

From: Ingrid E Pottage, 10 Lambie St, Cooma NSW 2630 M: 0458357812

Access to Lots 111, 91 14 “ Part Waterford” via Dalgety, NSW

Dear Sir,



The purpose of this letter is to discuss problems with property access due to Snowy Hydro water releases. I wish to acknowledge in principle that I am not against the environmental releases that the NSW and Victorian governments instigated a few years ago which helped to restore the Snowy River that had suffered environmental degradation since the construction of Jindabyne dam in 1967. However, the releases have impacted my access across the river (photo left) to the extent that I now require access through neighbouring properties who don't want me traversing. Since the Snowy Hydro water releases, which have resulted in me not being

able to cross the Snowy many times during the year, I have to use the alternative access which in reality, historically, is only an emergency access. The picture (below) of the Beloko Creek crossing illustrates the difficulty that the alternative access provides (even in a four wheel drive) in order to arrive at my property. Because of consistently high Snowy River levels this alternative access through neighbours' properties has been excessive to the extent that one neighbour has now locked the gate. This action has exacerbated the difficulty in access to my property "Part Waterford". This also affects the three adjoining properties in the vicinity, namely Waterford, Tomagaddy and Creek Station.

I have owned my property for almost 30 years and



have always forded the Snowy River during this time, this access being available for at least the past 50 years. There haven't been any problems until the environmental releases commenced, except for the occasional severe weather event such as thunderstorm surge (below).



This may affect access to our properties for a few days which we accept and cope with. We would use the Tranquility Lane access (through Rangeview) in these circumstances but new owners have now locked the gate as mentioned above. Incidentally, Beloko Creek crossing is usually high during inclement weather events but this is the less dangerous option.

The current situation this year has seen the water releases cause the river to rise where I couldn't get in for 9 days. The forecast releases for the next two months (September and October) will result in me being unable to cross the river for 49 days. Following this, a 5 day window allows for access followed again by another 11 days of high river flows and non-access (refer to DPI 2017-18 Snowy River daily release targets). This is very unacceptable and is causing me to make other unsuitable arrangements.

Most important though, Alex G Andrich (Waterford) and Alex and Clare Andrich (Tomagaddy) run their business on the three properties Waterford, Tomagaddy and Part Waterford. There are animals requiring attention, including bulls and cows, in

paddocks which require water and monitoring to make sure they are contained and healthy. The cows are calving at present and it is essential they be monitored in case of problems. This year we have also had major feral deer and kangaroo infestation, together with low rainfall, which has resulted in insufficient feed and caused us to supplement stock feed by hand which requires continuous access to the properties.

Because of the high volume water releases could government please consider a causeway over the Snowy River and/or a legal requirement of neighbours to allow us alternative access?

Ingrid Pottage

17 August 2017

The effect of the increased water flow from environmental releases to properties Waterford, Part Waterford and Tomagaddy has made us an island

Dear Sir

27th August 2017

The purpose of this letter is to show the affect to us from the effect of the environmental releases. By compiling information from the 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18 water year snowy river daily release targets (see attached documents analysis 15 16 17, 15/16 WR, 16/17WR, 17/18 WR) I am addressing the first TOR for environmental releases into the Snowy River.

June 2015 had 3 days over 400ML

June 2016 had 17 days over 400ml

June 2017 had 18 days over 400ml

I was unable to access my land via the river crossing on these days so we were using the Beloko Creek crossing which is not passable after a thunderstorm either.

July 2015 had 11 days over 400ML

July 2016 had just 3 days over 400ML

Yet July 2017 had 29 days over 400ML

This year the environmental releases have really impacted on our lives by not being able to access our land due high unsafe water across our usual access. This has caused a major feral animal problem which is limiting the feed that the cattle now have, due to not being present on the properties Waterford, Tomagaddy and Part Waterford to tend to our animals. This is causing major loses in income and increasing stress levels for all three properties and their families.

