

AAT AGM 20/09/09 - Irrigation Report

Arthurs Lake Pipeline Proposal:

- Winter has seen a huge recovery in level: from 947.260mr ASL in Dec08 to a bit under 950mr ASL at present.
- Project has been increased to proposed irrigation level of 38,500ML p/a. This will put water into the lower Jordan in the south.
- AAT proposed a 3 tier lake level management regime -
 - An environmental level above which no restriction on extraction.
 - Restriction of take when level is below environmental level (restricted to extraction not exceeding net inflows.)
 - Establishment of a no take level.
- Hydro are proposing a regime which would see the lake managed at or above 950mr ASL by Nov 1 each year and at or above 949mr ASL by 1 June each year. There is a proviso on this and that is this regime will remain in place providing that the Great Lake ~~falls~~ remains above its medium risk level of 18.2%.

There will be a progressive irrigation restriction between 949mr ASL down to about 947.5mr ASL when irrigation extraction would cease. Hydro to provide final proposed arrangement at next Working Party meeting.

Hydro consider that the lake can be managed at or about the 949mr ASL level into the future. The outcome from the current CSIRO study on sustainable yields for Tasmania over the next 30 years, due out in Dec09, could change this thinking.

Stone Hut Proposal

Hydro currently awaiting funding approval to enable commencement of Dam construction at Stone Hut Hill. (approx 30,000ML)

Will provide additional water for the Ouse River and Lake Echo.

Greening Australia are proposing a \$3.6m Plan to revegetate upper reaches of the Ouse, Shannon and Clyde Rivers.

Hydro to engage with AAT when project commences to ensure angling issues and values are realised.

Sorell/Crescent

Substantial increases in both lakes - Sorell about 400mm and Crescent about 800mm from full.

AAT proposal to transfer water through Lake Sorell not supported principally because of threatened species and the potential for carp transfer issues. Potential cost issues as well.

Govt's preferred option for the Clyde (Shannon and Bark Hut Storages) as recommended by IDB is proceeding as per proposed timeline. Business Plan to be approved by end Sept.09 with storage construction to start by April 10. Completion by Dec 10 and available for use by 2011/12.

Proposed capacity of 6800ML (incl. 1700ML for Hollow Tree extension) which means that approx 5000ML per year to be available for Clyde irrigators.

This will significantly reduce the annual reliance on Sorell/Crescent, could be as much as 50%.

Sorell/Crescent and River Clyde Water Management Plans are due for 1st review with anglers involved in the review process.

Working Party

Other Projects - to be discussed and considered as they come before the Working Party.

Next meeting in October.