

Submission**GW054**

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| Recorded Date | |
| Response ID | |
| Confidentiality instruction - publishing submission externally | I do not give permission for the department to publish my name with my submission on the department's website. In selecting this option, I understand that my submission will be published anonymously. |
| Confidentiality instruction - sharing submission internally within department | I give permission for my name and email to be shared within the department. |
| Submission choice - file upload or complete survey | I wish to complete this survey |
| File upload - instead of completing survey - ID | |
| File upload - instead of completing survey - Name | |
| File upload - instead of completing survey - Size | |
| File upload - instead of completing survey - Type | |
| Thinking about your relationship to groundwater, which of the following user groups or parts of the - Selected Choice | General public |
| Thinking about your relationship to groundwater, which of the following user groups or parts of the - Other (please specify) - Text | |
| In which region are you located | Murrumbidgee |
| * How important is it for you to access groundwater as a resource | Very important |
| * To what extent do you agree with the following statements - Groundwater is important for basic human needs (drinking, cooking) | Strongly agree |
| * To what extent do you agree with the following statements - Groundwater is important for stock watering | Strongly agree |
| * To what extent do you agree with the following statements - Groundwater is important for Aboriginal communities and Country | Agree |
| * To what extent do you agree with the following statements - Groundwater is important for agriculture | Strongly agree |
| * To what extent do you agree with the following statements - Groundwater is important for the environment | Strongly agree |
| * To what extent do you agree with the following statements - Groundwater is important for industrial businesses (including mining) | Strongly disagree |
| * To what extent do you agree with the following statements - Groundwater is important for manufacturing (water bottling, food processing and others) | Neutral |
| * Please indicate what you think NSW's groundwater needs will look like over the next 20-40 years. | More than current needs |

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| * Which part/s of the community do you think will have the greatest change in their groundwater need | Agriculture,Industry,Towns and cities,Ecosystems dependent on groundwater |
| * Do you think you should change the way you will use groundwater in the future | No, it hasn't even crossed my mind |
| * How well do you know the NSW groundwater management framework, rules and legislation | Not very well |
| * Please rank the 4 key issues affecting groundwater management in NSW from most important to least - Our climate is changing, and groundwater recharge and demands will be affected | 2 |
| * Please rank the 4 key issues affecting groundwater management in NSW from most important to least - The risks to groundwater from development and land use change are increasing | 1 |
| * Please rank the 4 key issues affecting groundwater management in NSW from most important to least - Community notions of sustainability and fair access to groundwater have evolved | 3 |
| * Please rank the 4 key issues affecting groundwater management in NSW from most important to least - Our understanding of groundwater, its behaviour and use is improving | 4 |

Please tell us of any other challenges that are affecting groundwater management in NSW

Need to:

Monitor extraction.

Random RADON GAS testing for communities such as small towns and provide RADON risk education and advice on reducing risk. American education on Radon is very good, testing is subsidised and every property who use bore water in the home must get tested annually. Decontamination equipment is readily available. A million homes in Australia use ground water in the home including me. I had difficulty getting RADON test and gave up. 20,000 Americans die each year from RADON induced lung cancer. It is a critical risk factor totally ignored by Australian authorities. Pesticide and heavy metal contamination should be tested in communities as well. Here in the Yass Valley the Yass council bore is heavily contaminated with RADON, yet no one is informed about the local supply. I assume my bore water is a health risk as its from the same aquifer.

Groundwater contamination should be avoided. My neighbour has an uncapped 50M bore hole that gets flooded by the storage dam. Bore hole drillers dig bores and do not cap dry holes. The resource is being contaminated!

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| | <p>There are many arsenic contaminated sites from historical sheering shed sheep dip sites that the NSW government FAILED to audit leading to surface water contamination and then groundwater contamination. Random bore testing is required.</p> <p>In remote properties bores are allowed to flow uncontrolled, un monitored.</p> <p>Groundwater contamination from Cracking will destroy the resource forever!</p> <p>I know people who run their bores 24-7 just to keep dams full for aesthetic reasons.</p> <p>A problem with unregulated use of groundwater is the lack of value placed on that water - it is treated as free, leading to over use and salinity problems as well as reducing availability to others. There should be traded allocation rights.</p> <p>Every bore should be metered for management purposes and limiting extraction.</p> |
| <p>* Please rank these challenges in order of importance, where 1 = Most important and 4 = Least import - Our policy framework for sustainable groundwater management needs to be updated to be more responsive to emerging challenges such as climate change</p> | <p>2</p> |
| <p>* Please rank these challenges in order of importance, where 1 = Most important and 4 = Least import - Ecosystems that depend on groundwater face increased threats such as intensive groundwater extraction and pollution</p> | <p>3</p> |
| <p>* Please rank these challenges in order of importance, where 1 = Most important and 4 = Least import - There is a lack of strategic integration between management of groundwater, surface water and land</p> | <p>4</p> |
| <p>* Please rank these challenges in order of importance, where 1 = Most important and 4 = Least import - Threats to the quality of groundwater resources are increasing over time and these need to be addressed</p> | <p>1</p> |
| <p>Please tell us any other challenges you think will affect the protection of groundwater resources an</p> | <p>Surface water contamination from uncapped bores, mining, mining , mining! Cracking cracking cracking!</p> |

