#### CTS 07729/07

# Department of Natural Resources and Water DEPUTY DIRECTOR- GENERAL BRIEFING NOTE

Approved / Not Approved / Noted Further information required

DDG Sch4p4(6) Pers
Dated 23/7/07

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TO: Deputy Director-General, Water & Catchment Services

FROM: General Manager Water Allocation and Planning

SUBJECT: Certification Assessment of Overland Flow Works in the Lower

Balonne

## RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Deputy Director-General:

- note the current status on the certification of overland flow works in the Lower Balonne;
   and
- approve the recommendations on the assessment on volumetric limits and overland flow take attributes of all outstanding unsupplemented water allocations in the Lower Balonne.

## **BACKGROUND**

- Certification of overland flow works in the Lower Balonne is a requirement of the finalised Condamine and Balonne Water Resource Plan (2004). This requires the landholders to provide a certificate, produced by a Registered Professional Engineer in Queensland (RPEQ), stating the volume of existing storages and the rate of take for overland flow works.
- The Condamine and Balonne Water Resource Plan establishes an overall cap on the authorised diversions of water harvesting and take of overland flow water in the Lower Balonne. This cap is expressed in the form of a limit on the rate of diversion of overland flow water and a limit on the volume of water that may be stored under entitlement on a property.
- The Plan requires that all allocations and entitlements issued under the ROP in the Lower Balonne must specify a limit on the maximum rate of take (in megalitres per day), the flow conditions for taking the water and a volumetric limit for taking water based on the storage capacity of existing works.
- In deciding on these terms the Water Resource Plan requires that the Chief Executive must consider the *lesser* of:
  - the estimated rate and volume that was provided by landholders to the Department during the development of the Plan through the infrastructure audit (2003); and
  - the actual rate and volume of existing works determined through the certification process.
- Certification of works in the Lower Balonne is essentially an assessment of the capacity of
  existing works to effectively divert and store water under management strategies that are
  typically applied by enterprises in the catchment.
- Certification is an applicant driven process and no deadlines have been given in the Water Resource Plan for its completion. Without certification of all applicable overland flow works, conversions of all licences cannot take place.
- The draft ROP released on 20 April 2007 only created water allocations for the 19 properties
  for which the Department had received certification reports. Remaining properties were not
  converted in the initial draft ROP and these other properties were stated in the draft
  schedule as 'Awaiting information'.

## **CURRENT ISSUES**

- A total of 39 properties are required to have their overland flow works certified in the Lower Balonne.
- To date, the department has received all 39 certifications of overland flow works in the Lower Balonne.

Briefing Officer: Saji Joseph, Director Water Planning (SW) Telephone: (07) 322 47312 Date: 19 July 07

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- The department reviewed all outstanding certifications and if approved will be used in the hydrological modelling of the Lower Balonne in order to allow the conversion of licences into tradable water allocations.
- The Department is progressing the release of an amended draft resource operations plan/schedule to include the conversion of entitlements of the Lower Balonne water harvesters and overland flow diverters who have provided Overland Flow (OLF) certification information that was still outstanding when the initial plan was prepared and released. It is proposed to release this amended plan late July 2007.

## PROPOSED ACTIONS

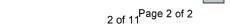
It is recommended that the Deputy Director-General:

- > note the information in this brief.
- Released by Directine Right to Information P > approve the assessment on volumetric limits and overland flow take attributes of the 24 outstanding unsupplemented water allocations in the Lower Balonne.

## **DEPUTY DIRECTOR - GENERAL'S COMMENTS**

Briefing Officer: Saji Joseph, Director Water Planning (SW) Telephone: (07) 322 47312 Date: 19 July 07

