

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL JUGIONG WATER TREATMENT PLANT on WEDNESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2009 starting at 1.03pm.**

**PRESENT**

Cr. P. Speirs (Chair), Cr. C. Manchester, Cr. J. McGregor, Cr. J. Macaulay, Cr. K. Morris, Cr. D. Palmer, Cr. J. O'Brien and Cr. H. Mangelsdorf.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr. P. Wearne, General Manager, Mr. P. Dwyer, Manager Administration, Mr. N. Nasser, Manager Production and Distribution, Mr. B. West, Manager Engineering and Miss. K Turner, Executive Assistant.

**A. PUBLIC ACCESS**

No requests for this meeting were received.

**B. APOLOGIES**

Nil.

**C. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 19 DECEMBER 2008**

09/001 The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 December 2008 having been circulated and read by the Members, were confirmed on the motion of Crs. Manchester and Palmer.

**D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

**1. PRESENTATION OF 2007/2008 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Mr Graham Bradley of Auswild & Co (Council's Auditors) will be at the meeting to present his report on the 2007/08 Financial Statements which has been previously adopted by Council at its meeting of 23 October 2008. Mr Bradley will give a brief recap of his report and will be available to answer questions from Councillors relating to it.

**Recommendation**

That Council suspend Standing Orders during Mr Bradley's presentation.

09/002 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. McGregor and O'Brien that Council suspend Standing Orders during Mr Bradley's presentation.

Mr Bradley presented his report and the Chairman thanked him for his report and attendance. Mr Bradley left the meeting at 1.55pm.

09/003 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Palmer and Manchester that Council resume Standing Orders.

**E. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. StateCover  
*(Received 18/12/08)* 2008 Workers Compensation and OHS Performance Report.

**Recommendation**

That the information be noted.

09/004 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. McGregor and Mangelsdorf that the information be noted.

2. David Bolte  
*(Received 25/02/09)* Letter thanking Council for the memento and the support throughout the years as a GWCC Representative.

**For the information of Councillors.**

**F. FINANCIAL REPORT (P. Dwyer)**

**1. CHEQUE WARRANT – DECEMBER 2008 AND BANK RECONCILIATION**

**Warrant**

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Voucher Numbers</b>	<b>\$</b>
Water	Cheques 19547 – 19618	
	EFT's 72282 – 72402	
	Autopays 600277-600279	\$ 1,117,580.13

**Bank Reconciliation**

Opening Balance	\$ 350,773.10
Deposits	\$ 919,659.18
	<u>\$1,270,432.28</u>
Withdrawals	\$1,117,580.13
Balance as at 31 December 2008	<u>\$ 152,852.15</u>

**2. CHEQUE WARRANT – JANUARY 2009 AND BANK RECONCILIATION**

**Warrant**

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Voucher Numbers</b>	<b>\$</b>
Water	Cheques 19619 – 19674	
	EFT's 72403 – 72468	
	Autopays 600280-600281	\$ 1,327,134.58

**Bank Reconciliation**

Opening Balance	\$ 152,852.15
Deposits	\$1,426,156.49
	<u>\$1,579,008.64</u>
Withdrawals	\$1,327,134.58
Balance as at 31 January 2009	<u>\$ 251,874.06</u>

**3. REPORT OF COUNCIL INVESTMENTS**

Listed below are Council's Investments as at 31 December 2008

<b>Financial Institution</b>	<b>Face Value</b>	<b>Annualised Interest Rate %</b>
NSW Treasury – Cash Facility	\$6,556,811.68	3.89
Local Govt Financial Services – FOCF	\$5,357,388.65	5.49
Local Govt Financial Services – 12m Cash	\$1,021,285.08	0.20
Commonwealth Bank – At Call	\$1,400,751.25	4.20
LGFS Term Deposit due 16.01.09 -201297	\$813,000.00	5.55
CBA Term Deposit due 23.01.09	\$750,000.00	4.62
LGFS Term Deposit due 6.2.09 - 201241	\$500,000.00	6.45
LGFS Term Deposit due 20.02.09- 201674	\$500,000.00	5.35
LGFS Term Deposit due 20.3.09-200503	\$558,000.00	7.75
LGFS Term Deposit due 3.04.09-200615	\$500,000.00	7.65
LGFS Term Deposit due 21.5.09-199299	\$1,300,000.00	8.02
LGFS Term Deposit due 5.6.09-199460	\$500,000.00	8.45
LGFS Term Deposit due 17.7.09 – 199790	\$1,000,000.00	8.40
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$20,757,236.66</b>	

