



TW HPRM ref: 18/23206

Waratah River Entura Yield Analysis

Questions and Answers

1. Will Waratah run out of water without the dam?

No. Our modelling shows that the likelihood of no flow in the Waratah River to be very low. Our figures show that the maximum peak demand is 0.15Mega Litre/day. The dry weather inflow is approximately 10 times larger than the maximum peak demand. We are therefore very confident that the Waratah township will have an adequate supply of water to meet its needs.

2. Why did TasWater rely on two nearby catchments to do its modelling of daily rainfall-runoff, rather than use data for the Waratah catchment?

Data from the Waratah catchment was not available, therefore the modelling that was undertaken applied data from two neighbouring catchments (Hellyer and Que River).

3. How common is it to undertake modelling using nearby catchments?

While it is preferable to have data from the catchment, where this is not available it is common practice to utilise neighbouring catchments. It should also be noted that the Waratah catchment has high rainfall and the dam's spillway has been constantly spilling (since TW has taken ownership of the dam, the reservoir has spilled constantly).

4. Why didn't TasWater establish a streamflow gauging station as recommended in the Entura Yield Analysis Report?

We are very confident in the modelling provided by Entura given they used a regionalised method to estimate the long term flow in the catchment.

5. Does the town weir provide a backup water source, and what would happen if the town weir is damaged?

TasWater takes its water from the reservoir in the town. If the weir was damaged, and the reservoir level was lowered it would impact on our ability to provide water. Should something like this occur TasWater would make alternative water supply arrangements. We are currently discussing ownership of the weir with DPIPW, and any work undertaken would be done in consultation with them.