

# Murray–Darling Basin Telemetry Uplift Program

## FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT – ENVIRONMENT

Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule	
Parties	<p>The Commonwealth of Australia</p> <p>New South Wales</p> <p>Victoria</p> <p>Queensland</p> <p>South Australia</p>
Duration	This Schedule is expected to expire on 30 June 2027.
Purpose	<p>This Schedule will support the delivery of the Murray–Darling Basin Telemetry Uplift Program (the Program).</p> <p>The program will increase the coverage of metering telemetry across the Murray–Darling Basin.</p> <p>Telemetry is an important tool for governments to quickly monitor water taken from the Basin. The data generated by these devices will improve compliance, improve oversight for the growing water market, and provide regulators and water users with timely information to manage water and rivers.</p> <p>Greater telemetry coverage is recommended in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <i>Murray-Darling Basin Water Markets Inquiry</i>, which was published by the ACCC in 2021. Recommendation 17 refers.</li> <li>• The <i>Water Market Reform: Final Roadmap Report</i>, which was written by Daryl Quinlivan AO and delivered to the Australian Government in 2022. Recommendation 20 refers.</li> </ul>

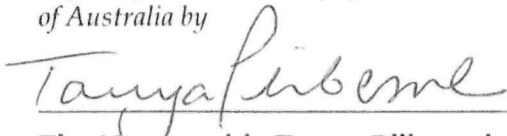
Estimated financial contributions	<p>The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the participating Basin States of up to \$22.6m in respect of this Schedule.</p> <p>The Murray–Darling Basin jurisdictions of NSW, Victoria, South Australia and Queensland are participating. The ACT is not participating with the Program.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="470 607 1412 1261"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="6" style="text-align: left;"><b>Table 1</b></th> </tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><b>(\$ million)</b></th> <th><b>2023-24</b></th> <th><b>2024-25</b></th> <th><b>2025-26</b></th> <th><b>2026-27</b></th> <th><b>Total</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>Estimated total budget</b></td> <td><b>0.7</b></td> <td><b>8.6</b></td> <td><b>9.0</b></td> <td><b>4.3</b></td> <td><b>22.6</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6"><i>Less estimated National Partnership Payments</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>- New South Wales</td> <td>0.7</td> <td>4.0</td> <td>4.9</td> <td>0.9</td> <td><b>10.5</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>- Victoria</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>1.6</td> <td>0.7</td> <td>0.9</td> <td><b>3.2</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>- Queensland</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>2.4</td> <td>1.9</td> <td>0.6</td> <td><b>5.0</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>- South Australia</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.5</td> <td>1.5</td> <td>1.9</td> <td><b>3.9</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions</i></td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Table 1</b>						<b>(\$ million)</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Estimated total budget</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<i>Less estimated National Partnership Payments</i>						- New South Wales	0.7	4.0	4.9	0.9	<b>10.5</b>	- Victoria	0.0	1.6	0.7	0.9	<b>3.2</b>	- Queensland	0.0	2.4	1.9	0.6	<b>5.0</b>	- South Australia	0.0	0.5	1.5	1.9	<b>3.9</b>	<i>Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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Additional terms	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Commonwealth funding is provided to improve the coverage of meter telemetry. Any savings made by participating States, and associated entities, in relation to the agreed project budget, is to be used to increase the number of telemetry devices which are installed by the State or its associated entities.</li> <li>2. The Commonwealth will prepare an annual assessment report for publication on the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water’s website. Participating Basin States will be provided with an opportunity to comment on the draft report before it is finalised and published.</li> </ol>																																																						

Table 2D: South Australia – Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary			
Output	Performance milestones	Milestone due	Payment
Note for all milestones: All evidence must be provided and agreed to the satisfaction of the Commonwealth before a payment is made to the jurisdiction.			
Milestone 1 – (2024-2025)  Preparatory work	Documentary evidence of the agreed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• implementation (works) plans for Project 1 and Project 2</li> <li>• governance, risk mitigation and financial integrity arrangements</li> </ul>	30 April 2025	\$500,000
Milestone 2 - Year 3 work (2025-26)  Supply and installation of telemetry devices	Report demonstrating progress against the implementation plan and providing a budget update. Include the count of telemetry devices which have been supplied and installed compared to the implementation plan.	31 October 2025	\$750,000
Milestone 3 - Year 3 work (2025-26)  a. Supply and installation of telemetry devices b. Mid-program review	Report demonstrating progress against the implementation plan and providing a budget update. Include the count of telemetry devices which have been supplied and installed compared to the implementation plan.  Note: to include a mid-program evaluation of the scheduling, costs, and the implementation plan. Noting amendments (if any) that are needed to ensure the full delivery of the Program.	30 April 2026	\$749,000
Milestone 4 - Year 4 work (2026-27)  Supply and installation of telemetry devices	Report demonstrating progress against the implementation plan and providing a budget update. Include the count of telemetry devices which have been supplied and installed compared to the implementation plan.	31 October 2026	\$1,200,000

<p>Milestone 5 – Year 4 work (2026-27)</p>	<p>Final report demonstrating progress against the implementation plan. Include the count of telemetry devices which have been supplied and installed compared to the implementation plan.</p>	<p>30 April 2027</p>	<p>\$666,000</p>
<p>a. Finalise the supply and installation of telemetry devices and</p>	<p>Program evaluation report. How has South Australia delivered on the objectives described in its business case for funding.</p>		
<p>b. Program finalisation and evaluation reports.</p>			

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by



**The Honourable Tanya Plibersek MP**

Minister for the Environment and Water

[Day] [Month] [Year]

31. 1. 2025

Signed for and on behalf of the State of South Australia by



**The Honourable Susan Close MP**

Minister for Climate, Environment and Water 24/2/25

[Day] [Month] [Year]