File C



**Clyde - Summary of Storage Capacities** 

Storage	Type of storage	Lot	Plan	Certification	Infrastructure Assessment	Notification			
S1	Ring Tank	3	BEL5376	7590	7240	7590			
S2	Ring Tank	3 5	BEL5376 BEL5375	4450	3360	4450			
S3	Ring Tank	5	BEL5375	6570	5480	6570			
S4	Ring Tank	3 5	BEL5376 BEL5375	4000	3560	4000			
S5	Ring Tank	3 5	BEL5376 BEL5375	4550	4240	4550			
S6	Ring Tank	5	BEL5375	2610	4100	2610			
S7	Ring Tank	4 5	BEL5376 BEL5375	1290	4100	1290			
S8	Ring Tank	4	BEL5376	3000	4100	3000			
S9	Ring Tank	1 52	BEL5376	11930	11850	11900			
S10	Gully Dam	1	BLM271	40920	35600	40920			
S11	Ring Tank	4 5 6	SP129702 BLM367 BLM367	28390	37300	28390			
Tail water returns				830					
Main supply channel				800					
	Total		YOU	116,930 ML	120,930 ML	115,270 ML			

The Volumetric Limit for water allocation 1528 was determined from the combined certified volumes of storages S1 to S8 - 34060 ML (rounded up to 34100 ML).

The Volumetric Limit for overland flow water licence 602025 was based on the combined certified volumes of S1 to S10 + the tailwater returns and the main supply channel -88540 ML (rounded up to 88600 ML).

The 2594 ML/day rate of take for OLF water licence 602025 was based on the Infrastructure Assessment less 5% in accordance with section 49 of the Water Resource (Condamine & Balonne) Plan 2004.

## **Anomalies Panel Recommendations**

Date forwarded to Anomalies Panel: 25 May 2007

Anomalies confirmed:

## Property based storage volume

- Information provided for Infrastructure assessment report indicates 120,930 ML.
- Certification storage volume of 116,930ML.
- In the infrastructure assessment, information had previously indicated that waterharvesting water was only stored in S1-S5, with S6-S11 storing only overland flow water.
- Certification indicates that waterharvesting water can now be stored in S1-S5 and S10.
- A recent licence amendment (2006) has added Lot 1 on BLM271 as an activity parcel for the waterharvesting entitlement.
- Including the volume of S10 is 40,920 ML as part of the waterharvesting entitlement more than doubles the volume of waterharvesting water that can be stored under the existing arrangements.
- To date modelling has reflects the information provided through infrastructure assessment. This
  operational change will significantly affect the nominal volume that Clyde's waterharvesting water
  allocation will receive, including an increase in the total long term diversions in the Lower
  Balonne and the possible implications for determining nominal volumes for allocations and
  environmental flow downstream of the property.
- If waterharvesting licences are treated as though they serve the total storage on the property, the conversion would provide a much greater nominal volume than previously assessed.
- S11 storage functions as a surge, with water breaking out from the Narran River flowing into this open ended storage at a rate of up to 17,210 ML/day.

#### **Panel Recommendations**

- Adopt two entitlements for the property with different property volumetric limits based on the certified report.
- The water allocation relates to water stored in S1-S8 (volume of 34,060 ML) and have a property volumetric limit set at 34,100 ML (rounded up to nearest 100ML for volumes over 10,000ML).
- This water allocation will include the property parcels: Lot 1 on RP67015, Lot 5 on BEL5375, Lot 4 on BEL5376 and Lot 3 on BEL5376.
- The overland flow licence relates to the entire property and has a property volumetric limit of 88,700 ML (rounded up to nearest 100ML for volumes over 10,000ML). This includes storages S1-S10, but does not include S11 which is considered a surge rather than a storage.
- Overland flow water taken under this entitlement can originate from either the Narran or Bokhara Rivers.
- This OLF licence will include the property parcels: Lot 1 on RP67015, Lot 5 on BEL5375, Lot 4 on BEL5376 and Lot 3 on BEL5376, Lot 1 on BEL5376, Lot 2 on BEL5376, Lot 4 on SP129702, Lot 5 on BLM367, Lot on BLM367, Lot 1 on BLM 271 and Lot 1 on PER208487.

