

19 December 2023

Peel Regulated River Water Source and Peel Alluvium Groundwater Source

Water allocation update

There is no change to allocations in the Peel regulated river water source nor the Peel alluvium groundwater source. This quarterly statement is to provide an update on the current water sharing and the regulated river resource conditions.

All entitlements, including general security (GS) received their maximum allocations for the 2023/24 water year on 1 July 2023. At the same time, the environmental contingency allowance (ECA) was also credited its full 5 gigalitre (GL) allocation, in accordance with the water sharing plan.

Current allocation

2023/24	General Security Allocation	Average General Security Account Balance
Peel regulated river water source	100%*	89%

* Maximum allowable.

Key facts:

- Since 1 July, Chaffey Dam inflow has been about 3.8 GL and 7.5 GL released over five months.
- Downstream tributary flows were about 29.9 GL over the five months to the end of November.
- Overall, the total allocation used since 1 July has been about 7.3 GL, of which 3.8 GL has been used for town water supply.

Storage levels (as of 18 December 2023)

- Chaffey Dam is currently 91% full – holding around 94 GL.

Climate outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for January to March 2024 indicates that rainfall in the Peel valley will likely be below median across the catchment. Also, day and night temperatures are likely to be warmer than median over this period for the catchment.

Further details at: www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary

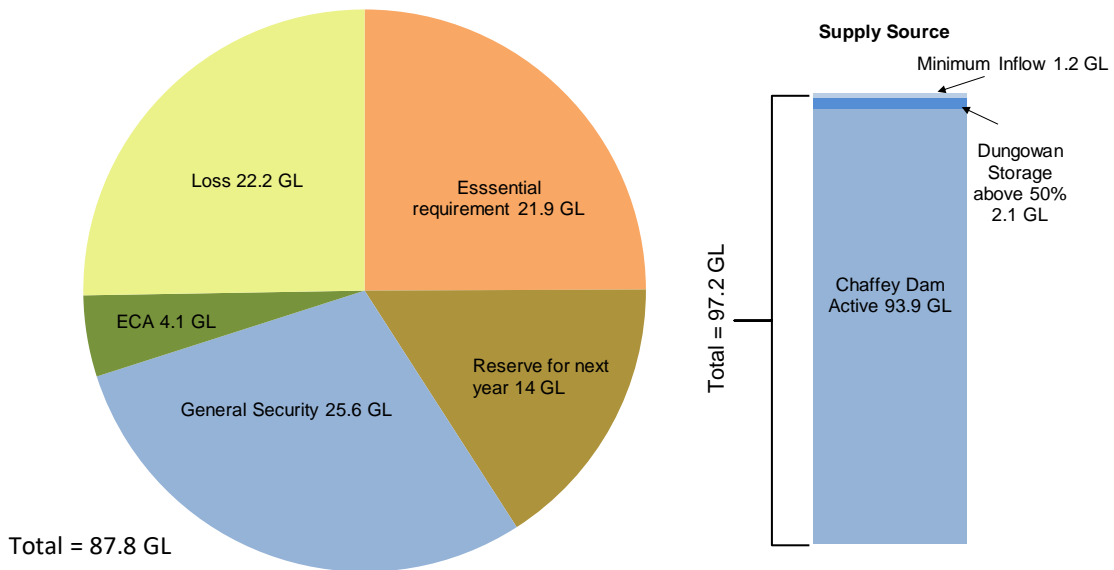
Resource assessment data sheet

Resource Distribution (as at 30 November 2023)	Volume (GL)
Current and Future Resources ⁽¹⁾	97.2
<i>less</i>	
Essential Supplies (12/23 to 6/24) ⁽²⁾	21.9
Reserve for 2024/25 ⁽³⁾	14.0
General security balance	25.6
ECA balance	4.1
Evaporation, operational and transmission loss ⁽⁴⁾	22.2
<i>Equals</i>	
Surplus (or deficit) ⁽⁵⁾	9.4

Notes:

- (1) Chaffey Dam active storage, Dungowan Dam volume above 50% full and minimum inflow expected to June 2024.
- (2) Water set aside to provide for basic landholder rights, domestic and stock (D&S), local water utility (LWU), high security (HS) and associated transmission loss plus minimum storage release. D&S entitlements, LWU entitlements, and HS entitlements have all been allocated 100% for the current water year.
- (3) Reserve set aside to meet the minimum allocation of 2024/25 under the water sharing plan (WSP) obligation at the repeat of the worst drought known at the commencement of the WSP. The reserve includes basic landholder rights, 70% domestic and stock, 70% local water utility, 50% high security and associated transmission loss plus minimum storage release. This also considers minimum inflow expected next year offset by evaporation over 2024/25.
- (4) Evaporation budget assumes historical high evaporation rates. The transmission loss is budgeted to deliver water orders based on current conditions and forecasts. ECA water delivery is measured at the dam wall thus incurs no transmission loss.
- (5) All categories of water license (including general security) in the Peel regulated river water source have been fully allocated this 2023/24 water year. The surplus adds to future water security.

Resource Distribution as at 30 November 2023 Peel Regulated River Water Source



The history of allocations in the 2023/24 water year is shown in the tables below.

Table 1. Water allocations for the Peel Regulated River Water Source in 2023/24

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2023/24
1-Jul	Domestic & Stock	100%	100%*
1-Jul	Local Water Utility	100%	100%*
1-Jul	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*
1-Jul	General Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*

* Maximum allowable

Table 2. Water allocations for the Peel Alluvium Groundwater Source in 2023/24

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2023/24
1-Jul	Aquifer (general security)	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*

* Maximum allowable

Water allocation guide

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment – Water has produced a series of guides to describe the water allocation methods for most NSW regulated river systems. The guide for the

Peel regulated river water source is available at: water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/allocations-availability/allocations/how-water-is-allocated/resource-assessment-process

Further information

The next water allocation statement for this water source will be published in April 2024, or earlier if there are any significant changes to resource availability or outlook.

As water allocations for the 2023/24 water year have reached their maximum limit, regular (monthly) allocation announcements have ceased. However, conditions will continue to be monitored and updated water allocation statements will be issued quarterly.

Information on available water determinations and water sharing plans is available on the Department of Planning and Environment website: water.dpie.nsw.gov.au

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