

## **NRAR Quarterly Report 7: Q1 2025**

14/04/2025

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Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR)

## **Enforceable Undertaking Commitments**

### **Contents**

- Water balance Model
- Proposed Water Metering
- Calculating Water Take
- Forecasting water take for allocation acquisition
- Industry Learnings
- Surface Water Management Plan
- Consultation

### **Water Balance Model (WBM)**

The Goldsim Water Balance Model (WBM) has been implemented and reported internally every month which is assisting in guiding a holistic approach to water management, across the site.

The WBM is also allowing BCOPL to validate water intercepted from undisturbed catchments and forecast when groundwater/river extraction will be required due to low site water storage.

The WBM was updated in March 2025 which contemplates future site storages. In accordance with Appendix 1 of the Enforceable Undertaking (EU), BCOPL will notify NRAR of major changes in future quarterly reports.

### **Proposed Water Metering**

As previously mentioned, all metering and telemetry has been installed in accordance with Appendix 1 of the EU and monitoring is ongoing.

### **Calculating Water Take**

A verification model was run to assess the model's accuracy in representing the rainfall runoff response to the WMS and to estimate the volume of runoff intercepted from the undisturbed catchment in the previous quarter.

The Site Water Balance data in **Figure 1** indicates the modelled storage volume (blue line) is similar to the observed storage volume (orange line). The modelled storage has showed a similar rise in the last few days of March due to a large rainfall event after a dry summer.

Figure 1: Water Model Run as of 31 March 2025.

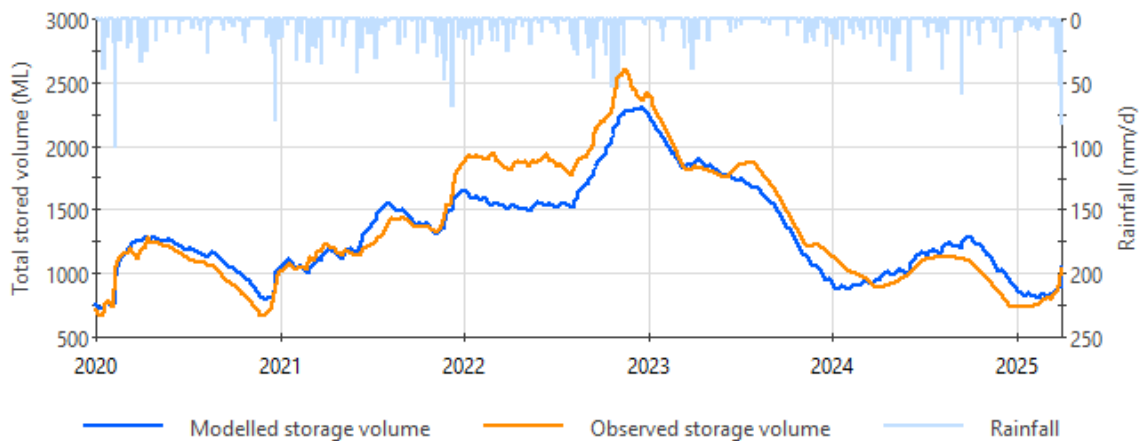


Table 1: Rainfall during reporting period

Month	Rainfall (mm)
January 2025	32.8
February 2025	25.6
March 2025	174.8

Table 2: Estimated & Actual volume of runoff intercepted from soil stockpile dam undisturbed catchment Oct-Dec 2024

	Estimated runoff Volumes into Soil Stockpile dam from undisturbed catchment	Metered pump volumes Actual Interception (Soil Stockpile dam)
Volume (ML)	22.15	~20*

\*Meter failure due to debris from pumping lead to inaccurate numbers after March rainfall event. Approx value based off dam size and inspections.

Over 90% of the water intercepted from minor and non-minor water courses occurred from the 28/3-31/3 due to a significant rainfall event where 137mm rain fell over the period. Runoff from this rainfall event will carry over into the Q2 report.

BCOPL had sufficient licence to account for unregulated water take during the quarter.

Table 3: Total Licensable take for Jan-Mar 2024

	Runoff from Third order and higher watercourses	Runoff from minor watercourses	Runoff from minor watercourses in excess of landholdings' harvestable rights
Volume (ML)	112.08*	39.41*	0

\* The model update occurring in March 2025 has led to an increase in take during Q3 & Q4 leading to increased water take (as seen above). These discrepancies have been covered in the above figures.

Third order or higher watercourses Bluevale water used WY to date: 168.0ML

Minor Watercourse Bluevale water used WY to date: 59.08

### Forecasting water take for acquisition allocation.

A Water Balance Model forecast was run to ensure BCOPL holds sufficient water allocation to account for future surface water take (See figure 2). See results below:

Three-month BOM Climate Outlook April – June 2025: Wet

Table 5: Predicted water take Apr-Jun 2025

	Predicted Runoff from Third order and higher watercourses	Predicted runoff from minor watercourses	Predicted runoff from minor watercourses in excess of landholdings' harvestable rights	Predicted volume requiring licencing
Volume (ML)	60.47	21.27	0	60.47

Remaining Bluevale licence under WAL44134: 418ML

### Industry learnings

- The installation of real-time metering has allowed BCOPL water managers to make real-time decisions around storages and water movement across the site.
- Additional pumping, pipework and filtration installed as part of the process has facilitated the use of dam water in the Coal Processing Plant, thereby reducing the requirement for the use of bore water.
- The real-time storage monitoring will also reduce the need for regular survey pickup of dam storage levels which is a strain on resources and can vary with human error.

