

# Dam Facts and Figures

## Hume Dam

State  
water

**Location:** On the Murray River, 16km east of Albury on the NSW state border

**Nearest town:** Albury

**Local Government Area:** Albury City (NSW) and Wodonga City (Victoria)

**Year completed:** 1936 original, 1961 enlarged

**Dam type:** Concrete gravity and four earth embankments

**Dam height:** 51m

**Length of crest:** 2,625m includes main structure (1,615m) and auxiliary embankments (1,010m)

**Water depth:** 40m

**Full supply level:** 192m above sea level

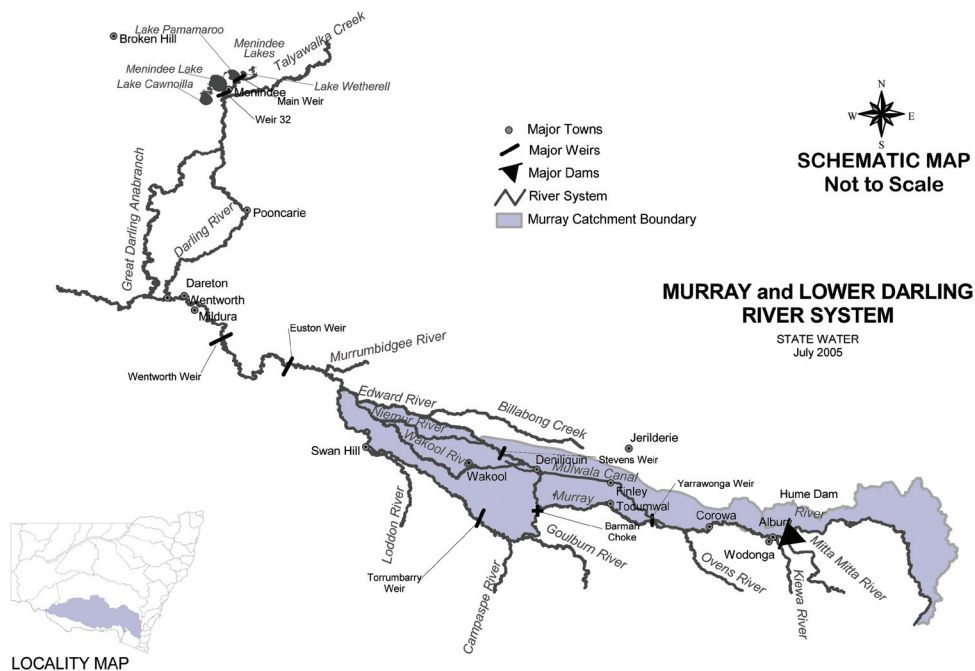
**Storage capacity:** 3,038,000ML

**Surface area:** 20,190ha

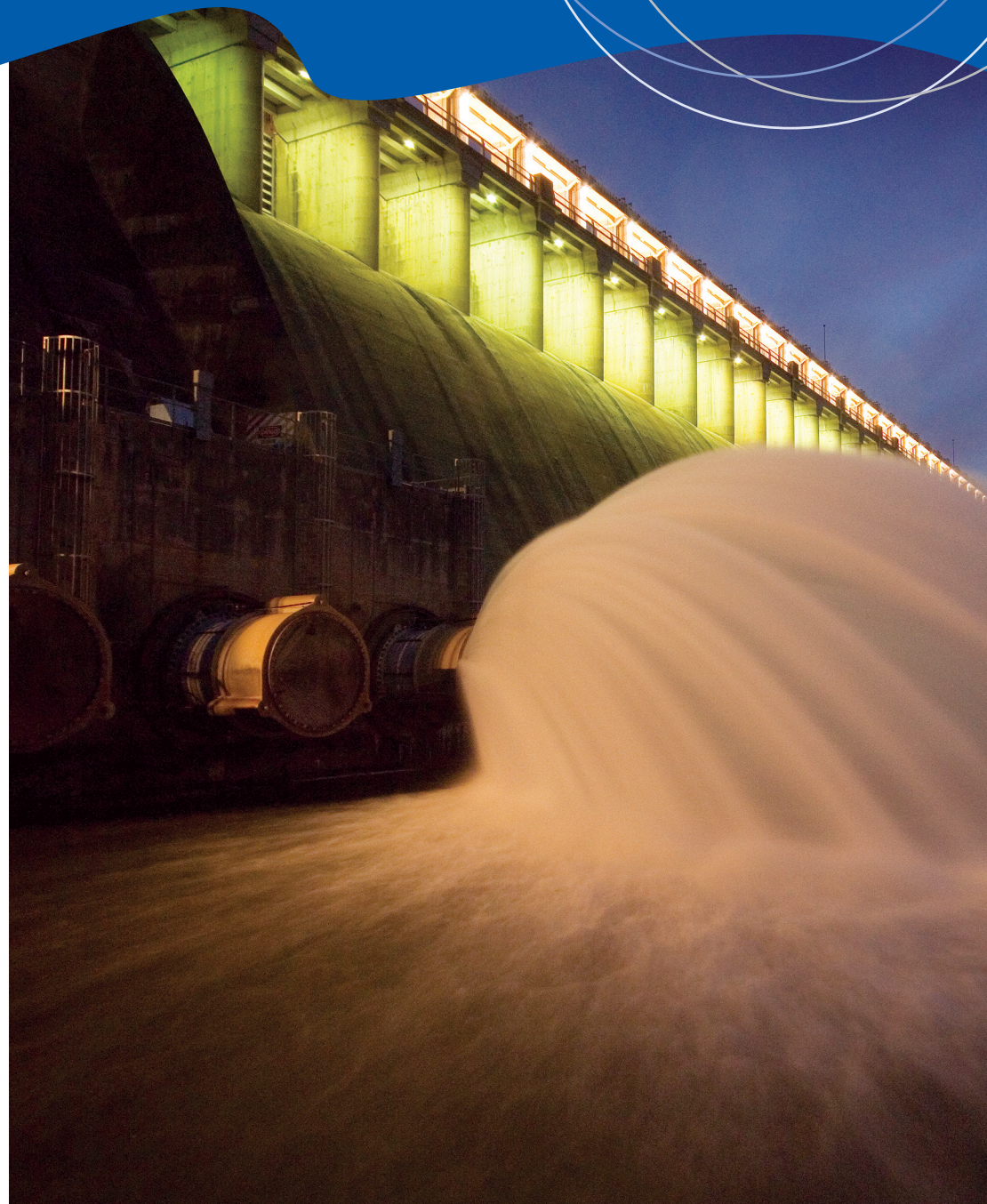
**Catchment area:** 15,300km<sup>2</sup>

