

CORURGAN COMMENT

Circ. No 07 - 2025
July 2025 – PART 1



That time of year!

Welcome to the July 2025 Corurgan Comment.

The West Corurgan Annual General Meeting (**AGM**) will be held on Tuesday August 26th 2025 at the Oaklands RSL/Bowling Club. **The meeting will start at 5pm.** Our guest speakers this year will be **Andrew McConville, CEO MDBA and our local MDBA representative Sam Campi.** It would be great to see as many people as possible attend this years AGM.

Our application to the NSW Government for \$154,680,255 of funding for our Modernisation Project, has been assessed by the NSW Expert Panel and progressed to the NSW Government Steering Committee. The NSW Government Steering Committee has approved our application, and **“Recommended”** it to the Federal Government for consideration.

Our application consists of two major projects.

1. **A stand-alone Piped and pressurised Stock and Domestic system**
2. **Modernisation and upgrading of the West Corurgan Irrigation supply system.**

These two projects, if successful, will be funded under the Federal Governments **“Resilient Rivers Water Infrastructure Program (RRWIP)”**. This program provides funding for projects that improve/upgrade irrigation water infrastructure and create water delivery efficiencies and savings. The water savings will be returned to the Government under the **“Restoring our Rivers Act”** and put towards the 450GL of extra water the Federal Government is wanting to provide to the environment.

I do not know how long the Federal Government will take to assess our application, I’m sure they will ask more questions and seek more information.

Current Dam Levels

Dartmouth Dam – 67%

Hume Dam – 39%

Allocation Announcement

July 1st – 1% AWD for General Security water

Our winter maintenance program is well underway; Tony and the team are getting plenty of work done. We have been focusing on reinstating channel banks where they have been eroded and fixing leaks around checks and wheels. We will be installing two new 455mm Aquamonix magflow pit-meters to two farm outlets in July. These outlets will be as a trial to see if they could be suitable future replacement meters for Dethridge wheels.

If you have an outstanding account, please pay as soon as possible. I remind all members that if you have not paid your fees or have outstanding accounts, I won’t be able to supply your property with water. Please call me or the Office if you need to discuss any accounts in arrears.

Peter Hamilton
General Manager

Office Administration

July First Quarter fee invoicing

The FIRST QUARTER Network and Fixed Gov't Fee invoices have been raised and will be emailed tomorrow.

All government pass-through charges for Water NSW, MDBA and WAMC are based on LAST YEAR'S FEES. The Future Fund Levy is also included in this July invoice. The Future fund Levy is split into two, not quarters.

As a result of adding another five lines to explain the Future Fund Levy on the invoice, **many invoices will now be two pages.**

I realise this is annoying, but it is unavoidable.

The final amount owing is shown on the second page. The first page has a blank box.

The invoice number is the same number and appears on both pages.

A SAMPLE INVOICE IS PROVIDED IN PART 2 OF JULY CORURGAN COMMENT NEWSLETTER.




Outstanding Fees

Reminder if you irrigate and you haven't paid your fees, it will be 'a dry 'ol time in Dodge City'



AGM

The AGM is just around the corner. 

Tuesday 26th August 5.00pm, Oaklands RSL.

Peter has secured two excellent speakers whose roles directly impact on West Corurgan.

So, here is your opportunity to hear what they have to say and to ask that questions you have always wanted the opportunity to ask.

The MDBA may not be on the Christmas Card list for some NSW farmers but make the most of the opportunity and come and have a chat. (Respectfully!)

It is amazing what you might learn over a slice of Pavlova!

Resolution

On Friday 4 July I sent an email to Members advising of a Resolution that will be presented at the AGM. This is simply to formally accept the Board setting the fees and charges in early June for the next financial year.

RESOLUTION:	To Accept and Adopt Clause 5, Section 1.1 <i>Procedure of Setting Rates and Charges</i> in The West Corurgan Rules. The Rules were adopted 12 February 2025 and effective 1 March 2025. 5.1.1 Procedure for setting rates and charges <i>The rules must have procedures for setting rates and charges.</i> <i>At the first meeting of members, it will be resolved that the Board will set the rates and charges in early June for each following financial year.</i> <i>In setting the rates and charges the Board will use the calculations, explanations and procedures set out in Appendix A.</i>
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Please make a note of the AGM date and make a concerted effort to attend.

