

Bulk entitlement

Our access to groundwater from the Anglesea borefield is governed by a bulk entitlement, issued by the Victorian Government. It includes sophisticated environmental triggers and an extensive monitoring and assessment program to protect the environment.

The bulk entitlement stipulates the volume of water Barwon Water is able to pump from the Anglesea Borefield. Barwon Water is entitled to pump up to the following amounts in the following periods:

- 40 million litres of drinking water a day
- 10,000 million litres in any year
- 35,000 million litres in any five year period

While the volumetric limits are stipulated, when in use we have operated the borefield safely below these limits, to ensure that groundwater levels remain above the trigger levels that protect groundwater dependent ecosystems.

During operation in 2019/20, we extracted a total of 2177 ML. The borefield has not been used outside this 2019/20 period, other than for testing and maintenance purposes.

What's next for the BE?

Barwon Water commenced a groundwater pumping test at its Anglesea borefield in late January 2022, to inform a review of its bulk entitlement and Monitoring and Assessment Program. The test will run for six months, with strict environmental protection controls in place.