

On-Call/Afterhours number **0409 605 720**

Water Order Number **07 4977 5840**

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**At a Glance** – in this newsletter:

- **Annual Shutdown** – Works Completed
- **Fixed and Variable Charge** – Increase from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022
- **Announced Allocation** – 82%
- **Clear Access around Water Meters** – Thank you
- **Acrolein Injection Program** – Timing of Acrolein Injections for 2022
- **Scheme Distribution Rules and Service Targets Review** – put your suggestions forward

## Annual Shutdown

Rain to fill the soil profiles prior and then mostly fine weather during the 3-week shutdown allowed Eton Irrigation to complete several projects which will improve operations and efficiencies.

Works completed:

- Desilted 1250m of the Main Channel (near Oakenden Pump Station) and the Abingdon Balancing Storage.
- Replaced 5 faulty isolation gates.
- Replaced 6 faulty isolation valves including one that had the pipes out of alignment.
- Replaced one damaged herringbone safety screen. That screen will be repaired and used to replace any other damaged screens in the future.
- Replaced 20 faulty air valves.
- Replaced 5 faulty scour valves.
- Other assorted repairs (Pipe Leak, Earthworks, WHS walkway mod, Oakenden Surge Tank Legs, MO Air Inlet Riser).

SunWater did not install the meter on the Main OT – they were unable to secure a contractor in time to do the work. SunWater will install it a future time that fits in with EICL (ie avoiding high demand – most likely winter shutdown 2023).

## Fixed and Variable Charge Increase from 1st July 2022

In the LMA Offer Document which was sent to all customers prior to the transition, an increase in charges was projected until 2023/24. In line with the offer document the board has resolved to increase the Fixed and Variable Charges for 2022/23 and the customers were notified. The new charges are:

- Fixed Charges (Part C) \$45.23 per ML
- Variable Charges (Part D) \$15.51 per ML

This increase in the charges will come into effect from 1st July 2022. The fixed charge increase will first appear on the July invoice as these charges are invoiced in advance. The variable charge increase will first appear on the October invoice as these charges are invoiced in arrears.

No other increases in EICL Fees & Charges this year, as per the schedule which is located on our website.

## **Announced Allocation**

The Announced Allocation (June 1<sup>st</sup>) is 82% of your water allocation.

## **Clear Access around Water Meters**

During the recent meter readings, it was noticed that the Operators had clear access to read the water meters. Thank you for your assistance in providing a safe site for the Operators to complete their duties.

## **Acrolein Injection Program**

Due to the restricted supply of the product and the amount we currently have in storage, EICL is planning to complete only 2 treatments of the system around the following dates, depending on weed growth, weather conditions and water demand:

- Late September or early October 2022
- Late November or early December 2022

Prior notification of the exact dates of these events will be sent to customers closer to them occurring. If we can secure more product sooner, we will change the plan and let customers know.

## **Scheme Distribution Rules and Service Targets Review**

The Scheme Distribution Rules and Service Targets are the rules that govern how we operate the system and define service targets. A copy of the rules can be found on the website on the *Customer Information* tab as the *Scheme Distribution Rules*.

Some changes have been suggested to these rules by EICL members. Changing these rules can have significant consequences, so the Board has adopted a deliberately cautious approach to conduct a review of the whole document rather than assess individual items on a one-off basis.

Below is a timeline to consult with the members and send proposed changes to the members for a vote in accordance with the Constitution.

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| • July Invoice Newsletter | Request for Rules Modification Suggestions    |
| • End of July             | Publish Initial Discussion Paper              |
| • End of August           | Receive Responses to Initial Discussion Paper |
| • End of September        | Publish final proposed changes paper          |
| • End of October          | Send out voting papers with AGM notice        |

Some of the changes suggested to date include:

- Allow new applications for Rural Residential (S&D) Offtakes (discussion paper presented at the December 2021 Board meeting).
- Suggestions from the AGM to reduce the notice periods in the hope that works could be done during the season when demand is very low.

In line with the above timetable, EICL is calling for suggestions to change the rules that members would like to put forward and any comments on those suggestions. These will be included in the discussion paper for deliberation by all the members.

## **Austin Evans**

GM Eton Irrigation

0427 277 906

[austin.evans@etonirrigation.com.au](mailto:austin.evans@etonirrigation.com.au)