August 2015 had 23 days over 400ML

August 2016 had 9 days over 400ML

August 2017 had 26 days over 400ML

It is starting to become clear that the environmental releases were less in 2016 as I wrote to the water.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au so 2016 was easier than 2015 and 2017. With the increase in traffic our other emergency access has been locked due to excessive use. This is only a courtesy access. I am showing the figures for my Subaru Forrester which only just gets through at 400ML. One of the major issues is that you don't always release the water at the same time and you can't trust the timing. You always drive through in anticipation. Have I read the chart correctly is there a big hole in the centre of the crossing since the last big release but we need to get through our once accessible crossing

As of August 6th 2017 until November 30th there is not a day under 400MLS meaning that my Forrester or any smaller vehicle cannot get to Waterford and properties with no other access to fall back on we are in dire straits. There was a major increase this year in water flow without any consideration for us the landowners who now own an island. It is great to see the snowy looking healthy but it is detrimental to our lives and placing undue stress to our beautiful properties.

In Feburary 2016 I started writing to DPI below is the letter I sent to Simon Williams

To: Simon Williams

16th Feb 2016

Re: Cross the Snowy River to access DP756672 91, 14 and 111

Please refer to my email sent to water.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au. Sorry it has taken so long to address this issue in regard to water releases in to the Snowy River. Access to my land is by crossing the Snowy River along Werralong Road. I was initially led to believe that it was just a short term flush of the Snowy. But now I understand it is an ongoing program to rejuvenate the Snowy River which I fully support. However over the last couple of years the inconsistent release of water makes it difficult to function without constant reference to a timetable. Due to the variable rising waters this has caused a great inconvenience to me and neighbouring properties.

- Unable to sell the land as it is now an island 9 months of the year
- Not being able to go home and having to pay for accommodation in Berridale or Cooma
- Having to stay on the property until the waters recede. Loss of income
- Reading the timetable and finding the river is unsafe to cross. This may be acceptable in daylight but at night it is a very hazardous situation
- Not being able to go to work or take grand children to school, preschool, swimming or doctors etc etc etc

In order to have consistent river depth and be able to cross, the letting out of an even amount of water all year round would be ideal. This then would make it safe to cross without living by a timetable. 400ML is safe to cross in my Subaru Forrester.

If we could build up the crossing so it was higher this would give us better access. I know the Alex Andrich Jr has been building up the crossing with river pebbles and sand to enable us to cross but I understand this may be illegal to do so.

Do we speak to Council or our local member of parliament?

Please consider making changes to the way you release the water into the Snowy River. By releasing say 350-400ML all year round this could give you the quota that you require without jeopardising landowners.

To enable you to continue using the same water release program it is imperative that the crossing is made safe for us to cross. When we purchased our property in 1988 this was how we accessed our property- driving along Werralong Road and then fording the Snowy River to get to Waterford Park, Tomagaddy, Waterford Heights and Creek Station.

Ingrid Pottage 16 Feb 2016

Email to water.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au 2 August 2016

My name is Ingrid Pottage and I am a landowner who is unable to gain access through the Snowy River when water releases exceed 400mls for access. I have a Subaru Forrester.

It is great to see the flushing of the Snowy River but when it stops land owners from gaining access to their own land it is not acceptable. My land is situated between the Beloko Creek and the Snowy River. If you are letting out more than 400ml and it has been raining then there is no way to get home as the Beloko Creek is also up, this leaves me stranded and no way to gain access to my land. It is immensely hard for families living with rising waters in inclement weather. I have owned land since 1988 and have loved living with nature but since the water releases one is bound by a table. What if I misread the chart and went home in the dark and drove through the crossing. Or if we need to go to hospital at night the only alternative is by helicopter.