The above investments include the following restricted assets:

<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Plant and vehicle replacement	\$797,000
Employees leave entitlements	\$1,383,000
Sales fluctuation	\$1,558,000
Infrastructure replacement	\$14,232,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$17,970,000</b>

#### **4. REPORT OF COUNCIL INVESTMENTS**

Listed below are Council's Investments as at 31 January 2009

<b>Financial Institution</b>	<b>Face Value</b>	<b>Annualised Interest Rate %</b>
NSW Treasury – Cash Facility	\$6,588,039.16	5.61
Local Govt Financial Services – FOCF	\$5,381,023.18	5.19
Local Govt Financial Services – 12m Cash	\$1,026,838.32	6.40
Commonwealth Bank – At Call	\$616,348.84	4.20
LGFS Term Deposit due 6.2.09 - 201241	\$500,000.00	6.45
LGFS Term Deposit due 20.02.09- 201674	\$500,000.00	5.35
CBA Term Deposit due 27.02.09	\$750,000.00	4.09
LGFS Term Deposit due 20.3.09-200503	\$558,000.00	7.75
CBA Term Deposit due 27.03.09	\$1,000,000.00	3.64
LGFS Term Deposit due 3.04.09-200615	\$500,000.00	7.65
LGFS Term Deposit due 17.04.09 -201786	\$813,000.00	4.65
LGFS Term Deposit due 21.5.09-199299	\$1,300,000.00	8.02
LGFS Term Deposit due 5.6.09-199460	\$500,000.00	8.45
LGFS Term Deposit due 17.7.09 – 199790	\$1,000,000.00	8.40
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$21,033,249.50</b>	

The above investments include the following restricted assets:

<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Plant and vehicle replacement	\$796,000
Employees leave entitlements	\$1,383,000
Sales fluctuation	\$1,558,000
Infrastructure replacement	\$14,131,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$17,868,000</b>

I hereby certify that the investments have been made in accordance with the Act, the Regulations and Council's investment policy.

#### **Recommendation**

That the information in respect of items F1 to F4 be noted and endorsed.

09/005 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and Macaulay that the information in respect of items F1 to F4 be noted and endorsed.

## GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – FEBRUARY 2009

09/006 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Manchester that staff investigate the possibility of having a greater spread of investments to maximise guarantee and report their findings to Council.

### 5. OUTSTANDING DEBTORS

The balances outstanding as at 8 January 2009 were:

	<b>Arrears</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Total</b>
Access Charges	49,503	7,680	470,409	527,592
Consumption Charges	75,272	23,336	1,236,754	1,335,362
Deferred Headworks			97,377	97,377
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>124,775</b>	<b>31,016</b>	<b>1,804,540</b>	<b>1,960,331</b>
Overpayments				<b>63,612</b>

The breakdown of the above can be summarised as follows:

Total outstanding	\$1,960,331
<i>Less</i> credit balances	-63,612
<i>Less</i> bulk accounts	-0
<i>Less</i> deferred h/wks	<u>- 97,377</u>
Nett balance	\$1,799,342 owed by customers

The December quarter customer accounts totalling \$1,294,689 were posted on January 9 and were due for payment on February 2.

The balances outstanding as at 10 February 2009 were:

	<b>Arrears</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Total</b>
Access Charges	57,879	7,258	174,045	239,182
Consumption Charges	113,593	22,794	524,408	660,795
Deferred Headworks		113	96,572	96,685
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>171,472</b>	<b>30,165</b>	<b>795,025</b>	<b>996,662</b>
Overpayments				<b>91,600</b>

The breakdown of the above can be summarised as follows:

Total outstanding	\$996,662
<i>Less</i> credit balances	-91,600
<i>Less</i> bulk accounts	-358,891
<i>Less</i> deferred h/wks	<u>- 96,685</u>
Nett balance	\$449,486 owed by customers

Reminder notices were posted out on 12 February.

### Recommendation

That the reports on outstanding debtors be received and noted.

09/007 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and Palmer that the reports on outstanding debtors be received and noted.

