



# 2011/12 Ballot

- Quick recap of last year's ballot
- Overview
- Lodgement rules and procedures
- Audit procedures
- Processing of ballot applications
- Consideration of 4% rule - and exemptions
- Common issues leading to delays

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# Re-Cap of 2010/11 Ballot

Number of Applications	High Reliability	Low Reliability	% of total	Total
Approved (no exemption)*	484	70	63%	554
Approved with exemption	38	15	6%	53
Refused	262	0	30%	262
Expired/ withdrawn	7	1	1%	8
<b>TOTAL BALLOTED</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>877</b>

- 12 July 2010 - Ballot is conducted
- 16 July 2010 - processing commenced.
- 12 August 2010 - High Reliability 4% Limits reached in Torrumbarry, Central Goulburn and Rochester.
- 25 August 2010 - High Reliability 4% limits reached in Pyramid-Boort, Murray Valley and Shepparton.
- Ballot processing completed by early September.
- Post ballot audit conducted in November - confirmed applications processed in balloted order.

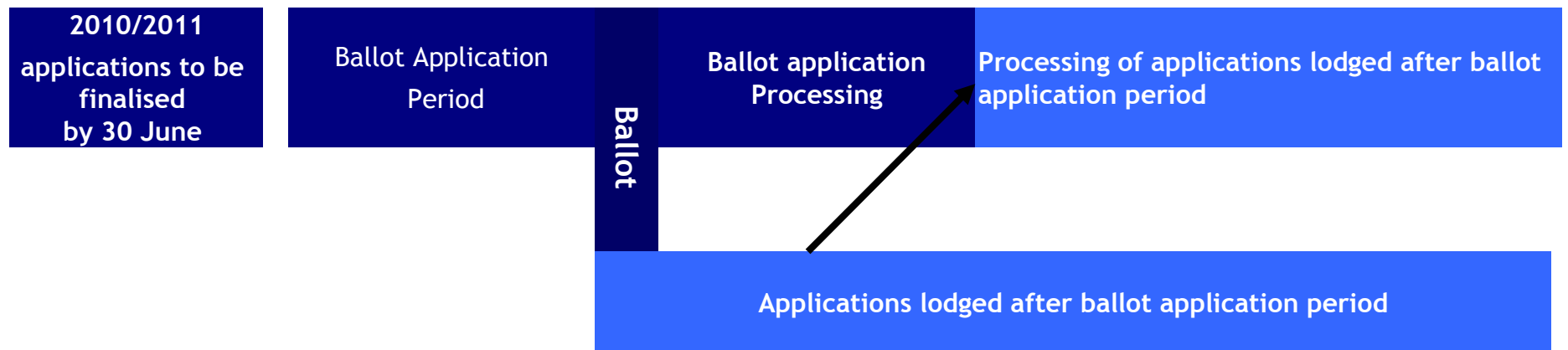




# Overview

## APPLICATIONS WHICH INTERACT WITH THE 4% LIMITS

(Applications which will result in a change to the existing association with an irrigation area )



## APPLICATIONS WHICH DO NOT INTERACT WITH THE 4% LIMITS

(Applications either not changing association with Irrigation Area, or which do not have an association with irrigation area)





# Ballot Processing Queue

Applications which interact with 4% limits.

**Must be lodged during ballot application period**

**Processed in the order established by the ballot**

**Includes applications to trade-out:**

- Transfer the ownership of a water share to another party who seeks to either associate it with a different irrigation area, or remove any association with an irrigation area.
- Vary a water share and associate/ dissociate or alter the current association with an irrigation area
- Transfer the ownership of a water share to the Commonwealth Govt (or another eligible environment purchaser) where evidence of an exemption from the 4% limit has been provided.

