



Mr Carl Binning
A/Chief Executive
Murray-Darling Basin Authority
GPO Box 1801
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Dear Mr Binning

Demonstration that Pre-requisite Policy Measures will be implemented in NSW by 30 June 2019

Pre-requisite Policy Measures (PPMs) are a requirement of the Basin Plan and must be in effect by 30 June 2019. In NSW, PPMs are to be implemented in the Murrumbidgee and NSW Murray and Lower Darling regulated rivers.

PPMs will be implemented within NSW via the NSW PPM Implementation Plan (endorsed by the MDBA in 2019). Enabling provisions to provide statutory support for PPMs have been drafted for the two respective water sharing plans (*Water Sharing Plan for the Murrumbidgee Regulated River Water Source 2016* and the *Water Sharing Plan for the New South Wales Murray and Lower Darling Regulated Rivers Water Sources 2016*). These plan amendments are expected to be gazetted in early 2020. Amendments to the two relevant water supply work approvals will provide further support for the operation of PPMs by the river operator. Work approval amendments will occur once WSP enabling provisions are in place.

NSW has developed valley specific PPM Procedures Manuals. These Manuals codify the operation of PPMs in the Murrumbidgee and the NSW Murray and Lower Darling regulated river water sources. The Manuals identify the processes and procedures for undertaking PPMs, establish the roles and responsibility and describe the adaptive management framework to provide for continuous improvement. The Manuals also describe how PPMs are currently operable via the BOC-endorsed arrangements in the River Murray System, and through the bulk entitlement delivery (BED) mechanism provided for under the Murray-Darling Basin Agreement (clause 98).

This letter, signed by the key agencies responsible for water planning, policy, operations and environmental water planning and management in NSW, confirms that, as of 30 June 2019, PPMs can be implemented in NSW via the processes described in the Procedures Manuals. This letter also confirms NSW's commitment to implementing PPMs, as required under the Basin Plan and articulated in the Inter-Governmental Agreement to ensure the effective and efficient delivery of environmental water.

NSW understands that successful implementation of the PPMs is critical to meet Basin Plan objectives. NSW is committed to a program of continual improvement that includes a rigorous annual review process and the establishment of an inter-agency PPM Working Group which will include the Commonwealth Environmental Water Office. The

PPM Working Group will provide advice on the operation, implementation, review and improvement of PPMs in NSW.

This letter is intended to be effective from 1 July 2019 until the new clauses in the relevant WSPs are gazetted and amendments to the Water Supply Work Approvals are in place.

Yours sincerely



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