



LATE ITEMS ORDINARY MEETING

AGENDA

9 MARCH 2021

Your attendance is required at an Ordinary meeting of Council to be held in the Council Chambers, 232 Bolsover Street, Rockhampton on 9 March 2021 commencing at 9:00am for transaction of the enclosed business.

In line with section 277E of the Local Government Regulation 2012, it has been determined that it is not practicable for the public to attend Council meetings in person at the current time. Until further notice, Council meetings will instead take place via videoconference and will be livestreamed online.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "C. P.", written in a cursive style.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
5 March 2021

Next Meeting Date: 23.03.21

Please note:

In accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, please be advised that all discussion held during the meeting is recorded for the purpose of verifying the minutes. This will include any discussion involving a Councillor, staff member or a member of the public.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
10	OFFICERS' REPORTS	1
10.13	MOUNT MORGAN NO. 7 DAM REACHES TRIGGER FOR LEVEL 6 WATER RESTRICTIONS	1

10 OFFICERS' REPORTS

10.13 MOUNT MORGAN NO. 7 DAM REACHES TRIGGER FOR LEVEL 6 WATER RESTRICTIONS

File No:	1466
Attachments:	1. Mount Morgan Average Daily Water Use 2. Excerpt from Drought Management Plan
Authorising Officer:	Peter Kofod - General Manager Regional Services
Author:	Jason Plumb - Manager Fitzroy River Water

SUMMARY

Following further hot, dry weather, the storage level in No. 7 Dam has decreased and is now beneath the trigger for the implementation of Level 6 Water Restrictions. This report describes the current status of the dam storage level and the implications associated with implementing this increased level of water restrictions. Short term contingency arrangements and potential long term opportunities to improve Mount Morgan's water supply security are also discussed briefly.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT Level 6 Water Restrictions are implemented for the Mount Morgan Water Supply Scheme as per the drought management plan to limit demand to less than 0.8 ML per day and that relevant information is communicated to the Mount Morgan community to clarify requirements for all water users in order to maximise the available raw water supply.

THAT the date of commencement of restrictions be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer.

COMMENTARY

The storage level in No. 7 Dam has decreased further since Level 5 Water Restrictions were implemented in December 2020. With limited rainfall and significant evaporation losses and water consumption since that time, the dam storage level is now approximately 9.5% of full capacity. At this level, the dam has now reached the trigger for the implementation of Level 6 Water Restrictions as outlined in Council's Drought Management Plan.

Level 1 Water Restrictions were implemented by Council following a decision made in May 2019. In September 2019 Council decided to implement Level 2 Water Restrictions and during November and December, the average daily water consumption was approximately 1.1 ML/d and beneath the Level 2 demand target of 1.3 ML/d. This outcome reflects the great efforts being made by the Mount Morgan community to conserve water and extend the life of the available supply.

In early December 2019, the storage level in No. 7 Dam decreased passed the 30% trigger for Level 3 Water Restrictions, however, since that time the average daily water consumption has remained at approximately 1.15 ML/d which is lower than the Level 3 demand target of 1.2 ML/d, but above the demand target of 1.1 ML/d for managing demand when the storage level decreases below 25%.

The gradual decrease in the No. 7 Dam storage level from 25% to 10% over the last 12 months was due to the receipt of only periodic rainfall and the great water conservation efforts of the Mount Morgan community throughout this period. The current La Nina event has not delivered significant summer rainfall to create streamflows to fill the No. 7 Dam. It is therefore appropriate that Level 6 Water Restrictions are implemented to help limit water usage and conserve the remaining raw water supply. A description of the restriction measures for water use at each of the restriction levels is provided in the attached document. Given that the average daily water usage over the last three months (see

Attachment 1) already meets the demand target of 0.8 ML/d for Level 6 it is considered appropriate to keep the current Level 5 provision in place for watering of Private Gardens (see Attachment 2) on the proviso that the 0.8 ML/d target continues to be met.

