



# Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee

**Hearing Date:** 14 September 2023

**Question[s] taken on notice**

**Directed to:** Upper Goulburn River Catchment Association, Jan Beer

**Received Date:** 20 September 2023

1. **Rikkie-Lee TYRRELL, page 25**

**Question Asked:**

So may I ask, on request, for you to provide the committee with a list of the gauges that you feel would best help in future flooding events – the locations of those, please, and the types?

**Response:**

**PROPOSED STREAMFLOW GAUGES**

The information on gauges below comes from the Goulburn Hydrometric Network Upgrades document presented to the Constraints Consultative Committee for the Victorian Constraints Measures Project 2022-2023

My comments are in red

1. Proposed new telemetry realtime gauge to be installed just downstream of Yea township
2. There is an existing gauge on the Murrindindi River upstream of the Yea confluence. Installing another streamflow gauge on the Murrindindi River was considered additional to the needs for this project and future river operators in the context of managing the delivery of environmental watering events. However, the existing gauge on the Murrindindi is currently not on the telemetry system, meaning that real-time data is not available. The project team and DELWP have confirmed that this existing site can be upgraded with telemetry equipment at a relatively low cost. I believe this means that the Murrindindi River gauge which is called Colwells is to become a telemetry realtime gauge. The location of this gauge is high up in the Murrindindi River. As stated in highlighted yellow the gauges are being sited according to best situation for delivery of environmental flows, NOT at sites that would give warning of flood flow levels to communities.
  - The Murrindindi River gauge should be sited near the confluence of the Murrindindi River with the Yea River. This would give landowners on the Yea River floodplains prior warning of flooding
  - The Yea River gauge should be sited upstream of the Yea township to give the community flood warning

3. Proposed new telemetry realtime gauge to be installed at Molesworth. **THIS GAUGE IS ESSENTIAL**  
Molesworth landowners believe the best site option for the new Molesworth gauge is at the pump station just upstream of Molesworth Bridge.  
  
Next best options are at boat ramp at Recreation Reserve or just downstream of the Caravan Park.
4. Proposed new gauge on King Parrot Creek between Strath Creek and Goulburn River- **good idea**
5. There is an existing telemetry gauge at Killingworth at the offtake of the North-South Pipeline -Existing (currently discontinued) gauging site which is managed by Melbourne Water. Site could be re-established in future if needed.
6. There is an existing water level (in metres) gauge at Ghin Ghin Goulburn River bridge, but it has no rating data to convert it to megalitre per day flow rate

The next gauge downstream on the Goulburn is at Trawool which gives good flood warning to Seymour

The proposed rainfall gauges below should all be installed

#### New Rainfall Gauges

The table below lists the final rainfall gauges planned for installation. Note that:

- An additional rainfall gauge in the Murrindindi catchment has been added following consultation with local landholders and concerns about differences in rainfall between the Acheron and Murrindindi catchments (site 9 in table below).
- No suitable site was identified for co-locating a rainfall gauge with the new proposed streamflow site on the Goulburn River at Molesworth.
- No suitable site was identified in the lower Acheron – Murrindindi catchment.

No.	Site	Type	Discussion
1	Yea River confluence with Goulburn River	Co-located with new streamflow gauge	To be installed along with the new streamflow gauge.
2	King Parrot Creek confluence with the Goulburn River	Co-located with new streamflow gauge	To be installed along with the new streamflow gauge.
3	Major Creek upper catchment	Standalone	A site at the top of the major Creek catchment located outside of the Puckapunyal military base
4	Dabyminga Creek & King Parrot Creek - Upper Catchment	Standalone	A suitable site has been identified on the ridgeline between the two catchments.

5	Acheron River & Murrindindi Rivers – Upper Catchment	Standalone	A suitable site has been identified on the ridgeline between the two catchments.
6	Rubicon River upper catchment	Standalone	A site in the upper catchment of the Rubicon River
7	Rubicon River lower catchment	Co-located with existing streamflow gauge	Upgrade existing streamflow gauge with a rainfall gauge
8	Spring Creek upper catchment	Standalone	A new rainfall gauging the upper catchment of the Spring Creek
9	Murrindindi upper catchment	Standalone	A new site has been identified approximately 6km South of the existing Murrindindi at Murrindindi streamflow gauge. This new rainfall gauge site will assist in distinguishing rainfall in the Murrindindi catchment from the Acheron catchment (as the other gauge is located near the ridgeline).