

MEDIA RELEASE

Phil Costa
Minister for Water
Minister for Corrective Services



Wednesday 27 October 2010

HUME DAM FULL FOR FIRST TIME IN TEN YEARS

Hume Dam is the latest and largest storage to reach full capacity after recent rainfall across NSW, Minister for Water Phil Costa announced today.

Minister Costa said the news was another welcome boost for regional communities coming out of years of drought.

“We’ve seen some fantastic, drought-breaking rainfall this year, and Hume is the latest storage to fill to the top,” Minister Costa said.

“Hume Dam is one of the biggest dams in the state, and it has not been full since 2000, so this is certainly welcome news for the local community.

“We have seen a spectacular turnaround at Hume Dam over recent months – the dam reached a low of 2.1 per cent capacity last April, so we’ve seen it go from almost empty to 100 per cent full in less than two years.

“Now that the dam has reached capacity, we expect to continue releasing water down the river for a number of days, boosting water flows for the environment and communities along the Murray.

“This is great news for industry, the environment and communities along the length of the Murray downstream from Hume.

“In addition, the local community will be able to enjoy the lush, green recreational areas around the dam over the summer months.”

Dams currently at full capacity:

- Burrendong Dam – last full in 2001, fell to a low of 1.17 per cent in 2003
- Pindari Dam – last full in 2001, fell to a low of 19.2 per cent in 2007
- Chaffey Dam – last full in January, fell to a low of 85.5 per cent in May
- Burrinjuck Dam – last full in 1996, fell to a low of 4.6 per cent in 1997-98
- Brogo Dam – last full in 2008, fell to a low of 10.4 per cent in Feb 2010

Media contact: Elizabeth Lawrence 0428 640 062.