

Non-urban metering reform



Customer Advisory Groups

Metering and Measurement Reform team

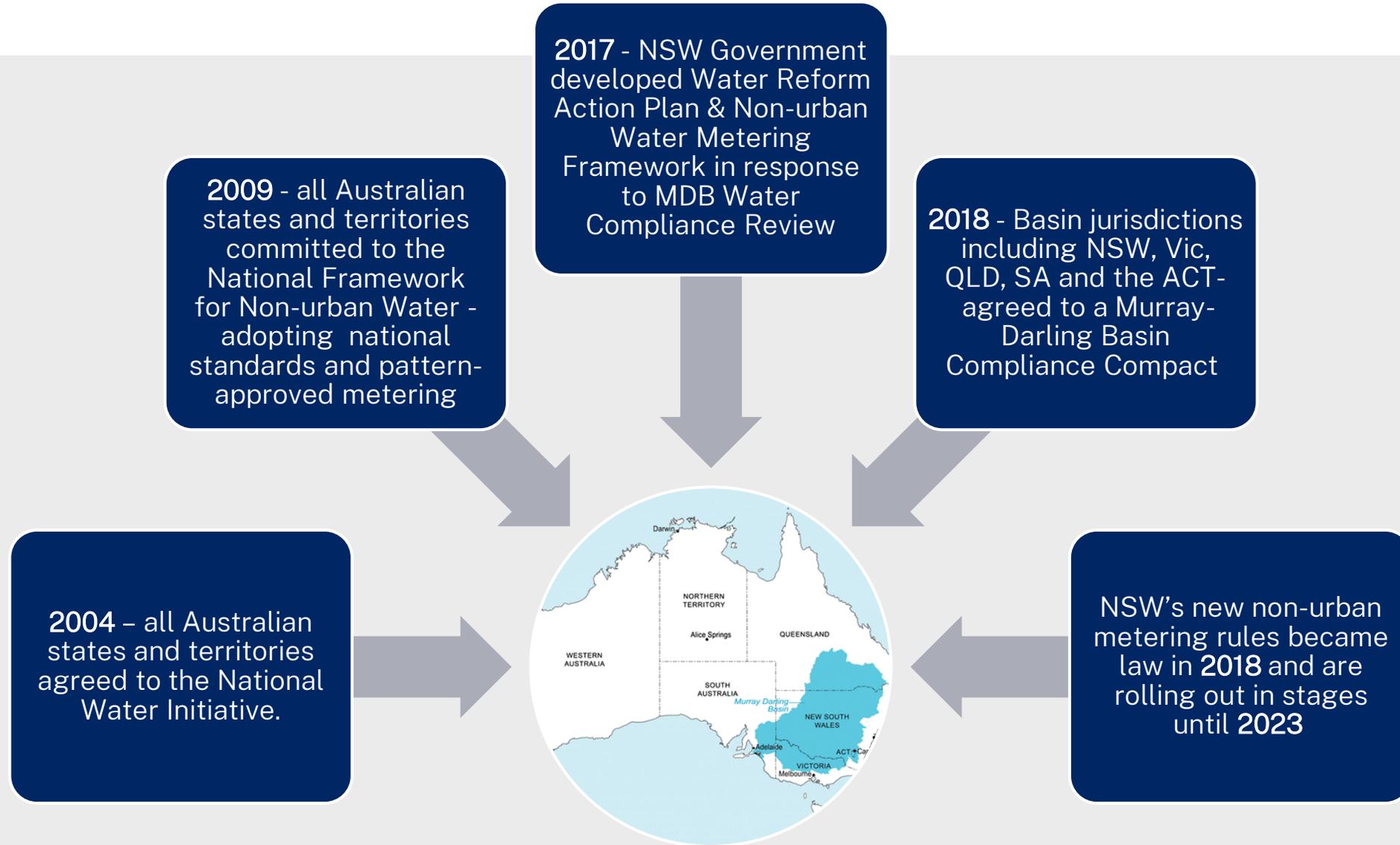
March – April 2022

Measurement of water take is a national responsibility



- Water measurement is at the crux of irrigated farm management, regional development and planning, river modelling, environmental management, water equity and price integrity and measuring the impact of changes in climate
- States are required to implement standards for water measurement
- NSW is not the only jurisdiction implementing new regulations around non-urban water metering – it just happens to be the most advanced

NSW commitment to water reform



Are there any tools available to help me identify my requirements?