**6. STORES STOCK-TAKE**

The half-yearly stock-take of Council's stores and materials was conducted on 26 & 27 November 2008. The stock-take was undertaken by the Manager Administration. The procedure revealed that a large amount of materials were on hand having been returned from jobs but not necessarily booked back into Council's stock inventory.

As a result of this stock-take a larger than usual number of discrepancies were revealed. A large number of these have come from the smaller depots where stock control and paperwork is handled by the distribution staff. The inventory held at these outlying depots is being examined to see if some rationalisation can be achieved. It is also hoped that the completion of the new stores building at the Cootamundra depot will also enable better stock control.

The total adjustment from the stock take requires a net write-on (return to inventory) of \$9,759.52.

**Recommendation**

That the report of the stores and materials stock-take be noted and the required adjustment of a net write-on of \$9,759.52 be approved.

09/008 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Mangelsdorf that the report of the stores and materials stock-take be noted and the required adjustment of a net write-on of \$9,759.52 be approved.

**7. QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW TO 31 DECEMBER 2008**

The Quarterly Budget Review for the period ending 31 December 2008 is attached (yellow pages).

Details of the main variations are as follows:

*Revenue*

Interest on investments has been reduced by \$245,000 in line with the declining world interest rates and movements by our RBA. The private works income has been increased in line with additional works undertaken.

User charges have been retained at original budgets but achieving these figures depends on weather conditions and restrictions imposed.

*Expenditure*

Some budgets have been revised by the production and distribution staff with no effect on the bottom line. Private works has been increased with additional works.

*Capital*

No changes in the budgets for this review

The following changes are proposed to the operating budget:

<b>Adopted operating budget (deficit)</b>	<b>-\$376,942</b>
Revision at 30 September 2008 – surplus	\$1,320
Revision at 31 December 2008 - deficit	-\$246,320
<b>Revised result – 30 June 2009 – anticipated deficit</b>	<b>-\$621,942</b>

Whilst the increased deficit is of concern it has largely occurred as a result of factors beyond Council’s control. However, it reflects Council’s reliance on interest income to help “balance” the budget. Council will need to carefully consider this in next year’s and future budgets as the lower interest rates and increased capital expenditure will seriously erode this income source in the future. At this stage the review indicates that Council's level of available working capital at the years end is satisfactory.

**Recommendation**

That the quarterly budget review report as at 31 December 2008 be noted and that Council adopt the variations as listed.

09/009 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and McGregor that the quarterly budget review report as at 31 December 2008 be noted and that Council adopt the variations as listed.

**8. PENSION REBATES** (*Sheree Schmidt*)

Council is required to write-off concessions granted to eligible pensioners for water supplied. Nineteen hundred and forty five concession claims require writing off for the period 1 October 2008 to 31 December 2008.

(Subsidy claimed \$24,464.18 – Claim 141)

**Recommendation**

That Council hereby write-off, as mandatory concessions, the amount of \$44,480.32 in pensioner concession rebates for the period 1 October 2008 to 31 December 2008.

09/010 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. McGregor and O’Brien that Council hereby write-off, as mandatory concessions, the amount of \$44,480.32 in pensioner concession rebates for the period 1 October 2008 to 31 December 2008.

