



Thursday, 8 March 2012

## Lachlan valley general security accounts to be reset to 136 percent

NSW Water Commissioner David Harriss today announced an “account reset” for all general security surface water licence holders in the regulated Lachlan valley.

Accounts will be reset to 136 percent of entitlement as is required under the rules in the Water Sharing Plan.

“Rainfall received across the catchment over the last week has caused Wyangala Dam to fill and spill for the first time in more than a decade,” he said.

“This is also the first time that a physical spill of the dam has occurred under Water Sharing Plan rules.”

“Accordingly, all water in general security accounts will be withdrawn and accounts re-credited with 136 percent of entitlement”.

Mr Harriss reminded users that only water in class A sub-accounts could be used this water year.

Wyangala Dam is currently being managed under flood operations and will be drawn down to full supply level at the end of the flood event.

“At 100 percent of capacity the dam holds 1,220,000 megalitres,” he said.

“This increase in resource availability also allows a full allocation to the conveyance accounts, equal to 17,911 megalitres.”

The seasonal rainfall outlook from the Bureau of Meteorology this autumn is for a 60 percent chance of wetter than average conditions.

“The current high allocations resulting from full storages are likely to provide at least two years of productive water use in the Lachlan valley”, Mr Harriss added.

The NSW Office of Water will make further allocation announcements for general security access licence holders only once allocated water is consumed and new storable inflows fill the resulting airspace.

Additional information on Available Water Determinations is available on the NSW Office of Water’s website at - [www.water.nsw.gov.au](http://www.water.nsw.gov.au)

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