Three easy steps to help you get meter ready

1. **Check your licence and approval details** on the [NSW Water Register](#) to see what is listed and whether there are any existing metering conditions that you need to comply with now. WaterNSW can assist you to [amend your approval](#) if you need to update any details including the size of your installed pump or make your work inactive.
2. **Use the NSW Government's [online metering guidance tool](#)** to see if, and how, the rules apply to you.
3. **If the rules apply to you, contact a duly qualified person (DQP)**, such as a certified meter installer (CMI) to discuss your situation. They can advise you about what equipment you need, and order, install and validate it. A list of DQPs can be found on [Irrigation Australia's](#) website. Just click on 'Certified Meter Installers and Validators' to search for one near you.

Market equipment and services responding to demand



15 Compliant meters available

<=200mm 15 meters / 200-500mm 14 meters / 500-1000mm 8 meters
/ >1000mm 4 meters

Compliant solution for portable pumps available



8 compatible telemetry devices

Technical solution is available for non-compliant MACE meters with multi sensors

Multi port solution progressing well through bench testing



Over 160 DQPs across NSW

Subsidised training available for providers and water users

Virtual market place will increase access to DQPs in other regions

Current exemptions

There are five exemptions that may be applied to non-urban water metering-

- Works used solely to take water under a basic landholder right,
- Works that have been made inactive (via WaterNSW)
- Works that cannot physically comply with the non-urban metering rules (cl 233 exemption)
- Works that are not nominated against an access license
- Small, low-risk works used solely to take water under a **licensed** stock and domestic access license*



*Does not apply to at risk ground water sources and those approvals with pre-existing metering conditions

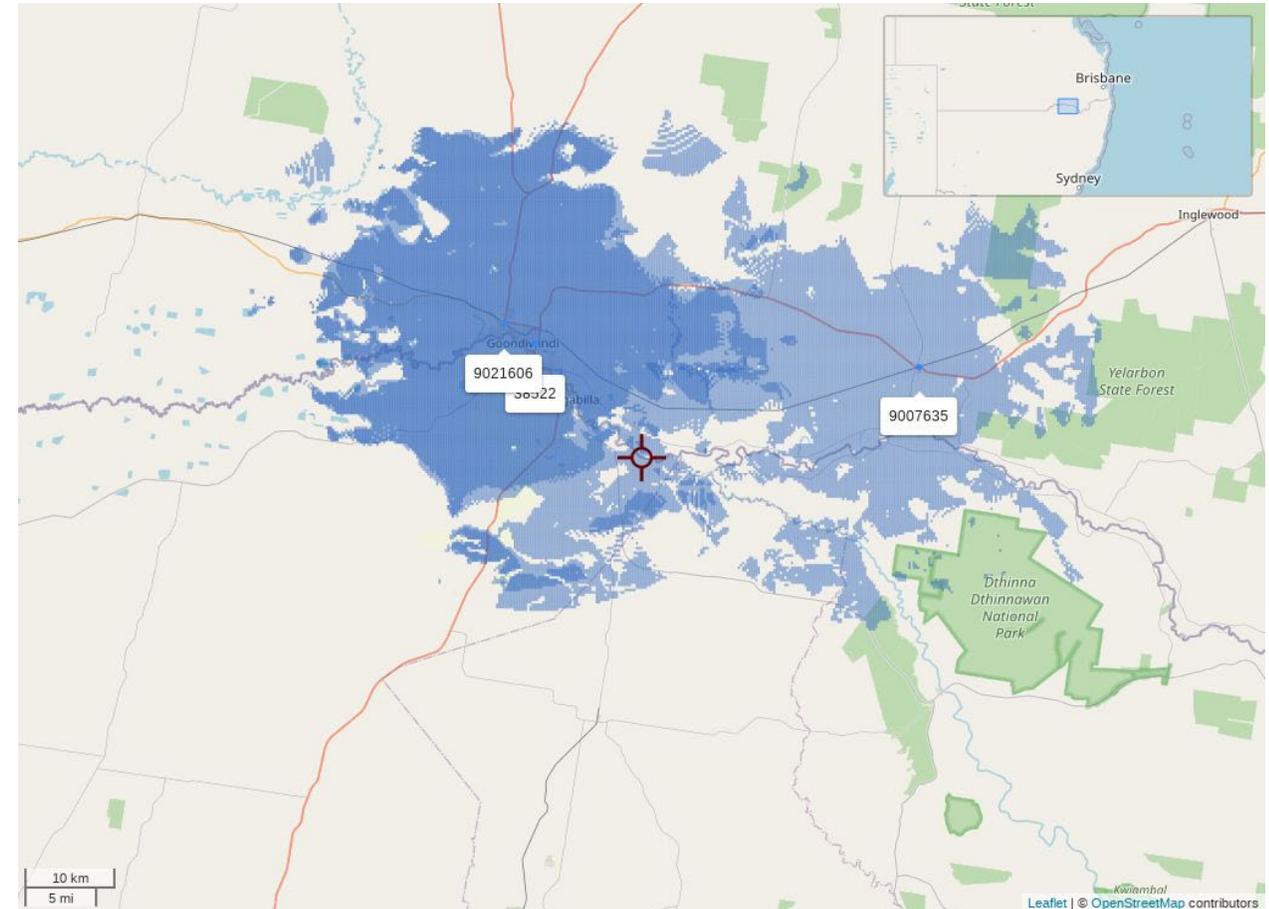
Works that cannot physically comply with the metering rules (cl 233 exemption)