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| * How important for you is the protection of groundwater resources and the ecosystems that depend on | Important |
| * To what extent do you agree with draft action 1.1? | Agree |
| * To what extent do you agree with draft action 1.2? | Strongly disagree |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 1.2? - Refresh and expand our approach to sustainable groundwater management | Important |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 1.2? - Manage groundwater and surface water together | Important |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 1.2? - Integrate groundwater considerations into land use planning decisions | Important |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 1.2? - Improve management of large developments impacting groundwater | Very important |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 1.2? - Strengthen cross-border groundwater management | Important |
| * To what extent do you agree with draft action 1.3? | Strongly agree |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 1.3? - Review and update our approach to protecting groundwater dependent ecosystems | Very important |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 1.3? - Deliver a program to improve our understanding of groundwater dependent ecosystems | Very important |
| * To what extent do you agree with draft action 1.4? | Strongly agree |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 1.4? - Review groundwater source extraction limits using new knowledge | Important |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 1.4? - Better manage impacts of extraction at a local level | Important |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 1.4? - Improve clarity around management of groundwater sources with a low long-term entitlement share value | Very important |

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| * To what extent do you agree with draft action 1.5? | Strongly agree |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 1.5? - Review and update our approach to managing groundwater quality | Important |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 1.5? - Deliver a program to better understand groundwater quality and risks | Very important |
| Please tell us any other suggested actions you think we should consider in Strategic Priority 1 | Protect groundwater quality as a priority. Randomly test groundwater. Maintain environmental flows. Monitor extraction. Trade extraction rights. |
| * Please rank these challenges in order of importance, where 1 = Most important and 3 = Least import - Increasing demand for groundwater for other uses can undermine its use for town water supply | 1 |
| * Please rank these challenges in order of importance, where 1 = Most important and 3 = Least import - New and expanding industries need to consider groundwater opportunities and constraints | 2 |
| * Please rank these challenges in order of importance, where 1 = Most important and 3 = Least import - Aboriginal rights to groundwater and Aboriginal uses of groundwater are not adequately recognised | 3 |
| Please tell us any other challenge you think will affect community and industry resilience in using | Ground water quality is critical Use should be restricted minimised Research in sustainability of resource undertaken. Industrial users should pay for water to give it value |
| * How important is it for you that communities and industries using groundwater resources have a rel | Very important |
| * To what extent do you agree with draft action 2.1? | Strongly agree |
| * To what extent do you agree with draft action 2.2? | Disagree |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 2.2 - Provide better information on groundwater opportunities and constraints to communities and industries | Very important |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 2.2 - Enable the increase of sustainable groundwater use in targeted areas | Important |