I hear you are looking at releases of over 500mls for 9 months of the year. Does that mean you will be getting a bridge so that we can get home to our land? Would it be better to, let's say release 350ml out all year round with maybe a flush here and there? It will make an interesting story. **LAND OWNERS CAN'T ACCESS THEIR PROPERTIES 9 MONTHS OF THE YEAR DUE TO WATER RELEASES.** How do we look after our animals when they are calving. Do we sell the land we love due to rising waters. Please reassess the amount of water that is released at one time. Anything over 400ML will stop our access being safe. You don't want a law suit on your hands. We are always told not to go through flood waters. It is not safe for travelling. We have lost our home which is an island 9 months of the year. Are you going to compensate the cost of moving which is not what we want? Also the loss of income due to lack of access to tend to stock is a major consideration.

Any more than 400ML of water stops me or any 2 WD vehicles from getting to and from my land safely.

Ingrid Pottage 2/8/2016

Back in August 2016 I then spoke with Gavin Hanlon, Bunty Driver, and Simon Williams then received this letter in the Mail from DPI this specific letter is for L Stace who was one of the owners of Creek Station. I received exactly the same letter which I don't have a copy of now. Please accept all this information so you can understand our dilemma. I have been to Snowy River Shire Council and spoken with Gary Shakespere and have sent information to the Lands Department and also Alysia Smith at John Barilaro office. I rang Simon Williams just recently and he told me to put in this submission to the Snowy Licence Review. Sorry if this letter jumps back and forwards but it has been an ongoing process which has not had a positive outcome yet.



Department of
Primary Industries
Water

BN16/1075

Lochlin Stace
Jindabyne Pastoral Holdings
78 Harvey Road,
Kings Park, NSW 2148.
lochlinstace@optusnet.com.au

Dear Mr Stace

Access to property 1027 Werralong Road, Berridale NSW

Thank you for your letter dated 4 February 2016 regarding the Snowy River and access to your property near Werralong Rd, Berridale NSW.

In the late 1990s, following the Snowy Water Inquiry, NSW entered into legal agreements with the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments, and with Snowy Hydro Limited, to increase flows and improve the health of the iconic Snowy River.

With widespread public support, the return of flow to the Snowy River commenced in 2002. Snowy flows have been growing ever since, and should reach the target of 21 per cent of its former long-term average annual natural flow in the next year or two.

Over this extensive period, DPI Water (and its prior organisations) has undertaken comprehensive public consultation and gained considerable public support for returning flows to this famous Australian river.

DPI Water is legally bound to instruct Snowy Hydro Limited each year to make the releases to the Snowy River, and, while there may be some room to adjust release patterns across the year, there is no scope to undo the Snowy Water Initiative.

DPI Water suggests that you discuss options to improve local roads and property access with your local development control authority, Snowy River Shire Council.

If you would like more information about proposed Snowy River flows, I have arranged for Simon Williams, Environmental Water Manager to be available. Simon can be contacted on 0413 601 500 or simon.williams@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

26/2/16

Gavin Hanlon
DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL, WATER

Access to DP 756672 lots 91, 14 and 111

Please we need help to access our properties due to the effect of the environmental releases by Snowy Hydro.

The Snowy River causeway that we have crossed for the past 29 years has a good base we have been filling it with the river gravel from the river to build it up. This has allowed us access 90% of the time other than natural rainfall. When it rains the Kara Creek will join up with the Snowy River when this happens you know it is too deep to cross. You get to know the crossing. Now with the environmental releases the dynamics of the crossings have changed, no longer does Kara Creek flow into the Snowy River unless there has been natural rainfall and a little bit of rain doesn't bring up the crossing or Kara Creek. My point is that only the Snowy River natural causeway needs to be built up this would enable us to ford the river to gain entry to our land most of the time. This needs to be done sooner rather than later.

We are in desperate need of a solution to the problem that the environment releases have affected the way we live our lives and business.

The purpose of this letter is show the affect to us from the effect of the environmental releases. We need government assistance to gain our rightful access which we had before the Snowy Hydro releases.

Regards

Ingrid Pottage

Part Waterford

Werralong Road

Berridale NSW 2630

27 August 2017

Home address:



Ingrid Elisabeth Pottage 10 Lambie Street, Cooma, NSW 2630 Phone 02 64524730 Mobile 0458357812

2015-16 WATER YEAR SNOWY RIVER DAILY RELEASE TARGETS

Updated - 30 Jun 15

Daily release patterns are notified to Snowy Hydro Ltd from the NSW Office of Water in February of the preceding water year.

Note: Daily targets may be updated by NSW Office of Water at any time. All updates will be uploaded to the Snowy Hydro website as they occur.

Days highlighted in green and blue include an 8 hour high flow event. This means that for 8 hours on these days, flows from the dam will be significantly higher than the daily target. The peak values for the days highlighted in green are shown on the right. The day highlighted in blue is the flushing flow and is discussed in the box below.

- A 3464ML/day (40.1m³/s)
- B 1949ML/day (22.6m³/s)
- C 3217ML/day (37.2m³/s)
- D 2973ML/day (34.4m³/s)

Calendar of Snowy River Daily Release Targets - Low Flows and Peak Releases in ML

Day	May 2015	June 2015	July 2015	August 2015	September 2015	October 2015	November 2015	December 2015	January 2016	February 2016	March 2016	April 2016
1	The NSW Office of Water requested that from 1/05/15 to 31/05/15, the Mowamba Weir be turned out in order to enable a scientific study. During this time, Snowy River releases included all natural flow from the Mowamba River and a small release of 40ML/day from Jindabyne Dam. The daily targets from August 2015 to April 2016 will be updated to ensure the annual total is met.	306	363	350	1020	941	496	1059	277	259	132	121
2		284	342	412	749	903	524	635	283	204	124	108
3		277	408	433	576	805	544	556	290	178	117	579
4		250	347	372	640	801	D 2233	580	281	245	110	310
5		222	325	345	591	677	1007	483	251	690	108	287
6		205	315	336	584	698	971	442	225	292	108	237
7		181	284	329	576	682	776	458	213	275	100	282
8		201	913	325	567	587	776	453	195	265	102	205
9		271	583	350	C 2453	563	644	358	184	277	99	170
10		338	495	395	933	566	614	326	175	247	95	158
11		229	443	462	752	598	540	315	164	216	92	148
12		205	493	A 3507	761	915	503	320	167	246	88	140
13		187	449	997	768	719	474	305	164	276	96	139
14		175	388	689	631	578	446	288	153	216	82	141
15		222	297	608	635	563	424	289	147	185	79	132
16		388	277	554	591	640	369	513	142	166	78	124
17		325	281	674	783	569	376	498	153	153	76	119
18		256	272	507	695	543	389	335	136	144	72	115
19		244	263	537	634	564	363	311	413	138	71	115
20		385	261	494	801	850	343	683	673	134	74	112
21		265	253	484	725	577	357	521	466	174	76	108
22		215	240	484	684	518	741	483	387	200	81	107
23		206	235	452	611	483	740	1072	280	207	67	105
24		191	241	440	590	459	441	655	253	183	92	104
25		187	239	436	630	711	403	531	307	142	407	103
26		203	257	471	622	704	677	458	251	132	502	100
27		239	843	560	665	567	669	416	221	124	208	108
28		830	642	636	922	E 3335	520	382	192	137	151	210
29		941	425	797	813	1162	810	346	188	136	130	149
30		480	350	636	722	715	798	317	156	156	116	125
31			333	F 3464		741		294	172		117	
Annual Total: 147,884												

The 2015 flushing flow is currently scheduled for the 28th of October 2015. The scheduling of the flushing flow will be dependent on inflows during spring. Snowy Hydro will work closely with the NSW Office of Water around scheduling these flows. The flushing flow will also include an 8-hour peak flow of 8,110ML/day (93.9m³/s).