**Spillway:** Gated concrete overflow, 29 vertical undershot gates

**Spillway capacity:** 603,200ML/day at full supply level



For more information phone 1300 662 077



## Hume Dam

Hume Dam is situated on the Murray River about 16km west of Albury on the NSW-Victorian border.

Hume Dam holds a maximum of 3,038,000 megalitres (ML). This is about six times the size of Sydney Harbour. The area of the lake is 20,190ha with a maximum depth of 40m.

## About the Dam

Construction of Hume Dam started after World War I. When completed in 1936, Hume Dam was the biggest dam in the southern hemisphere and among the largest in the world.

The dam comprises a concrete spillway and outlet works extending 318m across the river, an earthen embankment 131m long on the NSW side and an earthen embankment 39m high extending for 1,166m across the river flats to the hills on the Victorian side. The total length of the structure is 1,615m and the entire structure totals 2,625m.

## Dam Upgrade

Although it is safe for day-to-day operations, Hume Dam is one of eight in regional NSW currently undergoing a safety upgrade to better handle major flood events identified as possible by today's improved knowledge and forecasting of extreme weather patterns.

## Water Supply

Hume Dam provides town water supplies, river flows, stock and domestic requirements, irrigated agriculture, industry, flood mitigation and environmental flows. Hume Dam supplies regulated flows along the Murray River to more than 2,500 NSW regulated water access licences. Victorian and South Australian water entitlements are also serviced from Hume Dam.

For up-to-date storage level information, visit [www.waterinfo.nsw.gov.au](http://www.waterinfo.nsw.gov.au).

## Water Supply Licences

There are 2,965 licences with a 2,488,367ML entitlement along 1576km of river.

• High security/industry entitlements	184,380ML
• General security entitlements	1,667,723ML
• Stock and domestic requirements	17,209ML
• Town water supplies	36,692ML
• Conveyance entitlements	330,000ML
• Supplementary entitlements	252,363ML

Water users hold access licences which determine their share component. Share components specify how much of the valley's resource is available for each licence holder to use. Examples of high security licence holders are local councils for town water supply and permanent crops such as orchards.

Available Water Determinations (AWDs) credit access licence accounts with water, based on the water sharing plan for that valley.

## Hydro-Power Capability

Eraring Energy operates a 60 megawatt capacity station at Hume Dam. On average, it generates enough power annually to supply 30,000 people. Water is made available for power generation only when releases are made for water users, the environment and during flood operations.

## Recreation

Hume Dam provides a variety of recreational activities, including swimming, sailing and water skiing. Large numbers of tourists visit the dam site to view the spectacular wall, huge lake area and surrounding scenic countryside. One of the most popular activities is fishing, with trout, Murray cod, golden perch and silver perch providing sport all year round.

If you plan to visit this dam, we recommend you contact the managers by phone on (02) 6071 2457.