## Rate of Take

• Licenced waterharvesting entitlements have the following access conditions:

Flow at JTW	Rate of take (ML/Day)
3000	86
5000	172
8000	344
10000	432
12000	512
14000	592

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16000	672
18000	752
20000	832

- Overland flow take from river breakouts identified in infrastructure assessment as having a maximum rate of 4996ML/day at 200,000 ML at Jack Taylor Weir.
- This includes 1941 ML/day gravity diversion into storage S11. Certification indicates that the maximum rate of take into S11 is 17,210 ML/day, which is nearly an order of magnitude greater than the infrastructure assessment.
- The maximum rate for taking overland flow is identified in the certification as 23,280 ML/day.

## **Panel Recommendations**

- Adopt the rates as provided for the infrastructure assessment minus 5% [Maximum rate:ML/day @ JTW 1216@40000, 1435@50000, 1938@60000, 2157@70000, 2375@80000, 2594@90000].
- Exclude gravity diversions into S11, which will be recognised as a surge that can be dewatered outside waterharvesting announcements.
- Adopt waterharvesting rate as per licence minus 5% [Maximum rate:ML/day @ JTW 82@3000, 163@5000, 327@8000, 410@10000, 486@12000, 562@14000 638@16000, 714@18000, 790@20000]]

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Please see attached

## **Attachments**

Please see attached

# **Director**, Water Planning (SW) Recommendation/s:

Date forwarded to Director Water Planning:

The Director endorse Anomalies panel recommendations:		(X)
or		
The Director endorse Anomalies panel recommendations with the following change	es:	( )
or		
The Director endorse an alternative preference		( )
General Manager		
GM endorses Director Water Planning (SW) recommendations on further action:		
action.	( )	
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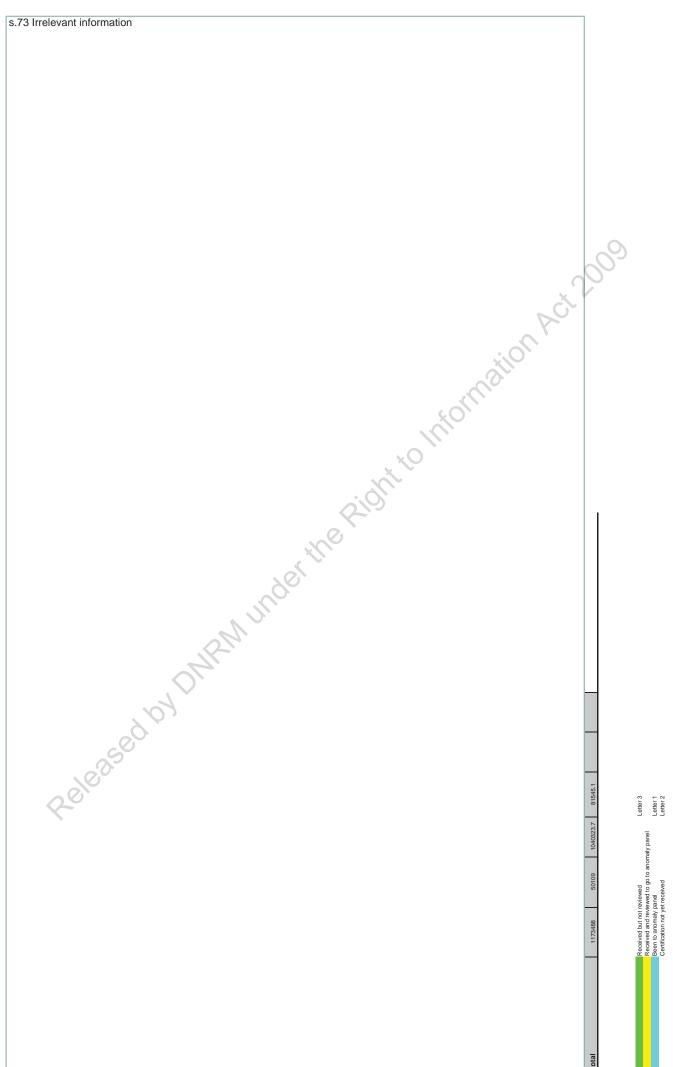
•	Certification Assessment Process – Clyde
	Alternative action proposed:
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	DDG Approves GM's recommendations on further action ( )
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Been to anomaly panel but more information required. Working on

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