**G. WORKS REPORT** (*Nick Nasser*)  
**DECEMBER 2008**

**1. WATER LOSSES & MAINS REPAIRS**

DATE	TIME		LOCATION	PIPE DIAMETER	CONSUMERS AFFECTED	ESTIMATED LOSS (KI)	REASON
	Off	On					
2/12/08	-	-	Cowangs	375	-	5	Joint failure
2/12/08	-	-	Cowangs	375	-	10	Hole in pipe
3/12/08	-	-	Davidson Street, Ariah Park	100	-	50	Split pipe
3/12/08	-	-	Temora Road, Cootamundra	-	-	10	Hole in pipe
3/12/08	8.30	3.00	Ganmain – Grong Grong	100	-	5	Joint failure
4/12/08	-	-	Trunk Main Temora	300	-	1	Joint failure
4/12/08	-	-	Main – North Weethalle Reservoir	200	-	53	Hole in pipe
4/12/08	-	-	Trunk Main Barmedman	300	-	25	Joint failure
8/12/08	8.30	9.30	Dirnaseer Road, Cootamundra	100	-	3	Split pipe
8/12/08	-	-	Hanks Lane, Old Junee	-	-	100	Split pipe
9/12/08	-	-	Black Gate Road, Dirnaseer	100	-	3	Joint failure
9/12/08	-	-	Coursing Park	-	-	20	Split pipe
9/12/08	-	-	Buralyang Road, Tallimba	150	-	10	Split pipe
10/12/08	-	-	Shire Street, West Wyalong	100	-	5	Split pipe
10/12/08	-	-	Trunk Main Barmedman	300	-	15	Joint failure
11/12/08	-	-	Orange Street, Weethalle	100	-	20	Split pipe
11/12/08	-	-	Main – North Weethalle Reservoir	195	-	-	Hole in pipe
12/12/08	4.00	7.30	53 Wade Street, Coolamon	100	20	40	Split pipe
15/12/08	-	-	Yiddah	300	-	50	Joint failure
15/12/08	2.00	4.00	Methul Lane, Coolamon	200	10	50	Joint failure
16/12/08	-	-	Trunk Main Wyalong	300	-	20	Hole in pipe

## GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – FEBRUARY 2009

17/12/08	-	-	South Weethalle	100	-	20	Other
18/12/08	9.00	10.00	Brawlin	-	1	10	Split pipe
18/12/08	-	-	Ariah Park	20	1	5	Split pipe
18/12/08	10.00	1.00	Malebo	150	50	20	Split pipe
18/12/08	-	-	Beckom	100	-	40	Split pipe
18/12/08	10.30	12.30	Old Junee	150	-	-	Split pipe
19/12/08	-	-	Yiddah	300	-	50	Hole in pipe
19/12/08	-	-	Temora Wyalong	-	-	10	Hole in pipe
20/12/08	-	-	Matong	100	1	15	Other
21/12/08	-	-	Ganmain	100	-	15	Split pipe
21/12/08	-	-	Junee	20	1	5	Split pipe
30/12/08	4.30	7.00	Marrar	100	-	5	Split pipe
30/12/08	-	-	Stockinbingal Rd, Cootamundra	375	-	5	Joint failure
30/12/08	-	-	Cowangs Bauloora	375	-	20	Joint failure
31/12/08	-	-	Bauloora	375	-	50	Joint failure
31/12/08	-	-	Old Temora Rd, Cootamundra	100	-	5	Split pipe

### 2. COMPLAINTS

#### Water Quality

Dirty Water – Junee

11/12/2008 22 Regent Street.

Dirty Water – Other

10/12/2008 75 Parkes Street, Temora.

Other Problems:

24/12/2008 Lime Street, Marrar – cloudy water.

A total of 31 service difficulty and fault reports were received for the month of December.

### 3. CONSTRUCTION & MAJOR MAINTENANCE

The following significant works were undertaken in December 2008:-

- Cut-in new stop valves at Ganmain – Grong Grong.
- Installed three (3) new stop valves Barellan.
- Completed, tested and commissioned new sections of pipe at Old Sydney Road.
- Changed faulty low lift pump at Jugiong.
- Relocated materials at Cootamundra Depot to facilitate construction.
- Service and re-installed No. 3 pump at Ganmain.
- Replaced reflux valve at Frampton Pump Station.