The NSW Office of Water will be managing the community notification process around this major release. If you are a landholder we strongly suggest you contact the NSW Office of Water on the details provided below to discuss what the flushing flows will mean to river levels at your property.

If you have any questions regarding the daily release arrangements contact the NSW Office of Water on 1800 353 104 or water.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au

2016-17 WATER YEAR SNOWY RIVER DAILY RELEASE TARGETS

notified to Snowy Hydro Ltd from the NSW
preceding water year.

underlined by NSW DPI Water at any time. All
The Snowy Hydro website as they occur.

Days highlighted in green and blue include an 8 hour high flow event. This means that for 8
hours on these days, flows from the dam will be significantly higher than the daily target. The
peak values for the days highlighted in green are shown on the right. The day highlighted in blue
is the flushing flow and is discussed in the box below.

- A. 2115ML/day (24.5m³/s)
- B. 2236ML/day (25.9m³/s)
- C. 2536ML/day (29.4m³/s)
- D. 3079ML/day (35.6m³/s)

Calendar of Snowy River Daily Release Targets - Low Flows and Peak Releases in ML

	June 2016	July 2016	August 2016	September 2016	October 2016	November 2016	December 2016	January 2017	February 2017	March 2017	April 2017
1	154	321	275	352	823	469	663	471	87	177	88
2	155	316	319	355	761	435	342	258	80	153	85
3	148	302	467	349	737	468	276	107	80	114	123
4	144	309	471	343	684	494	281	95	80	88	126
5	142	548	368	338	1115	385	480	89	80	80	105
6	140	548	367	355	2175	366	649	84	80	80	100
7	130	443	379		1587	362	366	80	80	80	89
8	740	381	383	1005	1221	370	291	80	84	125	83
9	576	354	338	940	1110	399	257	80	81	181	81
10	546	342	317	919	1052	406	240	80	103	108	82
11	564	317	324	923	949	354	226	80	80	184	89
12	441	304	524	570	896	342	211	80	80	199	93
13	847	304	460	562	862	375	196	80	80	111	89
14	648	300	450	550	819	326	181	80	80	90	237
15	878	287	447	557	774	289	170	80	80	133	188
16		279	418	768	747	275	156	80	80	192	238
17	941	285		854	860	258	149	80	80	103	159
18	714	272	632	929	773	253	150	80	80	86	151
19	619	268	386	1103	774	256	178	80	80	80	176
20	546	275	357		707	261	146	80	80	138	135
21	499	302	352	1110	670	503	131	312	80	127	117
22	461	265	337	1052	622	297	119	232	120	93	105
23	435	258	336	1269	722	264	113	119	418	88	101
24	412	273	317	1319	652	239	116	83	151	93	97
25	381	266	312	1360	542	304	120	80	85	88	95
26	374	251	306	1066	499	352	104	80	80	81	95
27	353	244	304	931	491	568	106	80	100	99	99
28	363	242	303	1184	477	323	105	80	99	90	179
29	347	283	372	963	476	282	100	80		100	131
30	330	315	413	884	477	375	91	80		128	93
31		292	342		491		88	104		100	

is currently scheduled for the 5th of October 2016. The scheduling of the flushing flow will be dependant on inflows during spring. Snowy Hydro will work closely with the NSW DPI
ing these flows. The flushing flow will also include an 8-hour peak flow of 2,105 ML/day (33.5m³/s).
will be managing the community notification process around this major release. If you are a landholder we strongly suggest you contact the NSW DPI Water on the details provided
the flushing flows will mean to river levels at your property

2017-18 WATER YEAR SNOWY RIVER DAILY RELEASE TARGETS

Updated - 5 Apr 17

Daily release patterns are notified to Snowy Hydro Ltd from the NSW DPI Water in February of the preceding water year.