- The Goldsim model has provided reliable modelling of our site water storages recently during dry times which has allowed the mine to adequately prepare groundwater bore infrastructure and implement water saving initiatives on site.

### **Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP)**

DPHI approved BCOPL's SWMP on 17 September 2024. A copy was emailed to NRAR on 24 September. The approved SWMP includes relevant information from the Enforceable Undertaking including licencing, metering, telemetry and monitoring requirements. BCOPL is currently reviewing the SWMP to align with the recently approved Modification 8. Once approved, BCOPL will provide a copy to NRAR.

### **Consultation**

Initial consultation has been conducted with members of the local Aboriginal community (25 July 2023) to discuss the background to the Enforceable Undertaking and to commence the discussion on past impact of water take on Aboriginal communities and their cultural practices. Follow up meetings were held in October 2023, January 2024, June 2024 & March 2025. During all meetings, discussions have taken place around cultural water management on both our mine footprint and offsets. A site inspection with Registered Aboriginal Parties was facilitated on 27 March 2025 to observe the local hydrology and discuss past and potential future impacts of the operation.

A final report is currently being prepared which will detail consultation undertaken with the local Aboriginal community and will be submitted to NRAR in June 2025.

A copy of this report will be disseminated to the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs).

Consultation also took place at the February 2025 CCC meeting. No issues were raised.

Figure 2: Predicted licensable water take for Apr-Jun 2025.

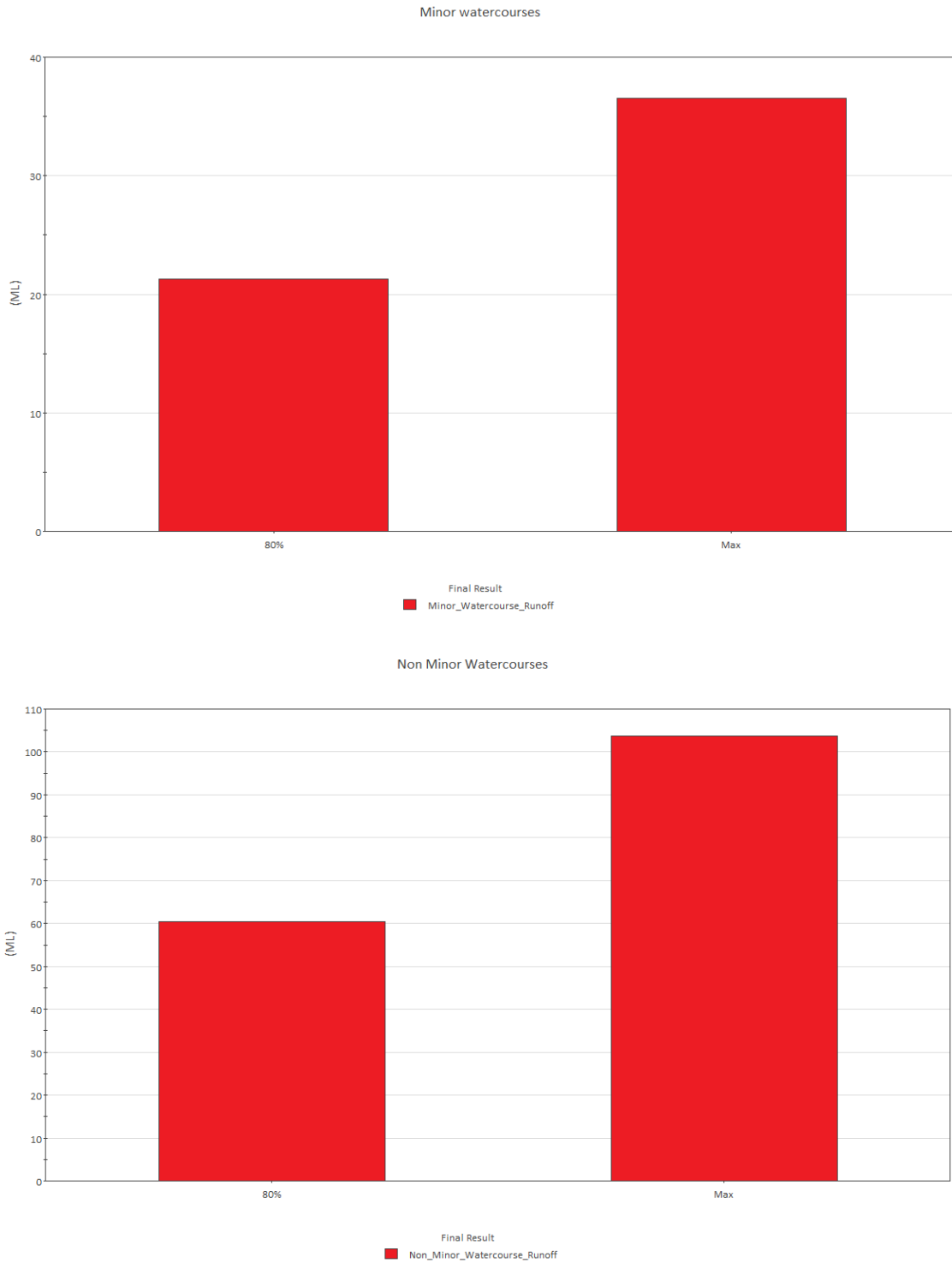


Figure 3: Predicted Site storage Volumes Apr-June 2025.