**Includes applications to trade-in**

- Transfer the ownership of a water share which is currently not associated with an irrigation area to another party who seeks to associate it with an irrigation area.
- Vary a water share which is currently not associated with an irrigation area to associate it with an irrigation area



# Standard Processing Queue

Applications which do not interact with 4% limits

**Applications can be lodged at any time.**

**Processed in the order they are received.**

**Includes applications which will not alter the current association between the water share and an irrigation area.**

- Transfer the ownership of a water share to another party who wishes to associate it with the same land or with other land in the same irrigation area.
- Vary a water share and associate it with land within the same irrigation area.
- All other applications where the association of a water share does not change (ie division, consolidation, amalgamation of ABA , LTT etc)

**Includes applications relating to water shares with no irrigation area association.**

- Transfer the ownership of a water share which is currently not associated to an irrigation area to another party who does not wish to associate it with an irrigation area. (such as water shares held by river diverters and non-water users)

# Ballot rules and procedures

## Exemptions to 4% rule

### Why are exempt applications included in the ballot?

- Approval of an exemption to the 4% rule is conditional upon meeting the requirements under the trading rules.
- For NVIRP and Farm Efficiency exemptions the requirements include:
  - Verification of the authenticity of the exemption notice & confirmation that the exemption and the water share are in the same name.
  - For NVIRP exemptions - verification that the water share has been associated to the same land for at least 12 months
- If the exemption cannot be verified, the application must be assessed against the 4%.

# Water Share Associated with an Irrigation Area and a Water Use Licence

## COPY OF RECORD IN THE VICTORIAN WATER REGISTER

### WATER SHARE

Water Act 1989

The information in this copy of record is as recorded at the time of printing. Current information should be obtained by a search of the register. The State of Victoria does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of this information and accepts no responsibility for any subsequent release, publication or reproduction of this information.

#### Water Share Description

Status	Active
Volume	899.8 megalitres
Water authority	Goulburn-Murray Water
Water system source	Murray
Water system type	Regulated
Reliability class	High
Trading zone source	7 VIC Murray - Barmah to SA
Trading zone use	7 VIC Murray - Barmah to SA
Delivery system	Torrumbarry Irrigation Area
Tenure	Ongoing
Tradability	Tradable
Carryover allowed	Yes

Associated to  
Torrumbarry  
Irrigation Area

#### Current Year Allocation

Carryover at 1 July:	487.545 ML
Advance allocation since 1 July:	0.000 ML
Seasonal allocation since 1 July:	899.800 ML
Total allocation to date:	1387.345 ML
Possible future allocation to 30 June:	0.000 ML

#### Water Share Owner(s)

Sole Owner 1 of 1

Associated with a Water Use Licence

#### Water Share Association

##### Water use reference(s)

Water use ref	Status	Type	Annual use limit (ML)
WUJ	Active	Use licence	1431.4

# Water Share associated to an Irrigation Area but not a water-use licence

## COPY OF RECORD IN THE VICTORIAN WATER REGISTER

### WATER SHARE

*Water Act 1989*

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#### Water Share Description

Status	Active
Volume	54.0 megalitres
Water authority	Goulburn-Murray Water
Water system source	Goulburn
Water system type	Regulated
Reliability class	High
Trading zone source	1A Greater Goulburn
Trading zone use	1A Greater Goulburn
Delivery system	Shepparton Irrigation Area
Tenure	Ongoing
Tradability	Tradable
Carryover allowed	Yes

Associated with the Shepparton Irrigation Area

#### Current Year Allocation

Carryover at 1 July:	0.000 ML
Advance allocation since 1 July:	0.000 ML
Seasonal allocation since 1 July:	54.000 ML
Total allocation to date:	54.000 ML
Possible future allocation to 30 June:	0.000 ML

#### Water Share Owner(s)

Joint owner 1 of 1

Not associated with a Water Use Licence

#### Water Share Association

Not associated

# Water Share not associated to an Irrigation Area

## COPY OF RECORD IN THE VICTORIAN WATER REGISTER

### WATER SHARE

*Water Act 1989*

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#### Water Share Description

Status	Active
Volume	276.0 megalitres
Water authority	Goulburn-Murray Water
Water system source	Murray
Water system type	Regulated
Reliability class	High
Trading zone source	6 VIC Murray - Dart to Barmah
Trading zone use	<del>6 VIC Murray - Dart to Barmah</del>
Delivery system	Non Water User Limit
Tenure	Ongoing
Tradability	Tradable
Carryover allowed	Yes

No delivery system  
Held as non-water user

#### Current Year Allocation

Carryover at 1 July:	0.000 ML
Advance allocation since 1 July:	0.000 ML
Seasonal allocation since 1 July:	276.000 ML
Total allocation to date:	276.000 ML
Possible future allocation to 30 June:	0.000 ML