In the event that the No. 7 Dam is not able to supply meet the demand of the Mount Morgan Water Supply Scheme due to insufficient quantity or unacceptable quality, drinking water will be transported from the Rockhampton Water Supply Scheme to ensure a continuous supply of drinking water to Mount Morgan. A trial delivery of drinking water from Gracemere (Rockhampton Water Supply Scheme) to Mount Morgan using water tanker trucks was recently completed to confirm the feasibility of this contingency arrangement in readiness for implementation if required.

Council is current working through the development of opportunities to improve Mount Morgan's water supply security. These opportunities current being assessed include the construction of new water storages, pipelines to augment supply to Mount Morgan, making safe use of the abundant water supply in the mine pit and the potential for a pumped hydro-electric scheme. Consultation with the Mount Morgan community on these options is expected to commence within the next 1-2 months.

BACKGROUND

Based on the recently completed Regional Water Supply Security Assessment (RWSSA) for Mount Morgan, the No. 7 Dam holds greater than two years of water supply when full with good evidence that with water restrictions implemented, the storage is able to supply water to the community for almost five years with little to no substantial inflow to No. 7 Dam. This assessment was based on the period from 2003-04 to 2007-08 during which at one point the dam level reduced to approximately 3%. The current remaining supply volume is expected to ensure available water supply for at least the next 3 months and probably and long as 6 months with water restriction measures in place.

The Mount Morgan community has not been subjected to water restrictions for most of the last decade with the dam filling on average almost once a year during this period. Even during these years of more abundant water supply, the Mount Morgan community has demonstrated continued water-wise behaviour with average annual residential water usage per property in Mount Morgan almost 50% lower than that in Rockhampton in recent years. This ongoing water-wise behaviour will be important in helping to ensure that the implementation of water restrictions is an effective means of reducing water demand and maximizing the remaining dam storage volume.

As indicated above, Council's Drought Management Plan includes a range of measures to control or restrict water use by the community, including Council sites. Measures for Level 6 Water Restrictions that are over and above what is currently in place for Level 5 restrictions include for private gardens, the prohibition of all outdoor water use as a means by which the daily demand target for Level 6 of 0.8 ML/d is met.

The Drought Management Plan provides a process for customers to seek an exemption to the proposed restrictions, with the customer to provide supporting information for review prior to any decision to grant an exemption being made by Fitzroy River Water. The implementation of Level 6 Water Restrictions is intended to increase the means by which water consumption can be reduced and remaining water resources conserved, whilst trying to minimize the impacts on customers where possible.

PREVIOUS DECISIONS

On 7 May 2019 Council adopted the recommendation to implement Level 1 Water Restrictions for the Mount Morgan Water Supply Scheme. On 3 September 2019 Council adopted the recommendation to implement Level 2 Water Restrictions for the Mount Morgan Water Supply Scheme. On 28 January 2020, Council adopted the recommendation to implement Level 4 Water Restrictions. On 24 November 2020, Council adopted the recommendation to implement Level 5 Water Restrictions. In each instance, determining the date for commencement of the Water Restrictions was delegated to the Chief Executive Officer.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The implementation of Level 5 Water Restrictions is expected to further reduce water consumption through the coming months and this is likely to cause a slight reduction in revenue received through consumption based charging in Mount Morgan. Should the delivery of drinking water from Gracemere to Mount Morgan be required continuously, it is likely to cost up to approximately \$5,000 per day. Council is currently in discussion with the Queensland Government to ensure that financial assistance can be provided to Council as appropriate.

LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

Under s41 of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* water service providers have the power to restrict water supply based on considerations where continued unrestricted use is not in the public interest or where it relates to part of a comprehensive strategy for demand management.