**H. WORKS REPORT** *(Nick Nasser)*  
**JANUARY 2009**

**1. WATER LOSSES & MAINS REPAIRS**

DATE	TIME		LOCATION	PIPE DIAMETER	CONSUMERS AFFECTED	ESTIMATED LOSS (KI)	REASON
	Off	On					
1/01/09	7.30	5.00	Marinna	300	-	20	Split pipe
2/01/09	-	-	Snapes Lane, Illabo	150	-	6	Split pipe
4/01/09	2.00	5.00	21 Wade Street Coolamon	100	40	20	Split pipe
5/01/09	-	-	Suttons Lane, Cootamundra	100	2	15	Split pipe
6/01/09	-	-	Jugiong Road, Cootamundra	375	-	5	Joint failure
7/01/09	-	-	Suttons Lane, Cootamundra	100	-	3	Split pipe
7/01/09	-	-	June Road, Temora	100	-	5	Split pipe
8/01/09	-	-	Stockinbingal Road, Cootamundra	375	-	5	Joint failure
8/01/09	-	-	Stockinbingal Road, Cootamundra	375	-	1	Joint failure
8/01/09	2.00	5.00	Wade Street, Coolamon	100	40	30	Split pipe
8/01/09	-	-	Trunk Main Wyalong	300	-	50	Joint failure
8/01/09	-	-	Temora Road, Cootamundra	375	-	5	Joint failure
8/01/09	-	-	Jugiong Road, Cootamundra	375	-	1	Joint failure
8/01/09	1.00	4.00	Wade Street, Coolamon	100	20	40	Split pipe
8/01/09	-	-	Barmedman – Reefton Line	300	-	5	Joint failure
9/01/09	-	-	Trunk Main Barmedman	300	-	6	Hole in pipe
9/01/09	4.30	7.00	Lawson Road, Temora	100	20	50	Split pipe
12/01/09	-	-	Ungarie	100	-	5	Hole in pipe
13/01/09	-	-	Barmedman	300	-	5	Hole in pipe
13/01/09	-	-	Trunk Main Wyalong	300	-	5	Hole in pipe

**GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – FEBRUARY 2009**

13/01/09	-	-	Ariah Park Road, Barmedman	100	-	10	Hole in pipe
14/01/09	-	-	Malebo Range	50	-	10	Split pipe
14/01/09	-	-	Old Temora Road, Cootamundra	50	-	10	Split pipe
14/01/09	2.00	3.00	Wood Street, Stockinbingal	100	10	10	Split pipe
15/01/09	9.00	10.00	Main Street, Junee	20	1	1	Split pipe
15/01/09	-	-	Barmedman	100	-	10	Hole in pipe
15/01/09	-	-	Cowangs	-	-	2	Split pipe
16/01/09	-	-	Barellan Road, Weethalle	100	-	-	Hole in pipe
16/01/09	-	-	Dirnaseer Road, Cootamundra	100	-	2	Split pipe
20/01/09	-	-	Bauloora – Cowangs	375	-	20	Joint failure
21/01/09	-	-	Wade Street, Coolamon	100	-	20	Split pipe
21/01/09	-	-	Temora Road, Springdale	375	-	5	Joint failure
23/01/09	-	-	Eurongilly	40	-	10	Split pipe
27/01/09	-	-	Trunk Main Barmedman	-	-	50	Joint failure
28/01/09	-	-	Trevethin Lane, Junee Reefs	50	-	10	Hole in pipe
28/01/09	-	-	Malebo Range	50	1	10	Split pipe
28/01/09	-	-	Trunk Main Barmedman	300	-	15	Joint failure
30/01/09	-	-	Frampton	80	-	6	Split pipe
31/01/09	-	-	Deepwater Road, Matong	100	-	20	Split pipe

**2. COMPLAINTS**

Water Quality

Dirty Water – Junee

05/01/2009 Wantabadgery Road.

Dirty Water – Other

05/01/2009 Lower Showground Road, Ganmain.

06/01/2009 Illabo Road, Eurongilly.

12/01/2009 13 Kingdom Drive, Coolamon.

14/01/2009 6 Wood Street, Stockinbingal.

14/01/2009 85 Wallace Street, Coolamon.

21/01/2009 51 Wargan Road, Wyalong.

21/01/2009 6 Dumaresq Street, West Wyalong.

28/01/2009 180 Dyces Lane, Coolamon.

Other Problems:

09/01/2009 1 Roberts Street, Junee – scum in water.  
21/01/2009 6 Dumaresq Street, West Wyalong – chemical smell.  
28/01/2009 8 Logan Street, Coolamon – chlorine smell and taste.  
29/01/2009 Illawong Road, Jugiong – chemical smell and yellow colour.  
29/01/2009 Riverside Road, Jugiong – discoloured and distasteful water.

A total of 60 service difficulty and fault reports were received for the month of January.

**3. CONSTRUCTION & MAJOR MAINTENANCE**

The following significant works were undertaken in January 2009:-

- Install reconditioned low lift pump at Jugiong.
- Continue Cootamundra Depot clean up prior to construction.
- Commence pre-construction work and locations in Marrar.
- Dismantle No.3 pump at No. 2 Pump Station for overhaul.
- Dismantle and repair No. 1 pump at Oura following a failure.
- Commence the replacement of inlet pipework at Cowangs.
- Install mains extension at Kingdom Drive, Coolamon.
- Install new standpipe at Wyalong following damage.