#### Water Share Owner(s)

Sole Owner 1 of 1

Not associated with a Water Use Licence

#### Water Share Association

Not associated



# 2011/12 Ballot

## Lodgement rules and procedures

### Lodging Applications:

- *By mail/DX/courier:*
  - PO Box 165, Tatura 3616
  - DX32951
  - From Monday 20 June to Friday 8 July 2011.
- *In person:*
  - G-MW office at Tatura or G-MW Area offices:  
Kerang, Pyramid Hill, Rochester, Shepparton, Cobram
  - Must be received over the counter (date stamped by a G-MW officer)
  - From Monday 20 June to 4.00pm on Friday 8 July 2011.
- Lodgement by fax/email is not accepted.



# Ballot rules and procedures

## Lodgement rules and procedures

### Acknowledgement of Applications

- On receipt of all applications lodged during the ballot acceptance period a receipt letter will be issued to applicants/ lodging parties
- This letter will not confirm whether the application is correct or complete or if requirements are missing - but...
  - G-MW will check that an application fee is attached
  - if not attached, G-MW will request payment of the application fee.
  - If application fee is not received by 4pm on Friday 8 July, the application will not be included in the ballot.



# Ballot rules and procedures

## Lodgement rules and procedures

### And... for applications to transfer water shares (Form 1 or 3)

- G-MW will provide details to the applicant about any current unpaid or outstanding Entitlement Storage Fees and:
  - For applications received prior to 1 July 2011 G-MW will provide an estimate the 2011/12 fees payable.
  - For applications received after 1 July 2011 G-MW will include the actual 2011/12 fees payable
- Outstanding water share charges will be listed on the ballot acknowledgement letter.
- A small number of water shares will have Spill Water Account charges payable for 2010/11 - this will be on the schedule provided if applicable.



# Ballot rules and procedures

## Completing applications

- Applications must be *correct and complete* to be considered for approval.
- G-MW actively encourages applicants to seek advice and assistance from professional & experienced service providers.
- The following are available to download from [www.waterregister.vic.gov.au](http://www.waterregister.vic.gov.au) or [www.g-mwater.com.au](http://www.g-mwater.com.au)
  - Application forms
  - Schedule of application fees
  - 100 Point Identity check for water share owners (and explanatory note)
  - Statutory Declaration and Consent of landowner form
  - Fact Sheets and rules for the ballot

The logo for Goulburn-Murray Water is located in the top left corner. It consists of a white circle containing the text "GOULBURN-MURRAY" in a small, black, sans-serif font above the word "WATER" in a larger, bold, black, sans-serif font. Below the text is a stylized blue wave graphic with three peaks.

GOULBURN-MURRAY  
WATER

# Ballot rules and procedures

## Ballot Process

**The ballot will take place on Wednesday 13 July 2011 at the Tatura office**

- **Separate ballots for G-MW High Rel Water shares & Low Rel Water Shares**
  - **And for Lower Murray Water High and Low if required (no need in 2010).**
- **An independent auditor and observer (customer rep) attend ballot**
- **Auditor checks all applications received have been included in the ballot and a unique number allocated to each application.**



# Ballot rules and procedures

## Audit procedures

- Auditor operates the system to set the ballot order. Once set, the auditor locks this order.
- G-MW's ballot system enforces the approval/refusal of applications in balloted order, effectively preventing a decision made 'out of order'.
- When processing is complete an independent auditor will review the final order of processing to verify that applications were approved in ballot order.

## Batch Entry - Water Shares

Batch ID: WS0044 Batch Type: Water Share Batch Status: Closed Batch Received: 1/07/2010 8:00:00 AM  
 Batch Name: 2010/11 Ballot G-MW High Reliability Set Scan Time

