

2 November 2007

RL:gg
Assessment No:

Name
Address
Town

Dear Sir/Madam

IMPORTANT ADVICE ON WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

This letter is to advise you that the Board of Lower Murray Water (LMW) resolved, at its meeting of 23 October 2007, that pursuant to Section 143(1)(a) of the Water Act, 1989, usage of water for purposes other than those listed in the attached Appendix 1 constitutes a waste and misuse of water until further notice. The Board has resolved to take this action due to the continued drought in the Murray Darling Basin.

Only those water uses listed in Appendix 1 are permitted. All other uses eg; watering of lawns etc, are prohibited.

Such misuse may result in prosecution and liability for penalties if convicted under the Water Act including:

- For a first offence, up to 20 penalty units or imprisonment for 3 months.
- For subsequent offence, up to 40 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.
- For a continuing offence, an additional penalty of up to 5 penalty units for each day on which the offence continues.

Note that a penalty unit is \$110.12 as at 1st November 2007.

The permitted uses are the same as those that are in place for all urban townships services by LMW.

Domestic and Stock (D&S) customers are advised that they must comply with seasonal allocations as the Ministerial Qualification of water rights has now ended. As at Thursday 1st November 2007, the seasonal allocation is 20%. This means that a customer with a 2 megalitre (ML) water share is only permitted to use 20% of this volume i.e. $20\% \times 2 \text{ ML} = 0.4 \text{ ML}$ (400KL) for the current season until 30 June 2008. This amount will vary in line with any variations in the seasonal allocation. In addition metered D&S customers that have carryover are permitted to use the amount of carryover for any of the purposes set out in Appendix 1

If you exceed your entitlement, including any carryover, then you are required to trade allocation to cover any overuse. Any overuse will be penalised at the rate of \$2,000 per ML at 30th June 2008.

Should you have any queries please contact Keith Thomson on 5051 3420 or Peter Ebner on 5051 072.

Yours faithfully



RON LEAMON
MANAGING DIRECTOR

APPENDIX 1

Permitted Uses of Water within Allocated Volume

Applies to:

All Water Act - Section 51, Take and Use Licences, as issued for the purposes of irrigation of commercial crops, industrial and stock and domestic uses.

All irrigation, industrial and stock and domestic uses for customers within the Irrigation Districts of Red Cliffs, Merbein and Robinvale.

Permitted Uses:

1. For the purpose of Irrigation:
 - For irrigating commercial crops and associated activities
2. For the following commercial and industrial uses:
 - Watering of animals in intensive animal industries
 - Washdown
 - Cleaning
 - Cooling
 - Dust suppression
 - Manufacturing and processing
3. For the purpose of domestic and stock use as follows:
 - In-house household purposes
 - Watering of animals as kept as pets
 - Watering of cattle and other stock
 - Fire fighting
4. Watering of gardens and trees with water, regardless of the means of supply to the property, and then only by means of a hand held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle between the hours of 7.00pm and 8.00pm on the days set out below:
 - Saturday and Tuesday for properties with either an even street address or if no street address applies then with an even assessment number as shown on the front of this letter.
 - Sunday and Wednesday for properties with either an odd street address or if no street address applies then with an odd assessment number as shown on the front of this letter.

Watering manually by means of a hand carried bucket filled directly from a tap is permitted at any time.

Note: No watering of lawns is permitted at any time.
5. Watering of lawn tennis courts, golf courses, public sports grounds and other recreational areas, eg school sporting grounds, with non-potable water is permitted at any time.
6. Specific exemptions as granted by the Corporation.