

Scottsdale Irrigation Scheme, Tasmania

Securing Australia's Water Future

A national and long term approach to water infrastructure

Australia's water infrastructure and the water it provides are critical enablers of our economy and quality of life.

While Australia has a strong record of water management and investment; climate change and an expanding agriculture sector are putting pressure on our water resources. Australia needs a new national approach to water infrastructure planning and investment.

The Australian Government is acting now to support our agriculture and primary industry sectors and assist drought-affected regions.

It is critical that governments plan and invest in water infrastructure to make Australia more resilient to extreme weather events and to sustain our regional communities.

The Australian Government established the National Water Grid Authority (the Authority) to play a key role in shaping national water infrastructure policy and investment.



Did you know

The National Water Grid will:

- Be a series of region-specific water storage and distribution solutions that secure predictable supplies of water now and into the future.
- Help grow Australian agriculture, increase water security and build resilience, and support regional prosperity.
- Be a combination of water storage and water distribution networks, with the objective of ensuring that sufficient water is available to meet demand.
- Consider all options and combinations, including dams, reuse, desalination, groundwater, natural waterways, channels and pipelines.
- Utilise world-best science to ensure the right infrastructure is built in the right places.

"The National Water Grid will provide water infrastructure that is tailored to the needs of our regions."



“A 10 year rolling program ensures support and investment in Australia’s regional economies for the long term.”



The Authority is bringing together world-best science and working in partnership with state and territory governments to identify, plan and invest in the dams, weirs, pipelines, water recycling plants and other projects that will deliver the National Water Grid, helping deliver secure and affordable water for rural and regional Australia.

To date over \$1.5 billion has already been committed to identify, co-fund and build water infrastructure projects in partnership with state and territory governments.

The Australia Government is building on this existing investment with an additional \$2 billion in funding for new water infrastructure projects through the National Water Grid Fund. The Australian Government is also planning for the long term by establishing the fund as a 10-year rolling program of priority water infrastructure investments.

A 10 year \$3.5 billion rolling program for priority water infrastructure projects will help ensure support and investment in Australia’s regional economies for the long term, growing agriculture, increasing water security, and building resilience.

Our Science Program

Science plays an important role in identifying the opportunities to improve water security in Australia’s regions, and in delivering the next generation of Australia’s water infrastructure through the National Water Grid.

The National Water Grid Authority Science Program has been developed around three themes to support the delivery of the National Water Grid.

- **Theme 1: Water resource analysis**
Where and how water resources can be developed to increase water supply to support the agriculture and the primary industry sectors.
- **Theme 2: Alternative and emerging options**
Identification of emerging opportunities or new water technologies that can be leveraged to overcome supply constraints and enhance the supply capacity of existing water infrastructure
- **Theme 3: Communicating science**
Supporting stakeholders and the community through communicating the outcomes of scientific research on potential water infrastructure investments.

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What is the National
Water Grid?

National Water Grid
Investment Framework

Working in
Partnership