



# Environment Policy Statement

*To provide outstanding water services to all customers.*

Goulburn-Murray Water (G-MW) manages water related services including storage, delivery and drainage systems within a region of 68,000 square kilometres across Northern Victoria. This brings with it the challenge of balancing water management needs, expectations and impacts. In line with our mission, G-MW will strive to:

**1. Minimise our impacts**

To minimise or prevent adverse environmental impacts of our activities and meet associated environmental regulatory obligations, G-MW will:

- Apply a risk based approach to achieve compliance and continual improvement.
- Strengthen triple bottom line expectations on projects and contractors.
- Monitor, measure and report our environmental performance.

**2. Mitigate threats to delivering water services**

G-MW operates water systems within open catchments which host a range of public and land use activities. To mitigate environmental threats to the delivery of water services from these activities and other physical climatic changes, G-MW will:

- Set and communicate consistent standards to encourage sound environmental management practices.
- Build and utilise our understanding of water management impacts to improve operational practices.
- Establish clear arrangements with stakeholders where responsibilities for activities are shared with G-MW.

**3. Maintain strategic involvement**

Water management involves multiple stakeholders and therefore G-MW will:

- Optimise stakeholder networks and partnerships to anticipate and prepare for future environmental changes that will impact on the delivery of water services.
- Target stakeholder engagement to influence catchment outcomes of benefit to G-MW activities and increase stakeholder confidence.
- Capitalise on our expertise to deliver programs that contribute to reducing the region's irrigation environmental footprint.



Stephen Mills  
CHAIRMAN



David Stewart  
MANAGING DIRECTOR  
Goulburn-Murray Water, March 2009