



PART B – AEIS

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Based on a review of the Executive Summary (ES 1.5.1) of the EIS, a submitter raised concerns with respect to the Project's limited vulnerability to climate change.

The potential impacts of variable climatic factors and how they may influence the operation of the Project were detailed in Chapter 3 of the EIS. The climate change risk assessment was based on scenarios adapted from *Climate Change in Australia* (CSIRO, 2007). It was deemed that the Project in general had limited vulnerability to the impact of climate change with the greatest potential impact a reduction in yield from the storage as a result of decreased annual rainfall, increased temperature or increased evaporation (Cai and Cowan, 2008).

The submitter also questioned how initiatives of the Project could be used to minimise the potential impact of climate related influences, with relation to flows and riverine ecology. Information was introduced in the Executive Summary (ES 1.5.1) that referenced the Project's capacity to manage downstream flows and thereby reduce the potential impacts from increased dry spells. Management of proposed offset and rehabilitation areas and how they can minimise the potential impacts of climate change on biodiversity were also discussed in the Executive Summary.

Additional detailed discussion for proposed flow regimes and environmental flows were provided in Section 14.2.2 and Section 28.5 of the EIS respectively. Detailed information pertaining to offsets and rehabilitation were discussed in Section 10.4 and 28.4.4 of the EIS. In response to revised Water Resource Planning instruments for the Fitzroy region, updated discussion has been included in **Chapter 14** and **28**.