

## Item 10: Operations

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### 10.1 Dam Safety - Rylstone Dam Policy

REPORT BY THE WATER QUALITY OFFICER  
TO 03 NOVEMBER 2021 ORDINARY MEETING  
GOV400088, WAT500007

#### RECOMMENDATION

##### That Council:

- 1. receive the report by the Water Quality officer on the Dam Safety - Rylstone Dam Policy;**
- 2. endorse public exhibition of the Dam Safety - Rylstone Dam Policy for a period of twenty eight (28) days; and**
- 3. adopt the Dam Safety - Rylstone Dam Policy, if no submissions are received after the exhibition period.**

#### Executive summary

The Dam Safety – Rylstone Dam Policy states Mid-Western Regional Council’s commitment to the safe management of Rylstone Dam. The policy provides a basis for the operation and maintenance of Rylstone Dam as required by the Dam Safety Regulation 2019.

#### Disclosure of Interest

Nil.

#### Detailed report

The Dam Safety Act 2015 and Dam Safety Regulation 2019 requires water utilities to develop and implement a Dam Safety Management System for each declared dam.

Rylstone Dam is a declared dam.

MWRC is implementing a Dam Safety Management System (DSMS) for Rylstone Dam, in line with the Dam Safety Regulation 2019 and the Guideline: Dam Safety Management System (Dam Safety NSW, March 2021).

The DSMS must be documented and the document must set out the procedures for ensuring compliance with AS ISO 55001:2014 (Asset management – Management systems – Requirements).

One of the key requirement of AS ISO 55001:2014 is commitment from the dam owner (MWRC) to a Dam Safety Policy.

The Dam Safety – Rylstone Dam Policy demonstrate commitment from MWRC to safety management and continuous improvement.

## Community Plan implications

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Protecting Our Natural Environment</b>
Goal	Provide total water cycle management
Strategy	Maintain and manage water quantity and quality

## Strategic implications

### Council Strategies

Not Applicable.

### Council Policies

If the Policy is not adopted, MWRC would not comply with its own Dam Safety Management System.

### Legislation

The Dam Safety Act 2015 and Dam Safety Regulation 2019 requires water utilities to develop and implement a Dam Safety Management System.

## Financial implications

Not Applicable.

Budget Year	Operating Performance Ratio	Own Source Revenue	Building & Infrastructure Renewal
2019/20	-	-	-
Future Years	-	-	-

## Associated Risks

Without a Dam Safety Policy, there is a risk that commitment to dam safety management will not be seen as a priority by MWRC staff. This could lead to a possible incident at Rylstone Dam with potential serious consequences to the Rylstone community.

FRANCOISE PIELTAIN  
WATER QUALITY OFFICER

JULIAN GEDDES  
DIRECTOR OPERATIONS

20 October 2021

*Attachments:* 1. Dam Safety - Rylstone Dam Policy.

### APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

BRAD CAM  
GENERAL MANAGER



## POLICY

### Dam Safety - Rylstone Dam

*A prosperous  
and progressive  
community.*

DRAFT	REFERENCE	1.0
COUNCIL MEETING MIN NO	REVIEW DATE	
DATE: 3 NOVEMBER 2021	FILE NUMBER	WAT500007

## Objective

To provide a commitment to the safe management of Rylstone Dam

## Legislative requirements

The Dam Safety Act 2015 and Dam Safety Regulation 2019 requires water utilities to develop and implement a Dam Safety Management System for each declared dam. Implementing a Dam Safety Management System for Rylstone Dam, in line with the Guideline: Dam Safety Management System (Dam Safety NSW, March 2021), satisfies this requirement.

## Related policies and plans

- Rylstone Dam Operation and Maintenance Plan
- Rylstone Dam Safety Emergency Plan

## Policy

To achieve the safe management of Rylstone Dam, Mid-Western Regional Council will:

- Implement a Dam Safety Management System (DSMS), which will be maintained, continuously improved and reviewed on a periodic basis in line with the Dam Safety regulation 2019.
- Use a risk based approach in which potential risks to Rylstone Dam are identified and managed to minimise any danger.
- Operate and maintain Rylstone Dam using trained personnel to ensure the dam is maintained in a safe condition
- Commit to implement actions in response to dam assessments to ensure that Rylstone Dam is maintained in a safe condition
- Implement an appropriate Dam Safety Emergency Plan (DSEP). Regularly test and review the DSEP
- Continually improve the capability of staff by encouraging and supporting participation in training and professional development and ensure all employees are aware of and actively seek to achieve the aims of this policy

All managers, employees, and contractors of Mid-Western Regional Council that are involved in the management of Rylstone Dam are responsible for understanding, implementing, maintaining and continuously improving the Dam Safety Management System.