

Broken Reconfiguration Feasibility Study

Consultative Committee Meeting Summary (December 2023)

What was discussed

- Recent Community Engagement effort – what was done, who was reached, what was heard, how insights will inform the study and next steps.
- An update on preliminary options assessment – what are the shortlisted options and where do these options align with what was heard from water users and community.
- A zone-by-zone review of the data available including service locations, high and low reliability water shares held in each zone, irrigation use and D&S use etc.
- Zone based scenario approach to pulling together zone characteristics, applying suitable options and recognising information gaps.
- The multi-criteria evaluation framework to be used for zone-based scenarios.
- Changes to Basin Plan following passing of the Commonwealth Legislation.

What we heard

- Climate change predictions need to dive deeper into reliability consequences.
- Prefer to avoid assessing options that have been previously considered where they divert resources from considering new options.
- Equity issues are still topical within community.
- Need to prioritise conversation with Traditional Owners so their views can be understood early enough to shape options development.
- Happy with the level of rigour being applied to option assessments given the complex nature of the Broken.
- Would like to understand levels of trade for each zone and usage groups.
- Acceptance from irrigators needs to be considered in planning.

Next Steps

- Launch map-based community commentary tool on BRFS project page.
- Develop draft zone-based suites of options.
- Conduct social impact assessment.
- Present options feasibility assessment back to the Consultative Committee (Feb 2024).
- Plan 2024 community engagement to test draft options as they are developed.

To find out more about the Broken Reconfiguration Feasibility Study or its Consultative Committee, go to yoursay.gmwater.com.au/brfs or contact Goulburn-Murray Water Diversions Services East Manager Stephen Gemmill on reception@gmwater.com.au or **1800 013 357**.

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