



## Environment Protection Authority – HRSTS Minutes

<b>Today's Meeting Date:</b>	<b>Monday 15 October 2018</b>	<b>Next meeting Date:</b>	<b>Tuesday 21 May 2019</b>
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	<b>Singleton Library</b>	<b>Last Meeting Date:</b>	<b>14 May 2018</b>
<b>Meeting opened at:</b>	1000 hrs	<b>Meeting closed at:</b>	1240hrs
<b>Convenor:</b>	Mitchell Bennett	<b>Minute Secretary:</b>	Emily Ingram
<b>Present</b>	<p>Dr Wej Paradice - CHAIR Local Land Services</p> <p>Andrew Speechly – Discharge Licence Holders Hunter Valley Operations</p> <p>Gary Mulhearn - Discharge Licence Holders YanCoal Australia</p> <p>Peter Jaeger - Discharge Licence Holders Wambo Coal</p> <p>Christopher Rooney - Discharge Licence Holders AGL Macquarie</p> <p>Michael Clarke - Environmental Representative</p> <p>Daryl Dutton - Hunter River Catchment Committee Representative</p> <p>Ken Bray – Irrigators Representative President Hunter Valley Water Users Association</p> <p>Forugh Dorani - NSW Department of Industry, Land and Water Division</p> <p>Mitchell Bennett – Environment Protection Authority (EPA)</p> <p>Gill George – EPA</p> <p>Sri Dorani – WaterNSW</p> <p>Martin Pendergrast - WaterNSW</p>		
<b>Apologies:</b>	Darryl Dutton - Hunter River Catchment		

<b>1</b>	<b>Review Minutes from last meeting Monday 14 May 2018</b>			
<b>Matters arising from the previous Minutes: Monday 14 May 2018</b>				
<b>No</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
<b>1.1</b>		The minutes were adopted with one minor change.	Chair	15.10.18
<b>1.2</b>	Meeting 17 May 2017 Action 1	The proposed licence condition developed by the EPA be sent to licensees as a draft for comment.	EPA	22.10.18
<b>1.3</b>	Meeting 17 May 2017 Action 2	The EPA to ensure that a detailed scope of works and associated budget is developed for the model auditing and calibration proposed by WaterNSW prior to next meeting.	EPA & WaterNSW	Ongoing
<b>1.4</b>	Meeting 17 May 2017 Action 3	The EPA to work with Water NSW to investigate the feasibility of issuing earlier warnings that discharge opportunities may be likely.	EPA & WaterNSW	Ongoing - Out of session meeting required
<b>1.5</b>	Meeting 17 May 2017 Action 5	EPA to investigate the possibility and cost to include logic in the trading platform to prevent trades that may lead to a non-compliance.	Andrew Speechly, Bill George, Predipt Ray OEH	Ongoing - Out of session meeting required
<b>1.6</b>	Meeting 17 May 2017 Action 6	EPA to develop online training options.	Emily Ingram EPA	Ongoing - Out of session meeting required with
<b>1.7</b>	Meeting 17 May 2017 Action 7	EPA to distribute the CSIRO report on salt load to the Committee when it is released. Revisit the need for flood flows.	Emily Ingram EPA	26.9.18
<b>1.8</b>	Meeting 17 May 2017 Action 8	EPA to continue to assess the effectiveness of the current flood flow threshold.	Bill George EPA	15.10.18

Agenda Item	Main Discussion Points	Actions	Status
<p><b>4.0</b> Discharge Licence Holder Presentation</p>	<p>Peter Jaeger displayed a presentation titled: Wambo Coal HRSTS 15 October 2018 Peabody”, where the following issues were included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved mine layout</li> <li>• Water management structures</li> <li>• HRSTS infrastructure</li> <li>• Discharge points</li> <li>• Real time data platform</li> </ul> <p>Mr Ken Bray asked what where the concentrations and discharges from the site.</p> <p>Mr Jaeger stated that the cleaner water is released first, generally 250MG when they have a discharge opportunity. The company recently installed a new App to upgrade their current system, as they expand they will need more water storage capacity on site.</p> <p>Mr Mitchell Bennett stated that as there had been no discharge for several years, and the water that the site draws from underground, where is that underground water source going?</p> <p>Mr Jaeger responded that the underground water was used on site to water roads and wash coal. They need lots of water for their operations and need to keep water on site for these purposes.</p>		Complete
<p><b>5.0</b> HRSTS Draft Annual Performance Report 2017-2018</p>	<p>Mr Bill George displayed a presentation titled: Hunter River Salinity Trading Scheme Performance Report 2017-2018 <b>Hunter River Salinity Trading Scheme (HRST) – Operations Committee Meeting 15 October 2018</b>”, where the following issues were included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of performance</li> <li>• Salinity, flow charts and discharge events</li> <li>• Credit holdings and trade history</li> <li>• Compliance with HRSTS</li> <li>• Questions</li> </ul> <p>Mr Andrew Speechly stated that the Glenbourne discharge element should be added to the graph – shown by splitting with another line or note to show when Glenbourne did discharge.</p> <p>Mr Ken Bray agreed that this was an important to make clearer in the report.</p>	<p><b>Action 1:</b> The report is to clearly explain what happened in the recorded spikes– to manage any perceived concerns and provide clear education on events recorded.</p> <p><b>Action 2:</b> The report is to have an additional graph that explains what has occurred over the past five years.</p>	

