF25/1417
Your Ref: D25/2820

Professor Hugh Durrant-Whyte
Commissioner
Natural Resources Commission
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001

By email: Hugh.Durrant-Whyte@nrc.nsw.gov.au

Dear Professor Durrant-Whyte *Hugh*

Audit of the implementation of seven inland groundwater water sharing plans

Thank you for your letter of 26 June 2025 about the completion of the Natural Resources Commission's (NRC) audit of the implementation of seven inland groundwater water sharing plans (the Plans), including:

- *Water Sharing Plan for the Darling Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020*
- *Water Sharing Plan for the Namoi Alluvial Groundwater Sources Order 2020*
- *Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Border Rivers Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020*
- *Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Great Artesian Basin Groundwater Sources 2020*
- *Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Great Artesian Basin Shallow Groundwater Sources Order 2020*
- *Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Murray Darling Basin Fractured Rock Groundwater Sources Order 2020*
- *Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Murray Darling Basin Porous Rock Groundwater Sources Order 2020*

I would like to thank the NRC for its work on this important audit.

I note the audit found that while many of the provisions of the plans are being implemented on balance the provisions of the plans have not been given full effect in accordance with the *Water Management Act 2000*.

I am advised by the Water Group of the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (NSW DCCEEW Water Group) that it is progressing work to address the audit recommendations. The outcomes of the NRC's audit, and other supporting activities by NSW DCCEEW Water Group, will inform the next steps in relation to these management plans.

I note the Deputy Secretary, NSW DCCEEW Water Group will provide you with a more detailed response addressing the audit findings. I am also advised that WaterNSW's response is under development.

I am interested in ongoing communication and engagement between the NRC and NSW DCCEEW Water Group to occur and support ongoing meetings to discuss improvements in process and approach.

Should you require additional information or wish to discuss these matters further, please contact Mr Mitchell Isaacs, Acting Executive Director, Water Planning, in NSW DCCEEW Water Group, via email at mitchell.isaacs@dcceew.nsw.gov.au or by phone on 0403 103 823.

Yours sincerely



Rose Jackson MLC

Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness,
Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth

Date: 2-8-25

Thanks as always
for your recent
work High. We will
continue to work on
the priority
areas identified
by the NRE
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