Dinner is provided and it is an excellent opportunity to catch up with friends and especially with people you hardly know. Just say 'hello'. That always starts a conversation.

I was also saddened to learn of the passing Lynn Langridge – the cook at the Oaklands RSL Bowling Club. Lynn was always very accommodating to West Corurgan, particularly as our numbers are never certain and our timing is always 'fluid'.

Catering to 'rubbery' information is never easy, but a lovely meal was always had by all. Debbie



General Policy Booklet

We are struggling!!

June just zipped away and the chance to review the General Policy Booklet has zipped away right along with it.

And July has already presented software challenges, and we are only at week one!

Still hopeful, but the Eternal Spring is fast becoming dry, just like Dodge City.



2025-2026 Schedule of Fees & Charges

The Board met on Thursday 12th June and prepared our Budget for 2025-2026 and determined the WCPID fees for 2025-2026. The Budget was based on DRAFT IPART fees, some of which have now been confirmed, so the Budget will be reviewed again at the July Board Meeting.

On 20th June the FIRST QUARTER 2025-2026 Schedule of Fees and Charges were emailed and/or posted to all Members.

Whilst one or two Member expressed their 'opinions', in general, all Members accepted the fee increases and recognised that most fees only increased by the CPI 2.4% increase.

As already mentioned, the FIRST QUARTER Network and Fixed Gov't Fee invoices have been raised and will be emailed shortly.

All pass-through charges for Water NSW, MDBA and WAMC are based on LAST YEAR'S FEES. This will require an adjusting line item on the October (SECOND QUARTER) invoice, once the final 2025-2026 fees are confirmed.

As always, I will keep you informed.

If you have any questions regarding the Schedule of Fees, please don't hesitate to contact the Office for clarification.

After all the hassles..... If you see a spelling mistake.... Don't tell me! That would be just too much! Also, please let me know if you have not received a copy of the FIRST QUARTER Schedule of Fees & Charges, happy to organise a copy for you. [Although, if you wait 3-months you will get an updated one!!]



Future Fund Levy

Following discussions at the 2024 AGM & the Member February 2025 Meeting and as opinions were sought in April 2025, the Board has instigated a \$10 Levy.

I have copied below an excerpt from the explanatory email I sent out to everyone on 20 June 2025.

The introduction of a Future Fund Levy in no way impacts the budget or contributes toward the budget and was not discussed during the Budget preparation Meeting.

As raised with Members at the past two Annual General Meetings and at the February 2025 General Member Meeting, the Board is conscious of the need to:

- Undertake major capital structure upgrades*
- Reduce current debt*

*Following feedback from the above meetings and from Members directly in recent weeks, **the Board has decided to introduce a Future Fund Levy, effective 01.07.2025.***

The Levy will be charged:

\$5.00 per Delivery Entitlement and

\$5.00 per ML water usage.

The Levy DE component will be charged half-yearly – July and January (\$2.50 per DE biannually). It will not be a separate invoice but will be a separate line item.

The Levy ML Usage component will be charged monthly for the water users based on usage for that month.

It will not be a separate invoice but will be a separate line item.

All funds from the Levy will be banked into a separate bank account, not into the normal operation bank account.

The Levy will be reviewed in June 2030.

These funds may need to be used over the next five years, but funds in and out of this bank account will be specific to achieving the goals the Levy was designed for.

*The Future Fund Levy fee has been charged for the first time on the 08 July 2025 invoice - \$2.50 x DE.
The charging of the ML usage component will commence once irrigation commences.*

Whilst the West Cororgan Newsletter is primarily provided to keep Members informed of all water matters relating to the WCPID Scheme, you will note it also has a lighter side. It is this lighter side that should be read in the spirit for which it is intended and with 'tongue firmly planted in one's cheek'! 😊 Debbie