

**The Hon Rose Jackson MLC**

Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness,  
Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, Minister for the North Coast



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Ms Shelley Scoullar  
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Dear Ms Scoullar *Shelley*

Thank you for your letter of 22 May 2023 about Murray-Darling Basin Plan matters. This response follows on from my recent reply to your letter of 4 May 2023 concerning buybacks to meet water recovery targets.

I am firmly of the view that more time, flexibility, and a balanced approach is needed to meet our remaining Basin Plan commitments. NSW will continue to advocate for a timeframe extension to enable projects that we have commenced to be completed and deliver their intended environmental outcomes. We will also continue to explore all opportunities to bring forward new projects and seek investment in non-flow and other projects that deliver broad ecological outcomes and support river health.

As you may be aware, the Australian Government recently opened a consultation process to capture ideas on delivering the 450 gigalitres of additional environmental water and to supplement the estimated Bridging the Gap shortfall. Solutions from Basin communities and industries will be a critical part of ensuring we deliver the outcomes of the Basin Plan in a way that supports regional economies and I encourage you, and your members, to participate in the consultation process to put forward suggestions on how the Basin Plan should be delivered.

More information and the survey to capture ideas is available on the Department of Climate Change, Energy the Environment and Water website: <https://consult.dcceew.gov.au/ideas-to-deliver-the-basin-plan>

Thank you for raising these matters with me.

Yours sincerely

**Rose Jackson MLC**

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*I hope you are well - I encourage you to participate in the Federal Govt consultation process - as buyback are primarily a decision for them its important all voices / options are heard by them.  
R.*

Date: