



NSW Government

Department of Water & Energy

Repayment of suspended water begins in the Murray Valley

28 August 2007

Licence holders within the Murray Lower Darling Water Sharing Plan area were today re-credited with 25 per cent of the water suspended in 2006 /07. Water would be re-credited to accounts immediately and be available for use.

Under arrangements that were endorsed by the Murray Valley Critical Water Advisory Group, survival water in the Murray Valley will continue for basic stock and domestic supply to Murray Irrigation Limited and for critical industries.

Critical or survival water applied for or received in September will be in addition to the re-credited water and will be debited from the licence-holders account at some time in the future.

All water in accounts is tradable and survival water to critical industries will be available for the remainder of the year.

Sufficient water is available to provide town water supply, under continuing Level 4 restrictions. Town water supply and domestic and stock will remain at of 0.5 per unit share or 50 per cent until water availability improves significantly.

While there has been some improvement in water availability the Murray Valley, the situation remains grim with inflows well below the long term average. All water users advised that it was important that water is used conservatively, especially the use of basic landholder rights.

Future information relating to the water availability in the Murray Valley will be made on the 15th of each month via the Murray Critical Water Communiqués available online.