**Recommendation**

That the information contained in items G1-3 and H1-3 be noted.

09/011 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and Mangelsdorf that the information contained in items G1-3 and H1-3 be noted.

**I. OTHER REPORTS**

**1. REVIEW OF COUNCIL CODES AND POLICIES** (*Paul Wearne*)

The review of Council Policies continues with the following draft policies being attached for the consideration of Council:-

CP: 007 – Kidney Dialysis Machine Users

CP: 008 – Off Peak Season Supply

CP: 009 – Isolation (Stop) Valves on Customer Side of Meter

CP: 010 – Temporary Connections

CP: 011 – Debt Recovery

CP: 012 – Pensioner Concessions

No significant changes (with the exception of format changes) have been made from the policies previously adopted by Council.

**Recommendation**

1. That Council adopt as policy CP: 007 – Kidney Dialysis Machine Users
2. That Council adopt as policy CP: 008 – Off Peak Season Supply
3. That Council adopt as policy CP: 009 – Isolation (Stop) Valves on Customer Side of Meter
4. That Council adopt as policy CP: 010 – Temporary Connections
5. That Council adopt as policy CP: 011 – Debt Recovery
6. That Council adopt as policy CP: 012 – Pensioner Concessions

09/012 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O’Brien and Manchester

1. That Council adopt as policy CP: 007 – Kidney Dialysis Machine Users
2. That Council adopt as policy CP: 008 – Off Peak Season Supply
3. That Council adopt as policy CP: 009 – Isolation (Stop) Valves on Customer Side of Meter
4. That Council adopt as policy CP: 010 – Temporary Connections
5. That Council adopt as policy CP: 011 – Debt Recovery
6. That Council adopt as policy CP: 012 – Pensioner Concessions

**2. CAPITAL WORKS PROGRESS REPORT** (*Paul Wearne*)

Attached for the information of Councillors is the Capital Works Progress Reports for the period ending 31 December 2008 and 31 January 2009.

**Recommendation**

That the information be noted.

09/013 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. McGregor and Palmer that the information be noted.

**3. CRITICAL WATER AVAILABILITY FOR 2008-09 (Paul Wearne)**

Included in the Business Paper are the water production graphs for the five sources and the three bulk councils to the end of January 2009. Table 1 below provide more detail.

Water allocations in the Murrumbidgee Valley for the 2008/09 water year remain as previously advised, these being:-

Surface Water Extractions     95% of Entitlement  
 Ground Water Extractions     100% of Entitlement

The following restriction levels came into effect from 1 November 2008 and remain in force:-

Oura and Mt Arthur schemes                     Level C  
 Jugiong and Mt Daylight schemes             Level 1  
 Hyland’s Bridge scheme                         Level 2

**Table 1 - Period - 1 July 2008 to 31 January 2009**

<b>Source</b>	<b>YTD Consumption</b>	<b>YTD Maximum Allocation</b>	<b>Revised YTD Maximum Allocation</b>	<b>Percentage of Revised Allocation</b>
Jugiong	2,297	3,259	3,096	74%
Oura	2,401	3,517	3,517	68%
Mt Arthur	334	440	440	76%
Mt Daylight	153	175	175	87%
Hylands Bridge	82	92	87	94%
<b>Total All Sources</b>	<b>5,267</b>	<b>7,483</b>	<b>7,315</b>	<b>72%</b>
Cootamundra	455	901	856	53%
Harden *	277	710	675	41%
Young	830	1,214	1,153	72%

**NB:**

*YTD Consumption for Harden does not include Harden Minor Consumers.*

Consumption continues to be closely monitored on a weekly basis. The extremely hot conditions of late January and early February have seen the weekly consumption increase. The overall year to date consumption is still well within our allocations and the current levels of restriction have generally been adhered to by customers.

**Recommendation**

That the information be noted.

09/014 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and Palmer that the information be noted.

**4. COMMUNITY SERVICES AND SUPPORT APPLICATION**

*(Paul Wearne)*

Council has received correspondence from the Lions Club of Temora Incorporated (copy attached) requesting water account relief in accordance with Council's Community Services and Support Policy (CP: 002).

