



# Summary Information Sheet

Board Meeting 155

Held at Tatura on Wednesday 12 December 2007

## *A summary of information and deliberations*

### PRESENT:

**Stephen Mills**  
Chairman

**Craig Cook**  
Deputy Chairman

**John Brooke OAM**  
Director

**Russell Cooper**  
Managing Director

**Peter Fitzgerald**  
Director

**Claire Penniceard**  
Director

**Des Powell**  
Director

**Catherine Scott**  
Director

**Peter Guy**  
Executive Manager  
Business & Finance

**Brian Carr**  
Corporate Secretary

*For queries regarding this information sheet, please contact Brian Carr on telephone No. 03 5833 5550 or email [brianc@g-mwater.com.au](mailto:brianc@g-mwater.com.au)*

*The next Board meeting will be held at Tatura on Wednesday 23 January 2007.*

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### **Water Resource Issues**

The Board considered a report on the water resource position, noting an update on allocations and the climatic outlook through to February. The Board also noted a report on low volumes delivered so far this season which, with regard to the Goulburn system, could pose difficulties and perhaps the need for rostering if late season demand exceeds supply capacity from the Waranga Basin pumps. Management presented a number of Goulburn system modelling scenarios to the Board and will be closely monitoring the demand situation.

A detailed outlook for the 2008/09 season will be prepared for release in February.

### **Foodbowl Modernisation Project**

An update on this project was noted by the Board (an announcement on the project was subsequently made by the Minister for Water on 19 December).

### **CG1234 and Shepparton Modernisation Projects**

The CG1234 and Shepparton Modernisation projects have been combined for implementation purposes and form the basis of work to be carried out via a proposed project alliance partnership.

Expressions of interest have been invited for the formation of the proposed alliance. The Board noted a report of progress to date and the next steps to be taken. Tentative arrangements have been made for the Board to consider approval of a preferred consortium for the project alliance at its meeting to be held on 23 January.

### **State Observation Monitoring Bore Network**

The Board approved the basis of a proposal under which G-MW would manage the augmentation of the State observation bore network for DSE, being work to install new bores and maintain existing. The project follows extensive investigative work carried out by DSE which identifies improvement needs for groundwater monitoring networks in priority areas.

### **Groundwater Bores**

The Board noted a report on the differing requirements for metering of groundwater use, being dependent on the purpose of use, whether the bore is located in a groundwater management plan area, the date a licence was first issued, and the volume of the licensed entitlement. G-MW manages groundwater within its region under delegated authority from the Minister for Water and in accordance with DSE guidelines.

The Board also addressed a report on groundwater bores in urban areas, noting that this is a wider public policy issue which needs to be considered in an overall state-wide context. G-MW has had preliminary discussion with DSE in this regard.

### **Water Districts 2007/08 Supply Restrictions**

Supplies to Water Districts (Normanville, East Loddon, West Loddon and Tungamah) are restricted when announced allocations on the particular source of supply are less than 100%. The Board noted a report on the level of restrictions as they currently apply, in varying degrees, in each of the four Water Districts.

### **Research and Development Program**

The Board approved G-MW's 2008/09 R&D program including discretionary funding of \$502,500 for new R&D projects.

### **Water Services Committees**

The Chairman reported on the WSC Leadership meeting held at Tatura on Monday 10 December, attended by WSC Chairs and Deputies. It was also attended by David Downie, General Manager of the Office of Water, DSE, who reported on a number of aspects relating to the Foodbowl Modernisation Project.



An induction day for recently appointed WSC members was conducted at Tatura on 31 October. The Board noted a report on the induction day and considered comment provided by participants; this feedback will be taken into account in planning similar sessions in the future.

*WSC members at 31 October WSC induction session with Director Peter Fitzgerald and Managing Director Russell Cooper (first and second from left)*

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G-MW is pleased to see a degree of membership renewal in each of the WSCs, bringing different and fresh perspectives to the committees; in addition an element of turnover allows a greater number of people to gain a valuable exposure to the deliberations and workings of the corporation.

**Board Committees**

Membership of the Board's Financial and Management Audit Committee was extended to include Peter Fitzgerald and Claire Penniceard; the compliance monitoring of this committee will also be extended to include, amongst other things, Occupational Health and Safety and environmental management. In this regard the Board's Safety and Environment Committee will now be disbanded.

**REPORTS**

The Board also addressed further reports:

- Financial report.
- Project reports.
- Stakeholder relations.
- Murray Bulk Entitlement amendment.
- Lake Mokoan.
- Establishment of eWater Innovation.
- Meeting of the International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD).
- Yarrowonga-Bundalong Foreshore Masterplan.
- Proposed works at Kimbolton precinct, Lake Eppalock.

Brian Carr  
CORPORATE SECRETARY

Russell Cooper  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

20 December 2007