

18 December 2024

# Peel Regulated River Water Source and Peel Alluvium Groundwater Source

## Water allocation update

There is no change to allocations in the Peel regulated river water source nor the Peel alluvium groundwater source. All entitlements on these two water sources received their maximum allocation for 2024/25 water year. This statement provides information on the current state of water resource.

General security (GS) received their maximum allocations for the 2024/25 water year on 17 August 2024. At the same time, the environmental water allowance (EWA) was also credited in full 5 gigalitre (GL).

The demand for general security water has been minimal so far this water year, as Chaffey Dam has been spilling. The current resource assessment returns a surplus of 14.4 gigalitres (GL), but with all licenses already fully allocated, this water remains unassigned and will improve future allocation reliability. This resource assessment is based on information to 30 November 2024. Any changes in resources from this date forward will be captured in the next resource assessment.

## Current allocation

18 December 2024	Allocation Increment	Average Account Balance
General Security (GS)	-	26.3 GL
Environment Water Allowance (EWA)	-	5.0 GL

## Storage levels (as of 18 December 2024)

- Chaffey Dam is currently 100% full (spilling) – holding around 103.4 GL.

## Key information

- In November, Chaffey Dam received about 2.4 GL of inflow, and downstream tributary inflows added about another 5.7 GL to the system.
- Chaffey Dam started spilling since August 2024, with a possible extension of another week based on recent rainfall and storm activity.
- There has been no EWA usage so far in the current water year.
- A storage outlook plot for the assessment horizon is provided later in this statement.

## Climate Outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for January to March 2025 indicates that rainfall in the Peel valley is likely to be above median. Over this period, maximum temperatures and minimum temperatures are likely to be above median in the catchment.

For further details: <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary>

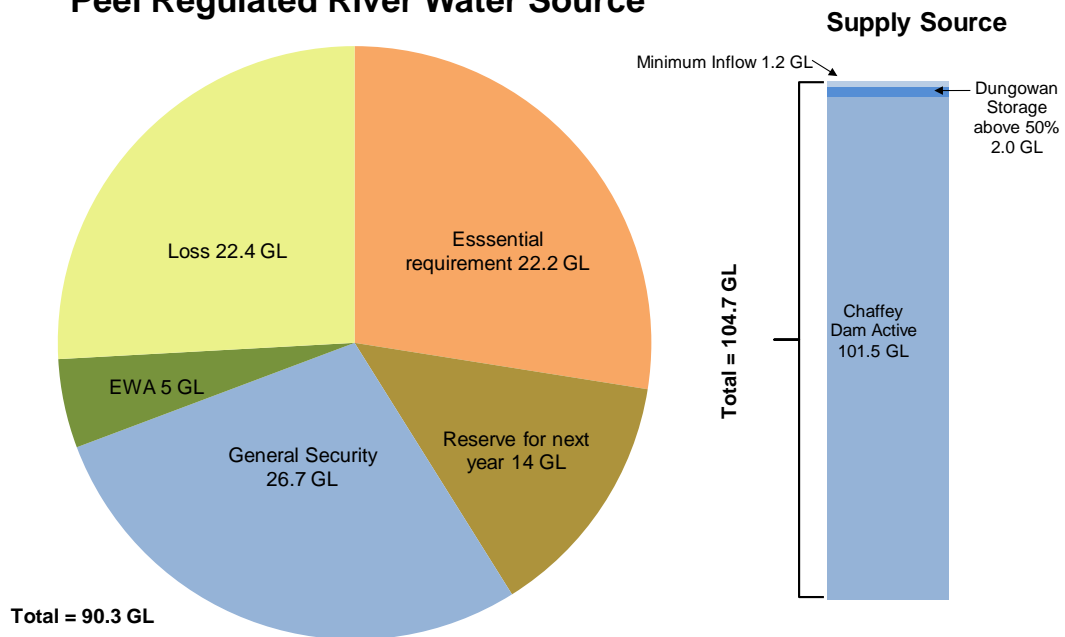
## Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (as of 30 November 2024)	Volume (GL)
Current and Future Resources <sup>(1)</sup>	104.7
<i>less</i>	
Essential Supplies (12/24 to 06/25) <sup>(2)</sup>	22.2
Reserve for 2025/26 <sup>(3)</sup>	14.0
General security balance	26.7
EWA balance	5.0
Evaporation, operational and transmission loss <sup>(4)</sup>	22.4
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (or deficit) <sup>(5)</sup>	14.4