	<p>Mr Martin Pendergrast noted that the results should allow for the lag time on the graph – as the water can be delayed 1 – 1.5 days upstream.</p> <p>Mr Jaeger asked if there was any data to explain the big drop in discharge during December.</p> <p>Mr Mitchell Bennett explained that there were no discharge events during this time, which is why the graph looks quite unusual. The text in the report could explain the natural events better, as well as the discharge items, to show is going on in the whole catchment.</p> <p>Mr Andrew Speechly asked how does the table compare with last year’s report? Mr Bill George responded that last years showed 130 000 tonnes, with a total of 10 000 under the scheme managed – 120 000 tonnes of salt passed Singleton in the Hunter River, which was from natural distortion in the system.</p> <p>Mr Wej Paradise stated that this natural contribution of salt into the system needs to be included in the report.</p>		
<p><b>6.0</b> HRSTS Draft Financial Expenditure Report 2017-2018</p>	<p>Mr Bill George displayed a presentation titled: <b>Hunter River Salinity Trading Scheme Expenditure 2017/18</b>, where the following issues were included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expenditure</li> <li>• Revenue</li> <li>• Balance</li> </ul> <p>Mr Andrew Speechly question whether the Auction income should have been included in the report?</p> <p>Mr Mitchell Bennett confirmed that this income of 540K should have been included and that it will be added as a correction.</p> <p>Mr Andrew Speechly stated that the contributor’s management budget for 18/19 will be paying less than in previous years.</p>	<p><b>Action 3:</b> The Auction Income should be included in the report as Income.</p>	
<p><b>7.0</b> WaterNSW and river registers</p>	<p>Mr Martin Pendergrast displayed a presentation titled: <b>Salt Model Assessment and River Register Publication</b>”, where the following issues were included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hunter gauging stations and those used in HRSTS</li> <li>• River sectors</li> <li>• Discharge points &amp; rules</li> <li>• Classifications and salinity targets</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action 4:</b> A full presentation of this will be delivered next meeting with extra technical gear to be compatible with Singleton Library resources.</p>	<p>Ongoing: Martin Pendergrast &amp; Emily Ingram – take EPA data projector and cords to use in room.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to predict a catchment flow</li> <li>• Sector credits</li> <li>• Allocations</li> <li>• Communications</li> </ul> <p>Mr Pendergrast apologised that he was unable to do a full interactive presentation today due to the technical limitations of the room (no blue tooth or necessary connection points), and he would therefore present at the next meeting to show full details.</p> <p>Mr Mitchell Bennett asked at what poiunbt does WaterNSW send a Notice to Discharge to Industry?</p> <p>Mr Martin Pendergrast responded when the Register is posted.</p> <p>Mr Dorani Forugh commented on the predictive capacity – some upper catchment participants had an alarm set to let themselves know when the river levels increase.</p> <p>Mr Pendergrast agreed that upper catchment operators often don't have enough time to release if there is a short rainfall event. Thee generally need rain over a few days to be able to react in time.</p>	<p><b>Action 5:</b> Andrew Speechly to present next meeting from an Industry Discharger perspective – what happens when they receive a Notice to Discharge.</p>	
<p><b>8.0</b> Online Training for Traders – Storyboard options</p>		<p><b>Action 6:</b> To be detailed out of session, due to today's meeting running over time.</p>	Emily Ingram
<p><b>9.0 General Business</b>  <b>9.1</b> Social Media Tweets to use  <b>9.2</b> Powerpoint presentations  Model release forms to sign</p>	<p>Ms Emily Ingram stated that as part of community engagement she would like to be able to promote the work of the Committee in a variety of formats such as the EPA websites, media releases and through media Tweets, etc. If the Committee agreed to this, Emily would collect images of the Committee members and presentations and use these where appropriate. A model release form had been passed around for those members to sign to agree with images of themselves being used to promote the HRSTS.</p>	<p><b>Action 7:</b> Deputy Nomination Forms to be sent to all Members</p>	Emily Ingram
	<p>Next Meeting: <b>Tuesday 21 May 2019</b></p>	<p>On site – Hunter Valley Operations</p>	CHAIR