The policy does not specifically name Lions Clubs as being eligible for such concessions but does state (in part):-

*“Premises operated by other organisations or individuals – such concessions as may be approved by Council from time to time.”*

When this policy was first implemented in 2000, a circular was distributed explaining the eligibility criteria and enclosing an application form. The Temora Lions Club submitted an application however this was rejected by the then management on the grounds that the Temora Lions Club undertook 'commercial activities' on the premises being the collection and sale of paper and cardboard for recycling.

Given that the Temora Lions Club has stated that they are "a non profit organisation" and that "any funds raised by our club are directed back into the community..." the matter is put before Council for consideration.

**Recommendation**

For Council's determination.

- 09/015 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Palmer and McGregor that in this instance the Temora Lions Club be granted a concession for access charges in accordance with Council's Community Services and Support Policy (CP:002).

**5. REVIEW OF STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN** *(Paul Wearne)*

Consultants engaged to review the Strategic Business Plan and prepare a Draft Plan are progressing with the project. It is anticipated that the Draft will be completed by the end of February. To allow for Council to consider the plan and adopt it in either its presented or amended form it may be necessary to hold a Special Meeting during March.

**Recommendation**

That subject to the receipt of the Draft Strategic Business Plan from the Consultants, Council holds a Special Council Meeting on Thursday 26 March 2009 in Temora.

- 09/016 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. McGregor and Macaulay that subject to the receipt of the Draft Strategic Business Plan from the Consultants, Council holds a Special Council Meeting on Thursday 26 March 2009 in Temora at 10.00am.

**6. INDEPENDENT INQUIRY INTO SECURE AND SUSTAINABLE URBAN WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE SERVICES FOR NON-METROPOLITAN NSW** (*Paul Wearne*)

The Report of the Independent Inquiry into Secure and Sustainable Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Services for Non-Metropolitan NSW was released by the Minister for Water, The Hon Phillip Costa MP, on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2009. Since its release a Discussion Paper was prepared and forwarded to all Councillors on 29<sup>th</sup> January providing the General Manager's interpretation of the report.

A meeting of REROC councils was convened on 2<sup>nd</sup> February to discuss the report. Harden and Young shire councils were also invited to attend this meeting given their relationship with Goldenfields. The result of this meeting was that the Executive Officer of REROC would prepare a report on the outcomes of the meeting which would be forwarded to each member council for consideration. This paper is attached and REROC has requested that member councils determine their position in relation to it.

The REROC Discussion Paper provides information on six (6) models, these being:-

1. Formal Alliance of all water and sewerage providers – The REROC Water Authority
2. Informal Alliance of all water and sewerage providers – The REROC Water Forum
3. Formal Alliance of sewerage providers only – The REROC Sewerage Authority
4. Informal Alliance of sewerage providers (two groups) – The REROC Sewerage Groups
5. Informal Alliance of all sewerage providers – The REROC Sewerage Forum
6. The Common Services Technical Unit

In making its submission to the LWU Inquiry, Council presented its position as:-

- Promoting the county council model as an effective and efficient method of water supply and sewerage service delivery in Non-Metropolitan NSW that could be implemented in appropriate areas; and
- Proposed that GWCC remain in its present role as the water supply authority within its area and that the provision of sewerage services remain with the current providers (i.e. the general purpose councils).

For Council to now endorse or support any of the REROC models (with the exception of Model 6) would be contrary to its previously resolved position and would require formal resolution to do so. Therefore it would seem appropriate to advise REROC of this but also advise that Goldenfields is prepared to participate in further discussion regarding the possibility of forming a Common Services Technical Unit if this model is supported by the majority of REROC member councils.

On 9<sup>th</sup> February Minister Costa convened a meeting in Queanbeyan to receive feedback on the Report. The General Manager and Manager Engineering attended on behalf of Council. This was one of four such meetings across NSW convened by Minister Costa.

The Ministers comments in Queanbeyan focussed on the following:-

- Any changes to existing service provision will be “voluntary”. No council will be forced into a model if they can show that they meet the criteria.
- Submissions to the Report are encouraged and should include information to support the position taken.
- An undertaking to review the suitability of the ‘county council’ model as an option. This resulted after a question was raised as to why county councils were not seen as an appropriate model. The Minister stated he had raised the same question.
- The only funding available to councils is through the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage program which the Government has committed to until 2014. This is contrary to advice from the previous Minister. (I suspect that the failed privatisation of the electricity industry may be the reason behind it).
- All councils are eligible for funding under this program subject to them meeting the required criteria.