### Notes:

- (1) Chaffey Dam active storage, Dungowan Dam volume above 50% full and minimum inflow expected to June 2025.
- (2) Volume required to supply for basic landholder rights, domestic and stock (D&S), local water utility (LWU), high security (HS) entitlements within remaining water year. This also includes associated transmission loss plus minimum storage release.
- (3) Reserve set aside to meet the opening allocation of 2025/26 at the repeat of the worst drought known at the commencement of the water sharing plan. The reserve includes basic landholder rights, 70% domestic and stock, 70% local water utility, 50% high security entitlements and associated transmission loss plus minimum storage release. This also considers minimum inflow expected over 2025/26, offset by evaporation for the same period.
- (4) Evaporation budget assumes historical high evaporation rates. The transmission loss is budgeted to deliver water orders based on current conditions and forecasts. EWA water delivery is measured at the dam wall thus incurs no transmission loss.
- (5) Surplus (or deficit) of available water after accounting for all commitments. The surplus signifies the additional resource available. As all accounts are fully allocated, this volume remains unallocated, improving the allocation reliability for the next water year.

### Resource Distribution as at 30 November 2024 Peel Regulated River Water Source



The history of allocations in the 2024/25 water year is shown in the tables below.

Table 1: Water allocation history in 2024/25 for the Peel Regulated River Water Source

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2024/25
1-Jul	Domestic & Stock	100%	100%*
1-Jul	Local Water Utility	100%	100%*
1-Jul	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*
1-Jul	EWA	60%	60%
1-Jul	General Security	0.60 ML/unit share	0.60 ML/unit share
7-Aug	EWA	40%	100%*
7-Aug	General Security	0.40 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*

\* Maximum allowable

Table 2: Water allocation history in 2024/25 for the Peel Alluvium Groundwater Source

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2024/25
1-Jul	Aquifer (general security)	0.804 ML/unit share	0.804 ML/unit share
7-Aug	Aquifer (general security)	0.196 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*

\* Maximum allowable

## Storage volume simulation

The storage outlook for the assessment horizon is provided below. It shows that with current allocations and commitments and an assumed repeat of the historical minimum inflow sequence (at the start of the water sharing plan) together with forecast demands, the volume in Chaffey Dam will reduce to a minimum by the end of October 2026 then begin to recover.

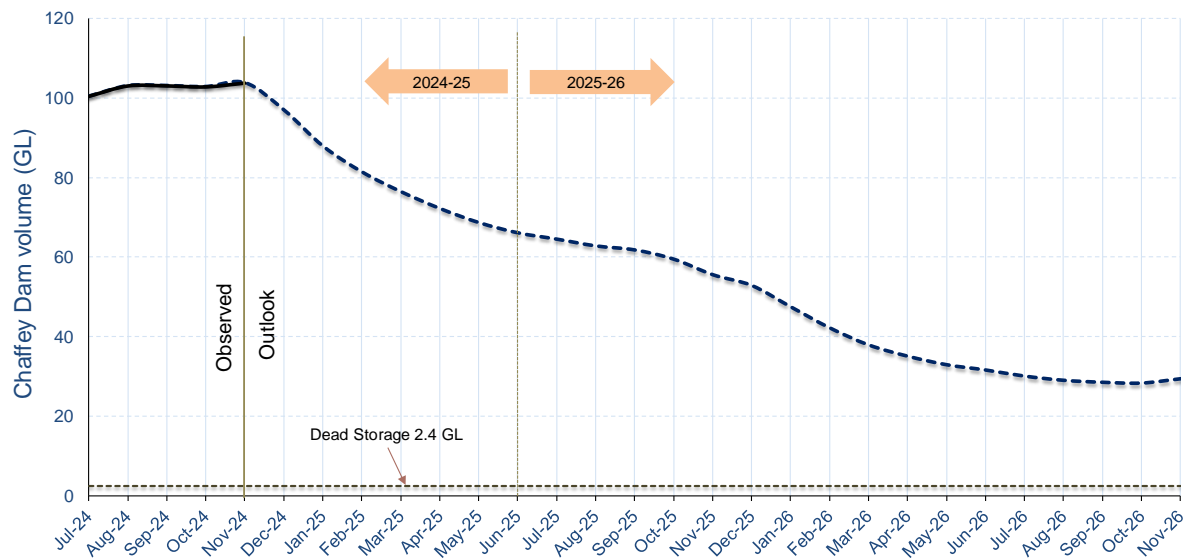


Figure: Simulated depletion of Chaffey Dam storage volume

## Water Allocation Guide

The NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water published a series of guides to describe the water allocation methods for most NSW regulated river systems. The guide for this water source is available at the link below.

For further details: [Resource assessment process | Water \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

## Further information

All entitlements at these water sources have reached their maximum annual allocation. Routine publication of water allocation statement will cease. There may be intermittent publications during the water year to update resource status.

Information on available water determinations and water sharing plans is available on the department's website: [Water \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

Subscribe [here](#) to receive Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water's monthly email update on water planning, management and reform in New South Wales.

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Feedback on this work or any aspect of the department's service can be provided using the widget on the right hand side at the water tile at: [Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water | NSW Government](#)