

Icon Water's Expert panel

What you told us

Adopt a definition of water security for the future

Commit to a definition of water security for the future that is fit for purpose and recognises its important role in natural resource management.

Enhance leadership role

Take a stronger role leading discussion and promoting policy change.

Building, sharing and using knowledge

Invest in building knowledge within the organisation, the community and government policy makers.

Explore the alternatives

Continue to explore alternate sources and demand management options that are linked to the definition of water security.

Make robust decisions

Maintain a systems thinking approach to underpin transparent, robust, dynamic decision making.



Our current approach

- Current definition of water security based on required Levels of Service (in line with industry)
- We use our models to measure security with transparent assumptions
- There is an opportunity to review and redefine as part of the update to Icon Water's Water Strategy
- We engage with ACTG and the community and this could be enhanced to develop a more meaningful definition

- Icon Water is an active participant in multiple water forums including Senior Executives Working Group, Director Generals Water Group and the ACT and Region Catchment Management Coordination Group
- We work collaboratively with ACT Government agencies on a number of water security issues.
- Re-establishing the Community Consultative Forum (CCF)

- Icon Water has existing community and schools education programs
- We work closely with various catchment groups, including the Upper Murrumbidgee Catchment Network (for SE NSW)
- We have developed and are implementing our Climate Change Adaptation Plan
- We are a member of various industry bodies (WSAA, AWA) and research organisations ensuring we are continuing to build our knowledge
- We are participating in indigenous water value discussions with ACT Government
- We ran our first community based experiment using shower timers over winter this year.

- Icon Water has a flexible water system that can draw from various sources to optimise between efficiency, security and environmental needs
- As part of the Drought Management Plan we are currently exploring a number of supply options that could be implemented as part of our response to any future droughts
- We are also considering how we can manage future security through appropriate demand management programs.

- We have reviewed our existing Water Resource Model (WRM), which is the key tool in water security decision-making. We are now in the process of updating the assumptions that underpin the model to ensure it is best practice and providing the best guidance available in the industry.

Our commitment

Icon Water recognises the opportunity to expand the scope of the current definition of water security.

As part of the review of the source water strategy we will work to set a vision and definition of water security that can be easily understood by the community and addresses wider water system outcomes.

Icon Water understands and takes seriously its role as a water leader in the ACT and region. We will continue to work with government, regulators, our community and neighbours to achieve our vision as valued partners within the community.

We will continue to be engaged in the water industry through active involvement in organisations such as Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA) and Australian Water Association (AWA).

Icon Water are currently planning their engagement strategy for the next regulatory pricing submission to better understand our community values to feed in to our asset management decision making, this will include asking questions on issues raised by the panel.

We will continue to invest in staff development and succession planning to ensure ongoing capability and knowledge of emerging issues.

Icon Water commit to keeping "all options on the table" when considering future water supply augmentations, particularly climate independent sources. As we review our source water strategy we will consider the timing and the need for future water supplies and additional demand management options. We will identify the costs and trade-offs of all options and ensure they are aligned with community values.

Icon Water recognises the greater levels of uncertainty we are facing and will therefore continue to review and update the WRM on a regular basis. This may include increasing frequency of reviews as further research and understanding of climate impacts unfolds.