Note: Daily targets may be updated by NSW DPI Water at any time. All updates will be uploaded to the Snowy Hydro website as they occur.

Days highlighted in green and blue include an 8 hour high flow event. This means that for 8 hours on these days, flows from the dam will be significantly higher than the daily target. The peak values for the days highlighted in green are shown on the right. The day highlighted in blue is the flushing flow and is discussed in the box below.

- A. 4552ML/day (52.7m³/s)
- B. 3324ML/day (38.5m³/s)
- C. 3552ML/day (41.1m³/s)
- D. 4121ML/day (47.7m³/s)

Calendar of Snowy River Daily Release Targets - Low Flows and Peak Releases in ML

Day	May 2017	June 2017	July 2017	August 2017	September 2017	October 2017	November 2017	December 2017	January 2018	February 2018	March 2018	April 2018	
1	The NSW DPI Water requested that from 1/05/16 to 31/05/16, the Mowamba Weir be turned out in order to enable a scientific study. During this time, Snowy River releases included all natural flow from the Mowamba River and a small release of 40ML/day from Jindabyne Dam. The daily targets from August 2016 to April 2017 have been updated to ensure the annual total is met.	64	1190	372	523	1234	828	377	620	192	151	97	
2		64	887	368	472	1229	731	326	1157	186	141	94	
3		67	732	353	439	1555	686	312	519	179	138	99	
4		127	639	333	430	430	X 8100	650	314	394	172	148	100
5		361	582	327	447	4767	630	336	1087	170	365	95	
6		143	615	688	464	2569	608	288	827	183	283	91	
7		103	648	1307	535	2046	583	268	690	374	194	89	
8		108	518	689	549	1746	649	265	479	376	169	182	
9		168	476	812	839	1591	1015	270	440	233	158	162	
10		221	495	585	989	1482	828	265	1750	210	149	114	
11		271	1165	531	794	1478	1790	280	1322	746	138	104	
12		625	2052	500	863	1716	1179	522	895	1228	131	98	
13		1202	C 2672	468	676	1546	943	311	650	488	129	92	
14		A 3427	1337	478	586	1716	915	592	533	391	208	89	
15		1625	1186	625	565	1546	D 3102	1096	464	340	153	91	
16		1189	1187	547	758	1543	2045	858	426	321	132	102	
17		1033	894	729	955	1917	1258	727	382	276	131	205	
18		990	777	502	1048	1509	1122	838	357	249	127	132	
19		677	692	452	1079	1292	1015	729	331	223	118	112	
20		521	657	432	1038	1195	561	618	308	213	112	104	
21		455	647	449	816	1304	699	496	285	199	109	102	
22		462	591	628	1068	1945	549	417	268	183	106	216	
23		434	536	498	889	1643	485	382	252	170	105	145	
24		374	503	704	783	1322	495	360	258	208	109	126	
25		1780	472	703	735	1171	498	337	486	206	126	115	
26		1132	452	512	744	1121	494	303	393	207	113	109	
27		B 2501	423	462	965	1077	668	287	276	192	109	108	
28		1190	405	439	1340	978	611	264	245	174	102	104	
29		761	409	574	1180	904	439	278	228		110	227	
30		611	395	508	1177	888	389	262	219		107	263	
31			384	651		938		253	201		100		
Annual Total: 218,500													

The 2016 flushing flow is currently scheduled for the 4th of October 2016. The scheduling of the flushing flow will be dependant on inflows during spring. Snowy Hydro will work closely with the NSW DPI Water around scheduling these flows. The flushing flow will also include an 8-hour peak flow of 13,000ML/day (150.5m³/s).

The NSW DPI Water will be managing the community notification process around this major release. If you are a landholder we strongly suggest you contact the NSW DPI Water on the details provided below to discuss what the flushing flows will mean to river levels at your property.

If you have any questions regarding the daily release arrangements contact the NSW DPI Water on **1800 353 104** or water.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au