- Authority holders can request an exemption from the mandatory metering condition under clause 233 of the Water Management (General) Regulation 2018
- Process involves rigorous criteria, involving technical, legal assessment and agency considerations.
- An exemption may only be granted when it is not possible for water taken using the work to be measured by compliant metering equipment.
- To lodge an application, you need to email details of your request and any supporting documentation to regulatory.implementation@dpi.nsw.gov.au
- Subject to assessment, an exemption may be granted with conditions that require an alternative metering or measurement method to be used.

Temporary telemetry blackspot exemption

- Government's telemetry system operates on the Telstra NBIOT network, which is designed for remote applications, such as metering.
- DPE developed a toolkit to identify telemetry coverage blackspots.
- If a water user is in a telemetry blackspot, they can apply to the department for a temporary exemption under clause 233 of the Water Management General Regulation.

Visit: water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/nsw-non-urban-water-metering/what-water-users-need-to-know/telemetry-coverage-exemption



Programs to support uptake of metering and telemetry

The NSW and Australian Governments have funded \$36.1 million for a suite of metering programs:

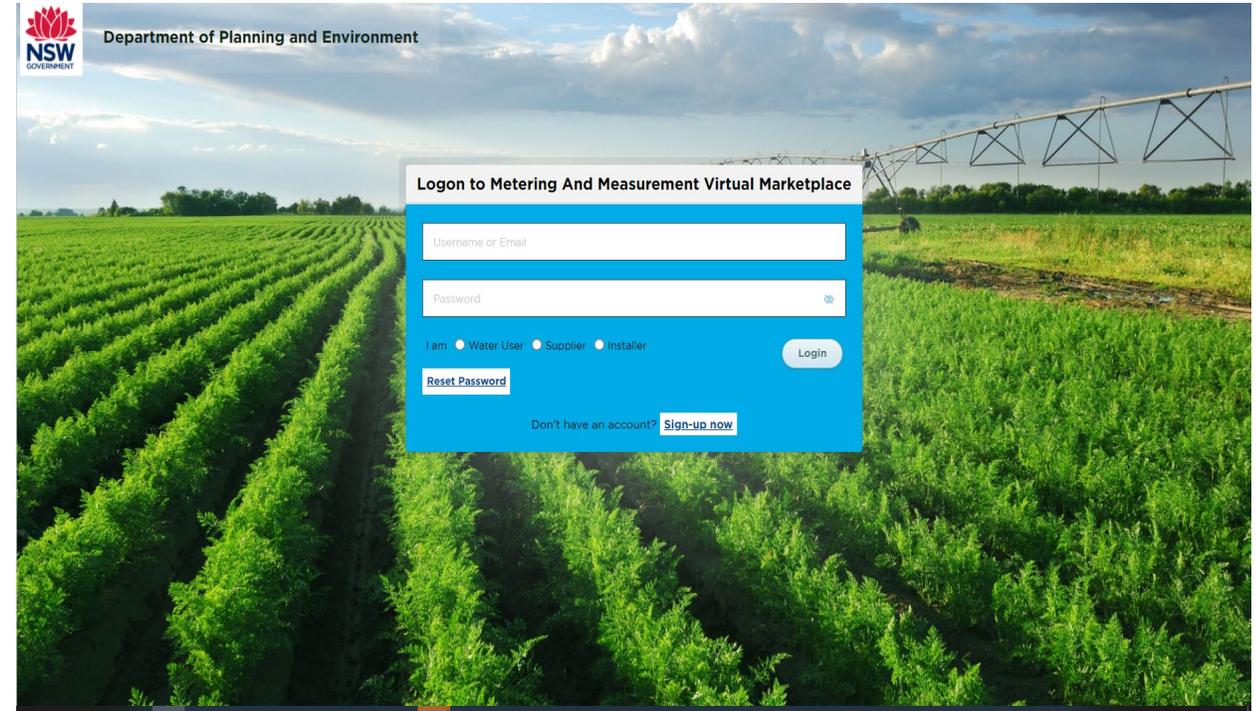
- \$18 million telemetry rebate program – approx. \$500K spend to date
- \$14.6 million government-owned meter capital upgrade program
- \$1 million program First Nations metering traineeship program – host organisations have been identified and candidates shortlisted
- \$2.5 million demonstration field program – installation contract awarded.

These programs will commence 2021-22.



Metering and Measurement Virtual Marketplace

- Connects water users, meter installers and suppliers
- Includes non-urban metering and floodplain harvesting
- Register and log-in as a Water User.
