



Central Tablelands Water

State of the Region 2021 – 2024



Acknowledgement

We gather on Wiradjuri country on which members and elders of the local indigenous community and their forebearers have been custodians for many centuries and on which aboriginal people have performed age old ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal, we acknowledge their living culture and their unique role in the region.

Endorsed by Council: 16 April 2025

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Our Elected Members

Central Tablelands Water County Council (CTW) is a constituency of three local government areas, namely, Blayney Shire, Cabonne Region and Weddin Shire. The Council comprises two delegates each elected by their constituent council for a four-year term. The below were CTW councillors as at 2023/24.

BLAYNEY SHIRE COUNCIL



Cr David Somerville



Cr Allan Ewin

CABONNE SHIRE COUNCIL



Cr Andrew Rawson
CHAIRPERSON



Cr Marlene Nash

WEDDIN SHIRE COUNCIL



Cr Paul Best



Cr Michelle Cook
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON

What is the State of our Region Report?

Background

The State of our Region (previously known as the End of Term Report) is an overview on Council's and the community's progress in implementing the Business Activity Strategic Plan (BASP) during the term. It is important for us to have a document that defines how we want to grow into the future.

The Business Activity Strategic Plan is part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework that County Councils use for strategic and operational planning.

The Report

The State of our Region Report is prepared under the IP&R framework. It serves as the outgoing Council's report to its community, reporting on Council's progress in implementing the BASP during its term, focusing on the initiatives Council has direct influence over. It will also assist in informing the new Council when it reviews the BASP within nine months of its election. The State of our Region Report focuses on how effective council has been in delivering objectives over the term of the previous council. It reports against the high-level strategies and priorities of the BASP. The Report covers the highlights and achievements over the term of Council.

Our Vision

An independent regional water authority providing a quality water supply – reliably and sustainably.

Our Values

We value our:

- Customers,
- Independence, sustainability, efficiency and innovation,
- Skilled and capable workforce in delivering an essential service, and
- Role as a regional collaborative partner and leader.

Chair Comments

2023-2024

Central Tablelands Water is not your average water utility. As a county council operating across three Local Government areas, our reach is extensive, and we face numerous challenges across a diverse landscape. Despite the aftermath of extreme flooding in 2022 and ongoing wet weather over the past three years, CTW has maintained its professionalism and unwavering commitment to delivering the highest quality water to our consumers efficiently.

2024 was a transformative year for Central Tablelands Water (CTW), marked by significant transitions, including personnel changes, the completion of key infrastructure projects, new governance arrangements, and the emergence of exciting developments

Our new General Manager, Charlie Harris, came across from Cabonne Council. With decades of experience in water utilities and local government water resource management, Charlie is well-equipped to lead CTW into the future. Outgoing GM Gavin Rhodes accepted a new role as General Manager at Lockhart Council, closer to his family roots.

In 2023/24 Cllr David Somerville retired as Chair after 10 years of dedicated service, and Cllr Alan Ewin also retired.

2022-2023

After 3 wet years, we headed into a period of below average rainfall. Our cornerstone water security project, the Belubula Water Security Project, involves various alternatives for increased storage. It has been on the drawing board since August 2015 when it was first proposed to the then head of Water NSW the concept of a pipeline linking Lake Rowlands with Carcoar Dam. Water NSW took up the idea and were funded to develop a business case for this pipeline. To supplement this, in 2019, we lobbied State and Federal governments to support a modest proposal to double the holding capacity of Lake Rowlands by increasing the dam wall by 2.2 metres. The following year we received \$1m funding for a preliminary business case for this project.

2021-2022

2021/22 saw a number of fresh faces sitting around the board table of Central Tablelands Water. Andrew Rawson (Deputy Chair) and Marlene Nash (both from Cabonne), Allan Ewin from Blayney and Michelle Cook from Weddin were elected by their councils to the board earlier this year, to join returning councillors Paul Best and David Somerville (Chair).

Key events

2023/24

- Completion of the 12ML reservoir at Carcoar filtration plant in December 2023.
- Completion of the dual direction pipeline between our network and Cowra via Woodstock.
- Telemetry upgrades identified by the Water Loss Management Project with CNSWJO.
- Securing \$7.7 million for the Belubula Water Security Project.
- Commencement of a Catchment Management Plan for Lake Rowlands with Water NSW.
- From a staffing perspective, we acknowledged David Bermingham, who served CTW as a Network Operator for 20 years. We also welcome new staff members, James Beattie (Project manager) and Steve Burrell (Network Operator).
- CTW's dedication to governance and network improvements was recognised with the Sam Samra Award for *Most Improved Water Utility* at the annual Water Management Conference in Goulburn.

