

## EXTRACTED FROM:

Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (Cth), *Murray-Darling Basin Water Infrastructure Program* (29 November 2018)

<<http://www.agriculture.gov.au/water/mdb/programs/basin-wide/mdbwi-program>>

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# Murray—Darling Basin Water Infrastructure Program

*Latest outcomes from the Ministerial Council meeting on 14 December 2018*

On 14 December 2018 the Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial Council agreed to additional socio-economic criteria and the associated assessment to be adopted for the Program.

In accordance with clause 10(A)(n) of the Request for Tender (RFT 2018-29076) for the Murray-Darling Basin Water Infrastructure Program 2018-2024 Delivery Partner Stream, and with clause 10(A)(m) of the Request for Tender (RFT 2018-29077) for the Murray-Darling Basin Water Infrastructure Program 2018-2024 Project Partner Stream, the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources has cancelled these RFT processes.

The Department will refine aspects of the requirements that were outlined in both the Requests for Tender and will advise the market in due course of future actions in relation to the Murray-Darling Basin Water Infrastructure Program.

Tender Round 6 has been cancelled as of 9:15am (AEDT) 18 December 2018.

- Download the [Efficiency Measures - agreed criteria PDF](#) (294 KB)
- Download the [independent Seftons' report on the public consultation PDF](#) (8.4 MB)
- Read the [Ministerial Council Communique](#).

*Tenders open*

No tenders are currently open.

*Webinar*

[Learn more about our Webinars.](#)

*Your feedback*

We recently sought your feedback on additional criteria for water efficiency projects. This included public meetings, a webinar and an online survey.

[Read more about our recent consultation.](#)

## The program

## **Further information about the program will be available in early 2019**

Funding to upgrade water efficiency infrastructure in the Murray–Darling Basin.

Helping eligible water rights holders improve their water efficiency. To return more water to the Basin and meet our targets under the Basin Plan.

We will fund eligible projects aimed at saving water in the Murray–Darling Basin with neutral or positive social and economic impact.

You will:

- return an agreed volume of water rights to the Australian Government
- keep any extra water savings that the project generates.

Project funding is 1.75 times the current market value of the water rights you will transfer. Read more about [how we value water rights](#).

## **Who can apply**

You can apply as a project partner or a delivery partner.

### **A Project partner is:**

- an eligible water rights holder or their agent
- with a project valued over \$1 million.

### **A Delivery partner is:**

- an organisation, or local, state or territory government
- who helps eligible water rights holders design and deliver their projects
- Delivery partners can manage projects of any size.

Water rights holders with a project under \$1 million must apply through a delivery partner. [Find a delivery partner](#).

## **Water rights**

Eligible water rights are:

- rights to exclusive access to a share of the surface water resources of a water resource plan area or other water management area
- able to be permanently traded, or transferred, to the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder
- free from encumbrances when the rights would be transferred
- located within a water resource plan area identified in Basin Plan 2012 (Chapter 3, Part 2 s3.05)
- owned by an Eligible Participant
- suitable for use by the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder to achieve environmental benefits.

The most common eligible water right is a water access entitlement. For example, a South Australian River Murray Class 3a Water Access Entitlement.

## Eligible Participants

An eligible participant is someone who owns a water right and is capable of transferring that water to the Commonwealth under a contract to do efficiency works to achieve water savings.

## Eligible Activities

Projects must have neutral or positive socio-economic outcomes.

Projects must meet minimum water savings targets. These are:

- 10ML for projects delivered by a delivery partner
- 100ML for projects delivered by a project partner.

Delivery partners can seek approval for a 3ML target, only if water savings will be consolidated on their own licence and transferred in bulk.

There are 5 project streams. See examples of eligible activities in each stream

### [\[expand all\]](#)

#### [Urban water efficiency projects](#)

Includes:

- better urban metering technology
- demand management
- reduced leakage
- sewerage processing practices
- stormwater capture and recycling
- water recycling.
- [Download the full list of eligible projects](#)

#### [Industrial water efficiency projects](#)

Includes:

- improved processing practices
- plant upgrades
- processing or product redesign and implementation
- water recycling.
- [Download the full list of eligible projects](#)

#### [Off-farm projects](#)

Includes:

- channel systems

- dams and water storage
- stock and domestic pipelines.
- [Download the full list of eligible projects](#)

### [Metering projects](#)

Includes:

- flow regulation infrastructure
- upgrading meters to comply with the Australian Standard.
- [Download the full list of eligible projects](#)

### [On-farm projects](#)



**In Queensland, South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory only.**

Includes:

- replacing open channels with pipes
- using smarter technology to reduce overwatering
- water delivery infrastructure.
- [Download the full list of eligible projects](#)

Download

Read our full list of eligible activities:

| Document   | Pages | File size |
|--|-------|-----------|
| <a href="#">Murray-Darling Basin Water Infrastructure Program - eligible projects DOCX</a>  | 5     | 835 KB    |
| <a href="#">Murray-Darling Basin Water Infrastructure Program - eligible projects PDF</a>   | 5     | 452 KB    |

If you have difficulty accessing these files, visit [web accessibility](#) for assistance.

## **Water valuation**



Read more about how we value water rights.

Our approach will:

- establish a market value for each eligible water right based on contemporary market prices
- help you develop your project proposal and determine likely project funding level
- inform our evaluation of project proposals (particularly value for money).

Download

Our policy on water valuation.

| Document   | Pages | File size |
|--|-------|-----------|
| <a href="#">Murray-Darling Basin Water Infrastructure Program – approach to water valuations DOCX</a><br> | 3     | 831 KB    |
| <a href="#">Murray-Darling Basin Water Infrastructure Program – approach to water valuations PDF</a><br>  | 3     | 350 KB    |

If you have difficulty accessing these files, visit [web accessibility](#) for assistance.

## Current delivery partners

We publish details of all approved delivery partners. These details will also be published on AusTender.

## Approved projects

We will publish details of all approved projects. Contract details will also be published on AusTender.

Details will include:

- name of the project owner
- name of delivery partner (if applicable)
- start date
- end date
- program stream
- location
- value of the project
- water price per megalitre
- volume of water (nominal)
- volume of water (long term average annual yield).