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| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 2.2 - Foster innovative groundwater solutions, including Managed Aquifer Recharge (also called 'water banking', to support communities and industries) | Neutral |
| * To what extent do you agree with draft action 2.3? | Disagree |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 2.3 - Increase access to groundwater for Aboriginal people | Of minor importance |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 2.3 - Protect groundwater-dependent places of significance to Aboriginal communities | Important |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 2.3 - Better integrate Aboriginal knowledge into groundwater management | Not at all important |
| * Do you identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander | Neither |
| Please tell us what groundwater health and secure groundwater supply means for you, your family, you | |
| Please tell us about the changes you have seen in groundwater management in your cultural landscape | |
| Please indicate which of these cultural opportunities you have seen in action in the way groundwater - Selected Choice | |
| Please indicate which of these cultural opportunities you have seen in action in the way groundwater - Other (please specify) - Text | |
| Please provide any other comments about cultural opportunities or challenges in groundwater manageme | |
| What are the most important benefits of cultural and economic opportunities in the water industry - Selected Choice | |
| What are the most important benefits of cultural and economic opportunities in the water industry - Other (please specify) - Text | |
| Please provide any other comments about benefits of cultural and economic opportunities and how we r | |
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| <p>Please tell us any other suggested actions you think we should consider in Strategic Priority 2</p> | <p>Quality ground water should supplement drinking water supply in remote communities including aboriginal communities.</p> <p>I don't not think aboriginal knowledge of groundwater can be trusted or the long term management of resources as there is opportunities for corruption.</p> |
| <p>* Please rank these challenges in order of importance, where 1 = Most important and 3 = Least import - Being underground and difficult to investigate, information about groundwater is lacking</p> | <p>3</p> |
| <p>* Please rank these challenges in order of importance, where 1 = Most important and 3 = Least import - There are gaps in our scientific knowledge and research capabilities</p> | <p>1</p> |
| <p>* Please rank these challenges in order of importance, where 1 = Most important and 3 = Least import - Our groundwater monitoring network is ageing and has limited coverage</p> | <p>2</p> |
| <p>Please tell us any other challenge you think is affecting the use of information and data to m</p> | <p>The last questions all were of the same thing. We know sweet bugger all about ground water, even less about how much is being used, and no idea about how much we will need in the future.</p> |
| <p>* How important is it for you to have access to more information and data about groundwater manageme</p> | <p>Neutral</p> |
| <p>* How interested are you in finding out more about how groundwater is managed and used</p> | <p>Neutral</p> |
| <p>What ways could the department use to communicate with you and others in your community about ground</p> | <p>I don't need to know more, but I do want government to know more and manage well what ground water we have. Australia uses less ground water as a percentage of total water use than most countries and there is opportunity to use a lot more. But it needs to be used appropriately and valued. So as a graduate of a water resource degree I am interested in knowing water resources are well managed and future demand is planned for and bloody mining activities doesn't permanent contaminate what we have.</p> |
| <p>Please tell us what type of information and data about groundwater resources you would like availabl</p> | <p>Water use planning Water quality results - drinking water quality does meet standards in many areas - reporting breaches is important for communities.</p> |
| <p>* To what extent do you agree with draft action 3.1?</p> | <p>Strongly agree</p> |
| <p>* To what extent do you agree with draft action 3.2?</p> | <p>Agree</p> |

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| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 3.2 - Expand the range of knowledge and insights products including information systems, platforms and interfaces for storing, managing, accessing and interrogating groundwater data | Important |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 3.2 - Improve and diversify how we communicate information on groundwater resources and their management | Important |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 3.2 - Support strategic planning and decision-making by councils and groundwater users with improved access to information on groundwater and its management | Important |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 3.2 - Develop a unified framework to consolidate and analyse all groundwater data across all relevant agencies and groundwater users and impacting activities | Important |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 3.2 - Support data and database integration across agencies to address data gaps and improve customer service delivery | Important |
| * To what extent do you agree with draft action 3.3? | Strongly agree |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 3.3 - Expand our multi-disciplinary understanding of groundwater | Important |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 3.3 - Improve our groundwater models where required | Very important |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 3.3 - Increase our capacity and capability to apply leading groundwater science | Very important |
| * To what extent do you agree with draft action 3.4? | Strongly agree |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 3.4 - Improve our groundwater monitoring infrastructure | Very important |
| * How important to you are each of the following sub-actions required under Action 3.4 - Improve our groundwater monitoring programs | Very important |

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| Please tell us any other suggested actions you think we should consider in Strategic Priority 3 | Monitoring extractions, water quality, demand, and type if use is a priority. The science is pretty dodgy at best due to lack of info, apply precautionary principle and protect the resources as much as possible. |
| Please provide any final comments | <p>There is huge amount of groundwater available for regional remote use, it is an unutilised resource, better data on resources is required, water needs to be appropriately used, extraction monitored and water quality protected. Not rocket science</p> <p>My main point - 1 million homes use bore water. Bore water contains RADON gas that is killing people. Risks need to be monitored, water tested, treated, people educated. Other contaminants need to be monitored randomly, unused bores capped, extraction metered, resources valued, environmental flows maintained...easy.</p> |
| Any additional material - file upload - ID | |
| Any additional material - file upload - Name | |
| Any additional material - file upload - Size | |
| Any additional material - file upload - Type | |
| Personal information: name, email - Name | [REDACTED] |
| Personal information: name, email - Email | [REDACTED] |
| Business name, if responding on behalf of a business - Your business name (if you are responding on behalf of an organisation) | |
| * How did you hear about this survey? Select all that apply. - Selected Choice | Social media - Facebook |
| * How did you hear about this survey? Select all that apply. - Other (please specify) - Text | |
| * What age bracket do you fit into? | [REDACTED] |
| * How do you describe your gender | [REDACTED] |
| * Speak language other than English at home? - Selected Choice | [REDACTED] |
| * Speak language other than English at home? - Yes (please specify) - Text | [REDACTED] |
| * Identify as person with disability? | [REDACTED] |
| Text | [REDACTED] |