CONCLUSION

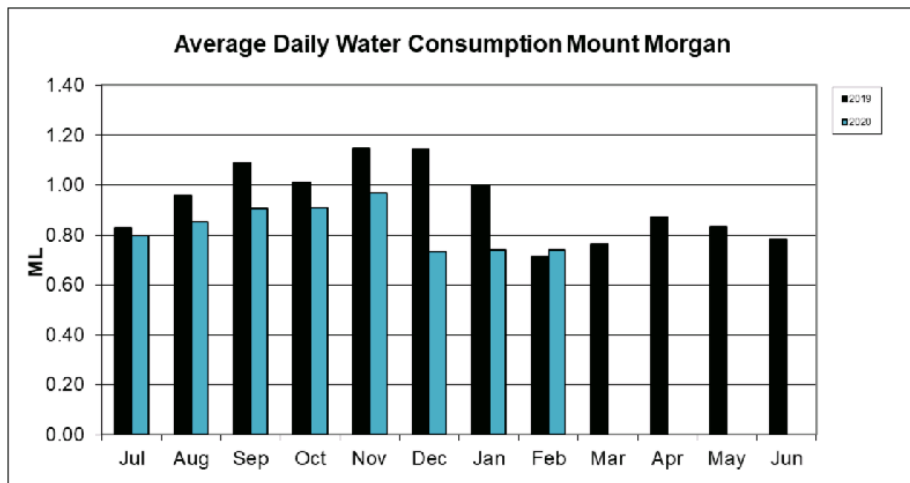
The decreasing storage level in No. 7 Dam requires careful management of water demand to ensure that this important water supply can meet the needs of the community for as long as possible. The implementation of Level 6 Water Restrictions is now required in order to achieve this outcome.

**MOUNT MORGAN NO. 7 DAM
REACHES TRIGGER FOR LEVEL 6
WATER RESTRICTIONS**

**Mount Morgan Average Daily Water
Use**

Meeting Date: 9 March 2021

Attachment No: 1



**MOUNT MORGAN NO. 7 DAM
REACHES TRIGGER FOR LEVEL 6
WATER RESTRICTIONS**

**Excerpt from Drought Management
Plan**

Meeting Date: 9 March 2021

Attachment No: 2

Table 14: Mt Morgan Trigger Levels & Consumption Targets

Restriction Level	Trigger Guide (Capacity)	Target Consumption (ML/d) (average)
0 – no restrictions	>50%	N/A
1	<50%	1.4
2	40%	1.3
3	30%	1.2
4	25%	1.1
5	15%	1.0
6	10%	0.8

Table 15: Restriction Levels

Purpose	Restrictions on Use of Water					
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
PRIVATE GARDENS (Single Dwellings, Duplexes and Multi-Unit Developments)	No watering permitted during the hours of 9.00am to 4.00pm. No restrictions for recycled water or bores.	No watering permitted during the hours of 9.00am to 4.00pm. <u>Hand held</u> watering on any day of the week between 4.00pm and 9.00am. Irrigation systems and sprinklers can only be used as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Odd numbered properties – Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday; o Even numbered properties – Wednesday, Friday & Sunday; o No watering permitted on Mondays. No restrictions for recycled water or bores.	Irrigation systems and sprinklers banned. No watering of existing turf/lawns permitted. New turf by limited exemption. <u>Hand held</u> watering permitted only during the hours of 6.00am-9.00am and 5.00pm-8.00pm. No restrictions for recycled water or bores.	Irrigation systems and sprinklers banned. No watering of existing turf/lawns permitted. New turf by limited exemption. <u>Hand held</u> watering permitted only during the hours of 6.00am-9.00am and 5.00pm-8.00pm as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Odd numbered properties – Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday; o Even numbered properties – Wednesday, Friday & Sunday; o No watering permitted on Mondays. No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Irrigation systems and sprinklers banned. No watering of existing turf/lawns permitted. No watering of new turf. Bucket watering only permitted during the hours of 7.00am-8.00am and 5.00pm-6.00pm as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Odd numbered properties – Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday; o Even numbered properties – Wednesday, Friday & Sunday; o No watering permitted on Mondays. No hoses to be connected to taps No restrictions for recycled water or bores	No outside use of potable water permitted. No restrictions for recycled water or bores.
CAR & BOAT WASHING	Hose fitted with a trigger or twist nozzle or bucket anytime	Hose fitted with a trigger or twist nozzle or bucket anytime	Hose fitted with a trigger or twist nozzle or bucket during the times permitted for hand watering Exemption required otherwise	By bucket during the times permitted for hand watering Exemption required otherwise	Not permitted except at commercial car washing facilities	▪ Not permitted except at commercial car washing facilities