After attending this meeting I am of the opinion that the recommendations made in the Discussion Paper forwarded to Councillors on 29/01/09 are still appropriate.

### **Recommendation**

1. That Council make a submission to the report which is to include the following points:-
  - That Council congratulate the Messrs Armstrong and Gellatly on the comprehensive nature of the report.
  - That in general Council commend the report to the NSW Government as providing options for consideration to improve the delivery of water supply and sewerage services in Non-Metropolitan NSW.
  - That Council raise no objections to the recommendations made within the report relating to water supply arrangements within the Goldenfields area.
  - That the submission reiterates Council’s view that the “county council” model should be considered as a suitable model in certain areas.
  - That in relation to the proposed changes to sewerage services within the Goldenfields area, Council offer itself to be included in any dialogue or discussions to assist with the process only if deemed appropriate by the majority of General Purpose councils involved.
2. That Council endorse the Chairman and General Manager to make separate representations (in person if necessary) to the Minister for Water to seek a definitive determination in relation to the mandatory reporting requirements

contained in the Proclamation establishing Goldenfields Water County Council; particularly those relating to the requirement to report every three (3) years on the relative efficiencies and economies of water operations by Goldenfields Water and Bulk Councils within its area.

3. That Council advise REROC that the options detailed in the REROC Discussion Paper of 9 February 2009 are contrary to the position taken by Goldenfields in relation to the Local Water Utilities Inquiry and therefore are not supported. However, Goldenfields representative will be available to further explore the Common Services Technical Unit model if this model gains the support of the majority of REROC member councils.

09/017 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Palmer and McGregor

1. That Council make a submission to the report which is to include the following points:-
  - That Council congratulate the Messrs Armstrong and Gellatly on the comprehensive nature of the report.
  - That in general Council commend the report to the NSW Government as providing options for consideration to improve the delivery of water supply and sewerage services in Non-Metropolitan NSW.
  - That Council raise no objections to the recommendations made within the report relating to water supply arrangements within the Goldenfields area.
  - That the submission reiterates Council's view that the "county council" model should be considered as a suitable model in certain areas.
  - That in relation to the proposed changes to sewerage services within the Goldenfields area, Council offer itself to be included in any dialogue or discussions to assist with the process only if deemed appropriate by the majority of General Purpose councils involved.
2. That Council advise REROC that the options detailed in the REROC Discussion Paper of 9 February 2009 are contrary to the position taken by Goldenfields in relation to the Local Water Utilities Inquiry and therefore are not supported. However, Goldenfields representative will be available to further explore the Common Services Technical Unit model if this model gains the support of the majority of REROC member councils.

**7. NEXT MEETING** (*Paul Wearne*)

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on Thursday 23 April 2009 commencing at 1.00pm at Council's Temora Office although subject to the consideration of Item No. 5 above, a Special Meeting may be held on Thursday 26 March 2009.

**For the information of Councillors.**

**J. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS**

The General Manager advised Councillors that former State Minister, Pam Allan had been in contact with him and will now be visiting Council on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.

**K. CLOSED SESSION – 3.20PM (pink pages)**

09/018 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Mangelsdorf and O'Brien that Council meet in Closed Session.

**1. REEFTON TO BARMEDMAN & YIDDAH TO WYALONG PIPELINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT (Bill West)**

*This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:*

*(c) Information that would, if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposed to conduct) business.*

09/019 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. McGregor and O'Brien that the alternate tender submitted by Redline Contracting Pty Ltd be accepted for both separable portions of the Reefton to Barmedman and Yiddah to Wyalong Pipeline Replacement Project for the lump sum of \$4,950,382.31 including GST.

**2. LATE ITEM: BY THE GENERAL MANAGER (Paul Wearne)**

*This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:*

*(a) Personnel matters concerning particular individuals.*

**For the information of Councillors.**

**OPEN SESSION – 3.35PM**

09/020 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. McGregor and Palmer that Council revert back to Open Session and that the resolutions made in Closed Session be made public.

---

There being no further business requiring the attention of the Council, the Meeting closed at 3.35pm.

---