Deferred Water Storage and Delivery Plan

Ref: DEW-D0031079

Prepared for Adoption from 1 June 2025

Purpose

Under Schedule G of the *Murray-Darling Basin Agreement 2008* (the Agreement), the Basin Officials Committee Member for South Australia must provide to the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA), New South Wales and Victoria by the first day of each month, a draft Deferred Water Storage and Delivery Plan (the Plan) for at least the following 12 months. The Plan contained herein fulfils South Australia's requirements under this Schedule.

Draft Plan Requirements

Under clause 7(1) in Schedule G of the Agreement, the Plan for at least the following 12 months is required to estimate the deferred water to be stored and delivered in each of those months under either:

   a) worst case inflow conditions; or
   b) other inflow conditions specified in the Plan.

It must:

   a) nominate how much of the deferred water held in storage at the commencement of the Plan is for the purpose of meeting critical human water needs (CHWN);
   b) for each month of the Plan, provide for the delivery of deferred water for the purpose of meeting either or both CHWN and private carryover;
   c) for each month of the Plan, nominate one or more preferred major storages in which water set aside as deferred water in that month might be stored;
   d) for each month of the Plan, nominate one or more preferred major storages from which deferred water might be delivered;
   e) for each month of the Plan, nominate any preferred transfers and substitutions of deferred water between major storages; and
   f) not provide for deferred water to be delivered in the same month as that water became deferred water.

Draft Deferred Water Storage and Delivery Plan

A summary of the volumes proposed by South Australia for deferral and delivery are presented in **Attachment B** and discussed in this Plan.

Plan Duration

This Plan has been prepared for the period 1 June 2025 to 31 May 2026 (12 months).

Inflow Assumption

This Plan is based on South Australia receiving its full Entitlement Flow of 1,850 gigalitres (GL) during 2024-25 and 2025-26. Should the inflow assumption outlined in this Plan not eventuate, South Australia may not defer and/or deliver the volumes of water identified in this Plan.

Expected Volume Held at Commencement of Plan

At the commencement of this Plan, it is expected that South Australia will hold a total volume of 152.37 GL of deferred Entitlement Flow (**Attachment A**). This is based on the MDBA confirmed 11 May 2025 volume (152.37 GL) and any planned or expected deferrals (0.0 GL), losses, spills and/or deliveries (0 GL) over the month of May 2025.

Deferred Water

The plan proposes to defer 187 GL from 1 June 2025 to 31 May 2026 (146 GL CHWN and 41 GL private carryover).

Delivery of Deferred Water

No requests for delivery of stored water are made in this plan.

Transfers and Substitutions

SA's preference is for the storage of deferred water to ultimately be in Dartmouth Dam. It is requested that the deferred water be moved from Lake Victoria to Hume Dam at the earliest possible convenience, until it can ultimately be moved to Dartmouth Dam.

Proposed Net Flow to South Australia

The net flow delivery at the South Australian border is to be delivered as outlined in the *Proposed SA Entitlement Volume for Deferral and Delivery* table in **Attachment B.**

Plan Review

As provided for in Schedule G of the Agreement, the Plan will be reviewed monthly and South Australia reserves the right to seek variation to any of the elements contained in this Plan if water resource availability conditions change.

DAN JORDAN

ACTING BASIN OFFICIALS COMMITTEE MEMBER, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Date: 28/05/2025

Attachment A

Draft Deferred Water Storage and Delivery Plan

Date effective: 1 June 2025 to 31 May 2026

Assumed Inflow Conditions: 1,850 GL

Expected Volume Held in Storage at commencement: 152.37 GL

South Australian Deferred Water in Dartmouth

Purpose	MDBA Advised Volume in Storage at 1 May 2025	Volume Deferred	Net evaporative loss	Volume Spilt	Volume Delivered	Expected Total Volume Held at 1 June 2025
CHWN	138.61 GL	0 GL	0.12 GL	0 GL	0 GL	138.61 GL
Private Carryover	0 GL	0 GL	0 GL	0 GL	0 GL	0 GL

South Australian Deferred Water in Hume

Purpose	MDBA Advised Volume in Storage at 1 May 2025	Volume Deferred	Net evaporative loss	Volume Spilt	Volume Delivered	Expected Total Volume Held at 1 June 2025
CHWN	0 GL	0 GL	0 GL	0 GL	0 GL	10.47 GL
Private Carryover	0 GL	0 GL	0 GL	0 GL	0 GL	3.29 GL

South Australian Deferred Water in Lake Victoria

Purpose	MDBA Advised Volume in Storage at 1 May 2025	Volume Deferred	Net evaporative loss	Volume Spilt	Volume Delivered	Expected Total Volume Held at 1 June 2025
CHWN	10.47 GL	0 GL	0.04GL	0 GL	0 GL	0 GL
Private Carryover	3.29 GL	0 GL	0 GL	0 GL	0 GL	0 GL

Draft Deferred Water Storage and Delivery Plan

Proposed SA Entitlement Volume for Deferral and Delivery*

MONTHLY DEFERRALS

	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Total
CHWN (GL)	7.5	6.6	9.2	10.5	13.1	14.4	18.3	18.3	15.7	14.4	10.5	7.5	**146**
PC (GL)	0.0	2.1	2.9	3.3	4.1	4.5	5.7	5.7	4.9	4.5	3.3	0	**41**
Preferred Storage	Dartmouth	Dartmouth	Dartmouth	Dartmouth	Dartmouth	Dartmouth	Dartmouth	Dartmouth	Dartmouth	Dartmouth	Dartmouth	Dartmouth	Dartmouth

MONTHLY DELIVERIES

	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Total
CHWN (GL)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	**0.0**
PC (GL)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	**0.0**
Preferred Storage	Lake Vic	Lake Vic	Lake Vic	Lake Vic	Lake Vic	Lake Vic	Lake Vic	Lake Vic	Lake Vic	Lake Vic	Lake Vic	Lake Vic	**0.0**

SA ENTITLEMENT FLOW

	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Total
Monthly Entitlement (GL)	90.0	108.5	124	135	170.5	180	217	217	194	186	135	93	**1850**
Adjusted Monthly Entitlement (GL)	82.5	99.8	111.9	121.2	153.3	161.1	193	193	173.4	167.1	121.2	85.5	**1663**

* assumes 1 850 GL delivery of Entitlement Flow during 2024-25 and 2025-26 (includes volumes to be deferred)