Purpose	Restrictions on Use of Water					
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
SWIMMING POOLS – EXISTING	No restrictions apply	No restrictions apply	Top-up permitted during hand watering times	Top-up permitted during hand watering times	No top-up permitted	No filling permitted
SWIMMING POOLS – NEW	No restrictions apply	No restrictions apply	No filling permitted	No filling permitted	No filling permitted	No filling permitted
DRIVEWAYS/FOOTPATHS/HOUSES	Allowable	Only with high pressure equipment	No wash down permitted	No wash down permitted	No wash down permitted	No wash down permitted
COMMERCIAL BUSINESSES	No restrictions apply for businesses that use potable water outside as part of their core business (eg builders, dog washers, bricklayers, concrete cutters, pressure cleaners, landscapers, car and boat detailers)	No restrictions apply for businesses that use potable water outside as part of their core business (eg builders, dog washers, bricklayers, concrete cutters, pressure cleaners, landscapers, car and boat detailers)	No restrictions apply for businesses that use potable water outside as part of their core business (eg builders, dog washers, bricklayers, concrete cutters, pressure cleaners, landscapers, car and boat detailers)	No restrictions apply for businesses that use potable water outside as part of their core business (eg builders, dog washers, bricklayers, concrete cutters, pressure cleaners, landscapers, car and boat detailers)	No restrictions apply for businesses that use potable water outside as part of their core business (eg builders, dog washers, bricklayers, concrete cutters, pressure cleaners, landscapers, car and boat detailers)	No restrictions apply for businesses that use potable water outside as part of their core business (eg builders, dog washers, bricklayers, concrete cutters, pressure cleaners, landscapers, car and boat detailers)
BOWLING GREENS, GOLF GREENS ONLY, TURF CRICKET PITCHES	Restrictions as for private gardens No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as for private gardens Exemption required otherwise No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as for private gardens Exemption required otherwise No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as for private gardens Exemption required otherwise No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as for private gardens Exemption required otherwise No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as for private gardens Exemption required otherwise No restrictions for recycled water or bores
COMMERCIAL NURSERIES	No restrictions apply No restrictions for recycled water or bores	No restrictions apply No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as per private gardens Exemption required otherwise No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as per private gardens Exemption required otherwise No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as per private gardens Exemption required otherwise No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as per private gardens Exemption required otherwise

Purpose	Restrictions on Use of Water					
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
						No restrictions for recycled water or bores
COUNCIL PARKS & GARDENS & SPORTS GROUNDS	Restrictions as for private gardens for potable water No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as for private gardens for potable water No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as for private gardens for potable water No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as for private gardens for potable water No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as for private gardens for potable water No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as for private gardens for potable water No restrictions for recycled water or bores
SCHOOLS	Restrictions as for private gardens for potable water No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as for private gardens Exemption required otherwise No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as for private gardens Exemption required otherwise No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as for private gardens Exemption required otherwise No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as for private gardens Exemption required otherwise No restrictions for recycled water or bores	Restrictions as for private gardens Exemption required otherwise No restrictions for recycled water or bores
PUBLIC HEALTH PURPOSES	No restrictions apply	No restrictions apply	No restrictions apply	No restrictions apply	No restrictions apply	No restrictions apply
DEVELOPMENT SITES	No restrictions apply, however, use of non-potable water is preferred	No restrictions apply, however, use of non-potable water is preferred	No restrictions apply, however, use of non-potable water is preferred	No use of non-potable water permitted No restrictions for recycled water or bores	No use of non-potable water permitted No restrictions for recycled water or bores	No use of non-potable water permitted No restrictions for recycled water or bores
STOCK WATERING	No restrictions apply	No restrictions apply	No restrictions apply	No restrictions apply	No restrictions apply	No restrictions apply
BEACH SHOWERS	Beach showers connected	Beach showers connected	Beach showers connected but on timed discharge	Beach showers connected but on timed discharge	Beach showers connected but on timed discharge	Beach showers connected but on timed discharge