Application Entry Scanning & Profiling

Ballot Order	Type	Appl ID	DM Barcode	Status	Recommendation	Reliability	Batch	Locking Status	DM
1	Transfer	WEV014280	0460636	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
2	Transfer	WET016718	0460596	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
3	Transfer	WET156448	0460299	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
4	Divide & Tra	WDT090282	0460616	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
5	Transfer	WET048001	0459811	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
6	Divide & Tra	WDT090180	0460209	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
7	Divide & Tra	WDT152854	0460646	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
8	Transfer	WET156276	0460436	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
9	Transfer	WET155590	0460523	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
10	Divide & Tra	WDT090221	0460353	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
11	Transfer	WET156058	0460105	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
12	Divide & Tra	WDT090287	0460212	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
13	Divide & Tra	WDT090037	0459887	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
14	Divide & Tra	WDT152980	0460557	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
15	Divide & Tra	WDT090333	0460625	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
16	Transfer	WET155969	0460280	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
17	Divide & Tra	WDT090231	0460249	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
18	Divide & Tra	WDT151114	0459881	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
19	Divide & Tra	WDT090107	0460009	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€
20	Divide & Tra	WDT151034	0459917	Approved	Approve	High	WS0044		2€

# Ballot rules and procedures

## Incorrect or incomplete applications

### Temporary removal from the queue

- If an application is incorrect, incomplete, or there are unpaid water share charges from 2011/12 or prior, it will be removed from the processing queue and given a status of “With Applicant”.
  - Applicants and lodging parties will be sent a notification letter.
  - If an email address is provided a copy of the letter will be sent by email.
- Space WILL NOT be reserved for the application under the 4% limit if it is placed “With Applicant”.
- G-MW cannot take responsibility for delays in mail being received by applicants or lodging parties or if emails are not received.

### Re-joining the queue

- If an application issue is resolved by 12.00 noon on a given day, the application will be placed in a batch for processing before ballot applications the next day.
- This does not mean that the application will be approved on the day it is received - it may take some days for the application to reach the approval stage.



# Ballot rules and procedures

How the 4% limit is considered.

## Processing officer steps:

- Step 1: Processing officer determines if any exemption to 4% has been provided.
- Step 2: If exemption is not provided or is invalid, the processing officer generates the 4% report from the Water Register website.
- Step 3: If there is space under 4% or the exemption is accepted they will recommend approval, if not they will recommend refusal.

## Approval officer steps

- Step 1: Approving officer reviews the recommendation for each application in ballot order, if there is no valid exemption they will generate the 4% report immediately prior to approval.
- Step 2: If space is available under 4% limit the approval officer will approve the application. If space is no longer available they will refuse.



# Ballot rules and procedures

4% is a net limit

- It is possible that after some applications are refused due to the 4% limit, space may become available.
- This can occur as a result of -
  - Approval of a subsequent application to trade or associate water shares to an irrigation area (i.e. trade-in); or
  - The rejection by the Registrar of an application to record an earlier approved trade-out application.
- Any new opportunity created from one of the above will be available to the next application in line to be approved.
  - The approval officer will only see the availability when generating the 4% report.
  - These opportunities are solely determined by the balloted order of processing.



# Ballot rules and procedures

## Approval of applications

- Applicants (and lodging party) will be notified by mail of G-MW's decision to either approve or refuse an application.
- If the application is refused due to the 4% limit being exceeded the application fee will be refunded.
- This application form cannot be resubmitted, but a new application form can be submitted if the parties wish to proceed with the application at a later stage.

# Ballot rules and procedures

## Communication about status of 4% limits

### General Communication (other than with applicants & lodging parties)

- As processing progresses, G-MW will communicate regularly with the media about the status of processing and the 4% limits.
- As all applications for the ballot are processed in the Water Register, the live report available at [www.waterregister.vic.gov.au](http://www.waterregister.vic.gov.au) will accurately reflect the status of the 4% as applications are approved.
- The water register report will also indicate the volume of water shares which have been approved with an exemption to the 4% as these applications are approved.



# Ballot rules and procedures

## Most common reason for delays

1. (By far) Unpaid Water Entitlement Storage Charges
2. 100 Point checks not completed for all sellers or not completed correctly.
3. Company Extracts not provided where water shares are in (or to be in) the name of a company
4. All signatures for buyers and sellers not included on forms
5. Incorrect WEE provided - cancelled as a result of a prior transaction, or sometimes an ABA, property number or WUL listed as the WEE.
6. The application form requests that the water share is associated with a water use licence or ABA but does not provide the number/s.
7. Requirements not submitted for statutory declarations or Consent of landowner forms.