

Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Great Artesian Basin Groundwater Sources Amendment Order (No 2) 2013

under the

Water Management Act 2000

I, the Minister for Primary Industries, in pursuance of section 45 (1) (a) of the *Water Management Act 2000*, being satisfied it is in the public interest to do so, make the following Order to amend the *Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Great Artesian Basin Groundwater Sources 2008*.

Dated this Seventh day of February 2014.

KATRINA HODGKINSON, MP Minister for Primary Industries

Explanatory note

This Order is made under section 45 (1) (a) of the *Water Management Act 2000.* The object of this Order is to amend the *Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Great Artesian Basin Groundwater Sources 2008.* The concurrence of the Minister for the Environment was obtained prior to the making of this Order.

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1 Name of Order

This Order is the Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Great Artesian Basin Groundwater Sources Amendment Order (No 2) 2013.

2 Commencement

This Order commences on the day on which it is published on the NSW legislation website.

Schedule 1 Amendment of Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Great Artesian Basin Groundwater Sources 2008

Clause 33 Compliance with the long-term average annual extraction limits

Omit clause 33. Insert instead:

- (1) Compliance with the long-term average annual extraction limit established for these groundwater sources is to be managed in accordance with this clause.
- (2) Water extraction in these groundwater sources will be monitored each water year to determine if there has been any growth in the volume extracted above the long-term average extraction limit established in clause 31, based on the comparison of the long-term average extraction limit against the average extraction within the respective groundwater source over that year and the preceding 4 years (including years prior to the commencement of this Plan).
- (3) For the purposes of auditing compliance with the long-term average extraction limit, if water that:
 - (a) pursuant to an access licence is committed as adaptive environmental water is to be left in the aquifer for environmental purposes, then extraction will be treated as being equal to 100% of the available water determination made under clause 34,
 - (b) pursuant to an access licence is committed as adaptive environmental water is to be extracted for environmental purposes, then extraction will be measured through the approved water supply work.
- (4) If the 5 year average of extraction in these groundwater sources exceeds the long-term average extraction limit established in clause 31 by 10% or more, then the available water determination made for aquifer access licences under clause 34 for the following water year, should be reduced by an amount that is assessed necessary by the Minister to return subsequent total water extraction to the long-term average extraction limit.