12 MEGALITRE RESERVOIR AT CARCOAR WATER TREATMENT PLANT.





2022/23

- Cowra to CTW Emergency Connection Project, including a new pump station at Woodstock and 12ML clear water tank at the Carcoar Water Filtration Plant – both projects are to be completed in 23/24.
- Reticulation mains renewals project in Millthorpe and Canowindra.
- Renewable energy projects at Carcoar Water Filtration Plant and Canomodine Pump Station.

2021/22

- Cowra to CTW Emergency Connection Project, including a new pump station at Woodstock and 12ML clear water tank at the Carcoar Water Filtration Plant – due to COVID restrictions and inclement weather delays, both projects are expected to be completed in 22/23 and 23/24 respectively.
- Reticulation mains renewals project in Millthorpe and Canowindra.

Governance Enhancements

- Transitioning governance processes to the preferred IP&R model.
- Enhancing the independence of the Audit, Risk, and Improvement (ARIC) committee.
- Adopting the Lachlan Regional Water Strategy.
- Advocating for disaster funding rule relaxation for water utilities.
- Implementing new policies on project management, cyber security, and legislative compliance.

Contracts Awarded During Year

Under Regulation clause 217 of the Local Government Act, Council is required to report details of each contract awarded for amounts greater than \$150,000.

2023/24

• Tony Leahy Ford - Fleet Replacement	\$218,000
• Premise Consulting - Western Artery Project	\$216,000
• StateWide Mutual - General Insurances	\$216,342

2022/23

• Iberdrola Electricity Supply - Small Sites	\$2,750,000
• Shell Energy Electricity Supply - Major Sites	\$350,000
• Mick Corby Engineering - Network Equipment and Repairs	\$224,241
• Statewide Mutual - General Insurances	\$185,608

2021/22

• Leeds Engineering and Construction - Construct 12 Ml Reservoir at Carcoar Water Treatment Plant	\$2,734,600
• Tony Leahy Motor Group - Fleet Vehicles Replacement	\$234,100
• Energy Australia - Electricity Supply	\$282,596

Asset Replacement & Upgrades Plan

2023/24

PROPOSED PROJECT	YEAR	REASON	ESTIMATED COST \$
Trunk Main "U" from Condamine Pump Station to the top of the Hill - 7kms	2023/24 to 2024/25	Renewal and Upgrade	2,240,000
Trunk Main "C" Mandurama to "U" to old river pump house - 35kms	2026/27 to 2028/29	Renewal and Upgrade	11,865,000
Trunk Main "U" - "C" to Cudal - 28kms	2030/31 to 2032/33	Renewal and Upgrade	9,660,000
Lake Rowlands Augmentation - 2.2mtrs wall raising	2025/26 to 2027/28	Renewal, Dam Safety and Upgrade	18,000,000
Replace Trunk Main A between Lake Rowlands and Carcoar WTP - 7kms	2029/2030	Renew and upgrade main to improve water transfer	1,800,000
Additional Bore at Goolagong	2026/27 to 2027/28	Provide additional redundancy for bore system	1,180,000
Further Renewal Energy Projects	2023/24 to 2025/26	New assets reduce power usage	350,000
Blayney Water Treatment Plant	2031/32 to 2032/33	Renew and Upgrade Treatment Plant	10,000,000
Reticulation Main Renewals	2023/24 to 2031/32	Renewal and Upgrade - Replace old AC Pipes	870,000
Caragabal Potable Water System	2027/28	Provide potable water to Caragabal and rural consumers	6,000,000

PROPOSED PROJECT	YEAR	REASON	ESTIMATED COST \$
Trunk Main "U" from Conomadsine Pump Station to the top of the Hill - 71ms	2023/24 to 2024/25	Renewal and Upgrade	2,240,000
Trunk Main "C" Mandawana to "U" to old river pump house - 351ms	2026/27 to 2028/29	Renewal and Upgrade	11,865,000
Trunk Main "U" - "C" to Cuddal - 284ms	2030/31 to 2032/33	Renewal and Upgrade	9,660,000
Lake Rowlands Augmentation - 2.2mtrs wall rising	2025/26 to 2027/28	Renewal, Dam Safety and Upgrade	18,000,000
Replace Trunk Main A between Lake Rowlands and Carrara WTP - 71ms	2029/2030	Renew and upgrade main to improve water transfer	1,800,000
Additional Bore at Goolagong	2026/27 to 2027/28	Provide additional redundancy for bore system	1,180,000
Further Renewal Energy Projects	2023/24 to 2025/26	New assets reduce power usage	350,000
Blayney Water Treatment Plant	2031/32 to 2032/33	Renew and Upgrade Treatment Plant	10,000,000
Reticalation Main Renewals	2023/24 to 2031/32	Renewal and Upgrade - Replace old AC Pipes	870,000
Corangabel Potable Water System	2027/28	Provide potable water to Corangabel and rural consumers	6,000,000

