



Media Release

25 November 2019

TENTERFIELD'S WATER SITUATION UPDATE 25 NOVEMBER 2019

In commencing this update, Tenterfield residents are reminded of the following important issues:

- Level 4.7 Water Restrictions remain in place with bucket watering only allowed between 5.30 pm and 6.00 pm (no hand held hoses are allowed for residential properties);
- The Boil Water Alert remains in place until further notice.

Water drilling continues as the objective is to establish more than one reliable source of groundwater in different (separated) geological zones to ensure long term water security for the town of Tenterfield. Virtual drilling is yet to be undertaken at Polworth Street and further assessment of the land behind the Tenterfield Museum to an increased depth of 300 metres will be undertaken to establish the best location for a high capacity production bore to be constructed in the future if required.

To date, three (3) bores with good prospects have been identified in the area to the west of the Tenterfield Transport Museum and it is expected that at least one of these bores, combined with ground water extracted from Shirley Park Bore will provide a flow of approximately 11 litres/second. This will support the needs of Tenterfield in the short term.

Further, water bores constructed east of the Dam have the combined capacity to deliver water at around 3 to 4 litres/second. These bores will be equipped as production bores over the coming weeks.

New rising mains are to be built which will connect all these bores to the Water Treatment Plant. Construction work has commenced and will continue over the next two to three months.

In the short term, Council will hire a Reverse Osmosis water treatment unit to treat the bore water and ensure water quality as determined by the NSW Department of Health.

This unit is to be installed in approximately two weeks.

Following the storm event on Sunday, 24 November 2019, the dam level has risen by 1 metre which now puts the capacity at approximately 36%. Unfortunately, as predicted, the rapid water runoff caused flash flooding in Tenterfield Creek and damage to bridge and road infrastructure.

"We are by no means out of the woods", said Mayor Peter Petty.

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“Last week, the evaporation rate was reducing the dam level by 10mm per day, despite the bore water being pumped in, and with the hot weather likely to continue, our water issues will continue for a while yet”, the Mayor added.

“Council thanks all our residents for their diligence in water use and seeks your continued forbearance while our staff work through all the issues”, he concluded.

ENDS