

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications  
Legislation Committee**

Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment and Energy portfolio**

**Question No:** 4

**Hearing:** Budget Estimates 2017

**Outcome:** N/A

**Program:** Snowy Hydro Ltd

**Topic:** Minimum operating levels

**Hansard Page:** 44

**Question Date:** 23 May 2017 (spoken)

**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Carr asked:**

Is it the case for the other reservoirs that there is a minimum operating level? What is that level? Can you give me, on notice, what that is?

**Answer:**

Minimum operating levels ("MOL") (metres above sea level based on Snowy Mountains Datum):

1. Eucembene: 1116.18
2. Geehi: 1082.01
3. Guthega: 1568.20
4. Happy Jacks: 1181.15
5. Island Bend: 1173.18
6. Jindabyne: 896.11
7. Jounama: 381.00
8. Khancoban: 297.18
9. Murray Two: 579.12
10. Tantangara: 1207.01
11. Tooma: 1188.72
12. Tumut Pond: 1091.18
13. Tumut Two: 815.31

**Note:**

- MOL is determined by the lowest reservoir level that can be accessed by Snowy Hydro's assets, and is determined by the physical attributes of the associated inlet / outlet works. Storage between Full Supply Level and Minimum Operating Level is known as "active storage", and is fully accessible by SHL assets. Storage below Minimum Operating Level is known as "inactive storage" or "dead storage", and is unable to be used by Snowy Hydro operational assets.
  
- All Snowy Hydro Dams can be safely operated across the full range of storage levels, from zero to full.