



# **Murrumbidgee to Googong Water Transfer Annual Performance Report 2024 and 2025**

**For the period August 2024 to  
August 2025**

# 1 Document management

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## Document summary

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## Document development

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Date</b>
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## Version control

<b>Version</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Approval</b>
1.00	Michael Harrison	8/10/2025	Original	Benjamin Bryant

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## 3 Introduction

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### 3.1 Purpose

This report addresses Commonwealth Condition of Approval No.6 of approval EPBC 2009/5124 for the Murrumbidgee to Googong Water Transfer (M2G) project under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth).

### 3.2 Background

The Murrumbidgee to Googong Water Transfer (M2G) is a 12km pipeline that enables the pumping of water from the Murrumbidgee River, ACT to Burra Creek, NSW, where it then flows 13 km to the Googong Reservoir. Following regulatory approvals from the Commonwealth, ACT and NSW, pipeline construction commenced in January 2011, and the M2G became operational in September 2012.

### 3.3 M2G Status

During the reporting period, no water was transferred from Murrumbidgee River to Burra Creek and Googong Reservoir. M2G is currently in standby mode, with maintenance sessions to ensure that infrastructure remains in good working condition.

In 2021 Icon Water revised the [M2G Operational Environment Management Plan](#), which now integrates both the Stream Flow and Water Quality Management Plan and the Aquatic Ecology Monitoring Plan into the document's main body.

## 4 Performance

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Icon Water must comply with Commonwealth Condition of Approval No. 6 (Publication Requirements) to provide an Annual Performance Report on the implementation of approval conditions and any plans necessary. The report covers M2G's performance from August 2024 to August 2025.

The performance is evaluated against the objectives and targets specified in Table 4 of the M2G Operation Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) in Section 4.2 and the Commonwealth Conditions of Approval (EPBC 2009/5124) in Section 4.1.

#### 4.1 Performance against Commonwealth Conditions of Approval

CoA Ref#	Requirement	Compliance Status	Comments
1	Submit an Extraction and Gauging Plan	Condition met	The original Plan was approved on March 22, 2012.
1	Implement Extraction & Gauging Plan	Ongoing	An updated Streamflow & Water Quality Management Plan, including the Extraction & Gauging Plan, was approved on August 4, 2014. Variations approved in 2015 and 2018. Implemented throughout the reporting period. OEMP revised in 2021 and approved in 2022 for consolidation.
2	Submit a Sustainable Diversion Limit Plan	Condition met	The original Plan was approved on April 15, 2011.
2	Implement Sustainable Diversion Limit Plan	Ongoing	Incorporated into the updated OEMP approved in 2022. N/A for current operating period.
3	Submit a Biodiversity Management & Offset Plan	Condition met	The original Plan was approved on April 15, 2011.
3	Implement Biodiversity Management & Offset Plan	Ongoing	Incorporated into the updated Offset Delivery Plan in 2012. Implemented throughout the reporting period. OEMP and sub-plans revised in 2018 and consolidated in 2022. ODP remains standalone.
4	Submit a Burra Creek Environmental Management Plan	Condition met	The original Plan was approved in March 2012.
4	Implement Burra Creek Environmental Management Plan	Ongoing	Implemented in the revised OEMP.
5	Prepare and implement a Decommissioning & Closure Plan	N/A	Decommissioning is not anticipated in the medium to long term.
6	Provide Annual Performance Reports and publish them on the Icon Water website	Ongoing	Between 2013 and 2025, Annual Performance Reports were submitted to the Commonwealth and published on <a href="#">Icon Water's external website</a> .
7	Maintain accurate records of activities and make them available on request	Ongoing	Accurate records are kept and are available on request. No data requests were made during the reporting period.
8	Variations must be submitted to the Minister for approval and implemented if approved.	N/A	N/A for current operating period
9	Variations sought by the Minister	N/A	N/A for current operating period
10	Advise the Department of the commencement of construction and operation	Condition met	Construction commenced on 31/01/2011. Operation began on 27/09/12, as advised to the Commonwealth on 04/10/12.
11	Upon direction of the Minister, conduct an independent audit of compliance	N/A	N/A for current operating period

## 4.2 Performance against Objectives and Targets of the OEMP

Objective	Performance	Target	Current Status / Achievements
1. Minimise environmental impacts during operations and maintenance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implemented the full suite of management plans, including OEMP and Biodiversity Offsets Delivery Plan.</li> <li>- All regulators approved the revised OEMP in February 2022.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure compliance with OEMP, sub-plans, and environmental regulations.</li> <li>- Maintain up-to-date versions of OEMP and sub-plans.</li> <li>- Report all environmental incidents to authorities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Compliance Register is maintained in SharePoint.</li> <li>- OEMP is accessible on Icon Water IMS and external site.</li> <li>- All incidents were reported and managed per the OEMP.</li> <li>- There were one 'Operate to Maintain' sessions held in January and May 2025</li> </ul>
2. Minimise impacts on aquatic ecology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Aquatic ecology monitoring is conducted via the Murrumbidgee Ecological Monitoring Program (MEMP).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish baseline data before operation.</li> <li>- Prevent fish impingement and alien species translocation.</li> <li>- Set water quality trigger levels.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pre-operation baseline data established (since 2008-09).</li> <li>- Fish egg filters in place at intake.</li> <li>- Site-specific water quality triggers defined in OEMP.</li> </ul>
3. Minimise geomorphological impacts on Burra Creek.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implemented OEMP to manage flow volumes and protect geomorphology.</li> <li>- Monitoring conducted via MEMP.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish erosion monitoring before operations.</li> <li>- Implement mitigation if bank erosion detected.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No bank erosion detected due to operations.</li> <li>- Geomorphology monitoring established since 2009.</li> </ul>
4. Minimise impacts on terrestrial ecology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implemented Landscape Rehabilitation &amp; Terrestrial Ecology Management Plan and Offset Delivery Plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish compensatory habitat offset package.</li> <li>- Prevent weed infestation.</li> <li>- Ensure compliance with rehabilitation plans.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All plans approved by authorities.</li> <li>- Rehabilitation areas handed back to landholders.</li> </ul>
5. Minimise impacts on heritage values.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implemented heritage protection measures as per OEMP.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prevent erosion impacting heritage sites (e.g., London Bridge).</li> <li>- Prevent complaints related to heritage impacts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No incidents impacting heritage values.</li> </ul>
6. Minimise noise and vibration impacts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Submitted and received approval for M2G Compliance Noise Assessment (2013).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prevent noise/vibration complaints.</li> <li>- Ensure compliance with noise regulations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Compliance with ACT and NSW noise regulations maintained.</li> </ul>

7. Minimise impact on air quality.	- No dust or odour complaints received during the reporting period.	- Prevent visible dust emissions and offensive odours.	- Managed to prevent emissions and odours according to guidelines.
8. Minimise bushfire hazard and manage risk.	- Implemented Bushfire Management Sub Plan and controls.	- Prevent bushfires during operations and maintenance.	- Work Instructions followed to prevent ignition risks.
9. Respond to community complaints effectively.	- Community Information Plan in place to manage complaints.	- Address noise/vibration complaints promptly.	- No complaints received during reporting period.
10. Recordkeeping and reporting.	- Maintained records and submitted reports to regulators.	- Submit Annual Performance Reports to the Commonwealth.	- All reports published on <a href="#">Icon Water's external website</a> (2013-2025).

## **Talk to us**

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