

Options and government commitments for the Macquarie-Castlereagh Regional Water Strategy

Warren Shire Council's Response

No.	Question	
1.	Table 1. Draft long list of options and government commitments matrix	
2.	Government commitment 1: A new mid-system re-regulating weir on the Macquarie River Comment –supported – refer to covering letter of Warren Shire Council's submission.	
3.	Government commitment 2: Access water from Burrendong Dam's deep storage Comment –Supported.	
4.	Option 3: Managed aquifer recharge investigations and policy Supported	
5.	Option 4: Improving town water security in the upper Macquarie unregulated river system Comment – Noted	
6.	Option 5: Drought protocols for Bathurst and Oberon town water supply Comment – Comment – Noted	
7.	Option 6: Inter-regional connections project investigation Comment – Do not support.	
8.	Option 7: Reuse, recycle and stormwater projects Comment – Support, greater effort should be made to catch and store all stormwater including roof and street runoff within the cities, towns and villages. All sewerage treatment works should be upgraded so as to refine the effluent to a usable state – even if only for the irrigation of recreation and sporting fields (Parks, Gardens, Ovals, Golf Courses, Showgrounds, Race Courses and etc.).	

No.	Question	
9.	<p>Option 8: Burrendong Dam to Nyngan pipeline Comment - No pipeline from Burrendong, but investigate pipeline from coming one of the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Upper Warren Weir to Nyngan and beyond, or b. A Warren Bore down the Old Warren Road to Nyngan and beyond. 	
10.	<p>Option 9: Pipeline from the proposed new mid-system weir near Gin Gin to Nyngan Comment – Not from Gin Gin. See Comments in Option 8 above. Mines have to be responsible for the recycling of their own water – That is recycled water from their sites and stormwater.</p>	
11.	<p>Option 10: Gunningbar Creek pipeline Comment – A better option would be to pipe the Albert Priest Channel and then create a new pipeline from the existing Nyngan to Cobar pipeline to the Tritton mine.</p>	
12.	<p>Option 11: Increase Burrendong Dam’s Full Supply Level Comment – We support this with a minimum of 120% of the full supply level.</p>	
13.	<p>Option 12: Increase outlet valve capacity at Burrendong Dam Supported</p>	
14.	<p>Option 13: Reliable access to groundwater by towns Support</p>	
15.	<p>Option 14: Address channel constraints to delivering environmental flows to the Macquarie Marshes Noted</p>	
16.	<p>Option 15: NSW Fish Passage Strategy Support – Particularly a fish passageway at the Warren Lower Weir.</p>	
17.	<p>Option 16: Introduce flow variability in the distributary (effluent) creeks Noted</p>	
18.	<p>Option 17: Determine the feasibility of delivering water to the Talga Wetland/ Overflow of the Lower Crooked Creek Noted</p>	

No.	Question	
19.	Option 18: Undertake channel works to reinstate natural channel profiles in selected streams in the southern Macquarie Marshes Noted	
20.	Option 19: Formalise channel sharing arrangements Noted	
21.	Option 20: Implement the Native Fish Restoration program Supported	
22.	Option 21: Diversion screens to prevent fish extraction at pump offtakes Noted	
23.	Option 22: Cold water pollution mitigation measures Noted	
24.	Option 23: Modification and/or removal of existing priority floodwork structures causing adverse impacts Noted	
25.	Option 24: Relieve flow constraints on the Cudgegong River at Rocky Waterhole Bridge Noted	
26.	Option 25: Improved understanding of groundwater processes Noted	
27.	Option 26: Sustainable access to groundwater Noted	
28.	Option 27: Improved clarity in managing groundwater resources sustainably Noted	
29.	Option 28: Investigation of water quality mitigation measures Noted	
30.	Option 29: River Ranger Program Noted	
31	Option 30: Secure flows for Beemunnel Aboriginal Place Noted.	

No.	Question	
32.	Option 31: Connectivity with downstream systems Maintain the status flow	
33.	Option 32: End of system efficient stock and domestic water delivery options See Options 8, 9 & 10 and supported in the Option 32 Description	
34.	Option 33: Enterprise water use efficiency programs Supported	
35.	Option 34: Market measures to support Dubbo's town water supply No comment	
36.	Option 35: Investigation of licence conversions Noted but ware there is still the same volume of available water	
37.	Option 36: New drought operational rules (Macquarie River) Supported provided that open communications are supported during dry periods	
38.	Option 37: Review of regulated river water accounting and allocation process Comment – Supported if Burrendong is maintained at 120%.	
39.	Option 38: Improved data collection and storage Comment – Supported	
40.	Option 39: Training and information sharing programs: - new climate data/modelling - managing groundwater resources sustainably Supported	
41.	Option 40: Investigation to maintain amenity for regional towns during drought Comment – A must. This may be assisted by adoption of the practices recommended in detailed in Option 7 above (Option 7: Reuse, recycle and stormwater projects).	
42.	Option 41: Land use change impact on water resources Noted	
43.	Option 42: Culturally appropriate water knowledge program Noted	

No.	Question	
44.	Option 43: Water-dependent cultural practices and site identification project Noted	
45.	Option 44: Shared benefit project (environment and cultural outcomes) Noted	
46.	Option 45: Regional Aboriginal Water Advisory Committee Noted	
47.	Option 46: Water portfolio project for Aboriginal communities Noted	
48.	Option 47: Aboriginal cultural water access licence review Comment -	
49.	Option 48: Co-management investigation of Travelling Stock Reserves Noted	
50.	Option 49: Regional Cultural Water Officer employment program Noted	
Options Not Progressed		
51.	Construction of Ulmarrah Dam Comment - It should be investigated.	
52.	Construction of a new dam on Bell river Comment - It should be investigated	
53.	Raise the Burrendong Dam wall by six metres Comment - It should be investigated	