



MDBA Have Recalculated Averages Before

The New South Wales Irrigators Council has again called on the Murray-Darling Basin Authority to recalculate and republish figures determining the average annual inflow to the Basin in light of the past two years of high water availability.

Council Chief Executive Officer Andrew Gregson today revealed that the Authority has recalculated averages previously, and has argued that they must now do so again.

“One of the first actions the MDBA took that raised the hackles of productive water users was to recalculate inflow averages that had initially been done by NSW in setting Water Sharing Plans.

“We’ve had a look back through some of that information – including a document on the MDBA’s own website – which reveals that they’ve previously recalculated averages in the Gwydir using updated data in *exactly the same way that we’ve asked them to do now*.

Gregson pointed to the document “Comparison of watercourse diversion estimates in the proposed Basin Plan with other published estimates” ([here](#)) in which the MDBA state that “a different modelling period” used in their calculations resulted in a 4.4% variance on total inflows in the Gwydir Valley.

“In that case, the MDBA added more data from drought years and came up with a lower average.

“We’re asking them to do exactly the same thing across the Basin; add the latest data – meet the “best available” criteria – and recalculate the average.

“If it’s good enough for you to do it on the dry side, it’s good enough for you to do it on the wet side.”

ENDS

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