- You can request to view services offered by Installers – view locations of installers on a map
- Non-urban metering functionality live in May



Non-urban Metering Roadshows



Roadshows – F2F

- Tuesday 26 April – Albury
- Wednesday 27 April – Deniliquin
- Thursday 28 April – Griffith
- Thursday 5 May – Webinar
- Tuesday 17 May – Broken Hill
- Wednesday 18 May – Dareton
- September – November 2022 – Coastal Roadshow



Online

- Webinar – Southern Basin – 5 May
- Webinar – Northern Basin – 19 May



Floodplain harvesting update



Regulatory amendments were made on 17 December 2021 to set out the process for issuing floodplain harvesting licences and the measurement requirements.

The amendments commenced on **14 February 2022** but **were subsequently disallowed on 24 February 2022**.

Licences have been determined for eligible water users in the Border Rivers and Gwydir Valleys. These licences are expected to come into effect on 1 July 2022, after the relevant water sharing plans have been amended.

The department remains committed to the task of regulating floodplain harvesting to legal limits set out in NSW water sharing plans and the Basin Plan.

For enquiries: floodplain.harvesting@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Floodplain harvesting measurement - market equipment and services

- Accurate, reliable and tamper-proof measurement equipment will be required to be installed on all on-farm water storages.
- Water take data will be transmitted to the department in near real time using telemetry.
- Current testing of devices and DAS connectivity commenced at Australian Cotton Research Institute
- Department will be undertaking a field demonstration project to show the effectiveness and robustness of the measurement requirements.



11 compliant level sensors



3 compliant local LIDs
(combined data logger & telemetry)



27 Certified Storage Meter Validators

Thank you

For any other enquires please email us at metering.reform@dpi.nsw.gov.au