PROJECT	YEAR
Trunk Main "U" from Conomadine Pump Station to the top of the Hill -7kms	2023/24 to 2024/25
Trunk Main "C" to "U" to old river pump house - 33kms	2026/27 to 2028/29
Trunk Main "U" - "C" to Cudal - 28kms	2029/30 to 2031/32
Lake Rowlands Augmentation - 2.2mtrs wall raising	2024/25 to 2025/26
Additional Bore at Gooloogong	2026/27 to 2027/28
Renewal Energy Projects	2022/23
Blayney Water Treatment Plant	2030/31 to 2031/32
Reticulation Main Renewals	2022/23 to 2031/32

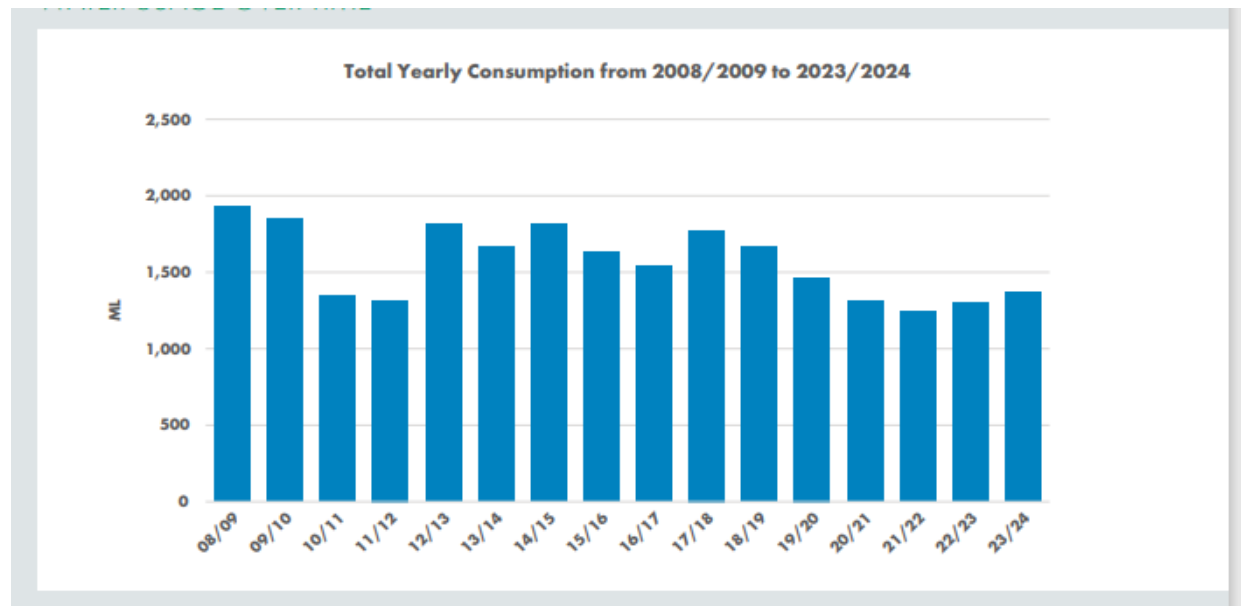
Water consumption

20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	Consumer Type	
620	600	607	630	ML	Single Residential
18	19	19	20	ML	Multi Residential
228	217	246	246	ML	Rural
157	154	160	166	ML	Commercial
186	168	174	178	ML	Industrial
24	19	22	35	ML	Public Parks
36	32	35	40	ML	Institutions
39	33	34	52	ML	Bulk Sales (Cows)
1,308	1,242	1,297	1,367	ML	Sub Total

235	484	419	392	ML	Est. Leakage
95	220	22	87	ML	Flushing of mains
12	5	5	5	ML	Unaccounted
1,650	1,951	1,743	1,851	ML	Total Consumption

20.73%	36.34%	25.59%	26.15%	Water losses as % of total water output	
-32.09%	-35.51%	-32.66%	-29.07%	% increase/decrease consumption on 2008/2009	
-10.72%	-5.05%	-4.43%	-5.40%	% increase/decrease consumption on previous year	

Water usage over time



Delivery Plan Report

Refer to CTW Delivery Plan Report updates provided to Council each 6 months, between 2021/22 and 2023/24.

Financial Statement

Refer to CTW website for the Annual Financial Statements provided between 2021/22 and 2023/24.