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Email: council@blayney.nsw.gov.au

21) MAYORAL MINUTE - BELUBULA WATER SECURITY PROJECT SHORTLIST OF POTENTIAL PROJECT OPTIONS

Author: Councillor Bruce Reynolds

File No: GR.ME.8

Recommendation:

That Council note the three shortlisted options and provides feedback on future business developments in the Shire.

Item:

The proposed Belubula Water Security Project aims to improve water availability and increased drought resilience for residents, businesses, and the environment across the Belubula Valley.

The NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water investigated options aligned with the Lachlan Regional Water Strategy and the Macquarie-Castlereagh Regional Water Strategy. These 4 options included:

- a new pipeline between Lake Rowlands Dam and Carcoar Dam to transfer up to 2 gigalitres of water per year, capturing spills and boosting supply
- raising the Lake Rowlands Dam wall to increase storage from 4.5 gigalitres to 8 gigalitres
- building a new dam 2.5 kilometres downstream of Lake Rowlands
- connecting the Belubula and Macquarie valleys through an interregional pipeline.

The Department is working with WaterNSW and Central Tablelands Water on this project and has consulted with Councils including Blayney Shire.

The NSW and Australian Governments are jointly funding \$7.7 million to develop a full business case for the project, with the Australian Government contributing through the National Water Grid Fund.

Blayney Shire Council has been asked to provide any indications of future water needs growth across the Shire.

The Department has now shortlisted three projects for analysis, which are identified in the following media release.

The community can also find out more information about the short listed projects when a community information sessions is held in Blayney on Wednesday 29 October 2025 at the Blayney Shire Community Centre from 9am – 11am.

Enclosures (following report)

1 Belubula Water Security Project

2 Pages

Attachments (separate document)

Nil

10/27/25, 9:28 AM

Central West invited to give further input into Belubula Water Security Project | NSW Government Water

A NSW Government website







Central West invited to give further input into Belubula Water Security Project

24 October 2025

Central West communities are invited to learn more about proposed new water infrastructure projects which improve supply, lock-in water security and boost drought resilience at a second round of information sessions.

The \$7.7 million Belubula Water Security Project is exploring the feasibility of a range of infrastructure solutions.

Following extensive stakeholder consultation and analysis, we have shortlisted the following options for consideration:

- Building a new pipeline between Lake Rowlands Dam and Carcoar Dam, transferring up to 2GL of water per year, capturing spills and boosting supply.
- Raising the Lake Rowlands Dam wall to increase storage from 4.5GL to 8GL, securing water for Central Tablelands communities and potentially Orange.
- A combination of both.

Other previously considered options included a new dam 2.5km downstream of Lake Rowlands and connecting the Belubula and Macquarie valleys through an interregional pipeline.

These options were not progressed following face-to-face meetings with the community in March.

The updated shortlisted options, identified in the Lachlan and Macquarie-Castlereagh Regional Water Strategies, form part of a range of innovative measures to assist in future-proofing water for towns in the Central West including Orange, Blayney, Carcoar and Canowindra.

The NSW Government is working in collaboration with WaterNSW, Central Tablelands Water and the Australian Government to prepare a full business case.

10/27/25, 9:28 AM

Central West invited to give further input into Belubula Water Security Project | NSW Government Water

This will include detailed planning work and technical, environmental and cultural heritage assessments, concept design and engineering, as well as a thorough cost benefit analysis to determine which projects are viable.

The community is invited to meet the project team, ask questions and learn more about the proposed infrastructure projects at the following drop-in sessions:

- Orange Tuesday 28 October 2025, The Hive, 25-27 McNamara Street, llamlpm
- Blayney Wednesday 29 October 2025, Blayney Shire Community Centre, 41 Church Street, 9am-11am
- Canowindra Wednesday 29 October 2025, CWA Canowindra Branch Hall, 14 Blatchford Street, 2pm-4pm
- Condobolin Thursday 30 October 2025, Agricultural Research and Advisory Station, 152 Fifield Road, 10am-12pm

No registration is required to attend in-person sessions. An online webinar will also be held on Tuesday 4 November 2025, 5:30-6:30pm. Registration is required for the webinar via the project webpage.

Community members are encouraged to complete a feedback survey online.

The Belubula Water Security Project is jointly funded by the Australian Government's National Water Grid Fund and the NSW Government.

For more information, to register for the webinar or to complete the survey, visit: Belubula Water Security Project (https://water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/our-work/water-infrastructure-nsw/regional-projects/belubula-water-security-project).

NSW DCCEEW Executive Director Development, Lisa Hingerty said:

"Gathering community feedback is a vital part of the process, especially in regions like the Central West, which faces significant and ongoing water challenges.

"We know this region is vulnerable to drought, and we are building a comprehensive business case to create more secure water infrastructure and improve water supply for the future.

"The team looks forward to sharing ideas with the community as we continue to shape the Belubula Water Security Project to get the best possible outcomes."

22) MAYORAL MINUTE - MILLTHORPE JUNIOR SOCCER CLUB NSW COMMUNITY CLUB OF THE YEAR

Author: Councillor Bruce Reynolds

File No: RC.LI.2

Recommendation:

That Council notes the achievement of the Millthorpe Junior Soccer Club in being awarded the NSW Football Community Club of the Year.

Item:

The Millthorpe Junior Soccer Club was nominated for the Community Club of the Year award.

Nominated by their local association, the State Award recipients are recognised for their tireless service to football across club, association, branch, and state levels.

Introduced in 2025 thanks to Football NSW Chairman Gilbert Lorquet, the Nine Ad Manager Awards acknowledges outstanding achievements in leadership, innovation, and impact at both club and association levels.

Representing the Orange and District Football Association, Millthorpe Juniors took out the inaugural Nine Ad Manager Community Club of the Year award thanks to their commitment to inclusive programs like Girls Love Football and Pippin Girl Workshops, and achieving 3-Star Club Changer status. With 11% growth in 2025 and a 2024 FA Regional Club of the Year award, they're a shining example of community-driven success. The award was presented in Sydney on Saturday 25th October 2025.

Enclosures (following report)

Nil

Attachments (separate document)

Nil