MONGARLOWE RECORDS (Megalitres)

YEAR	Min. Daily Flow (megalitres)	Mean Annual Daily Flow	No. of Days Less than 3 megalitres	Zero Flow No. of Days
1950	26.9	524	-	-
1951	26.9	380	-	-
1952	19.6	380	-	-
1953	14.7	146	-	-
1954	7.58	54.9	-	-
1955	0	192.0	25 Oct. to 2 Dec.	12
1956	1.47	493.0	4 Jan.	-
1957	4.89	135.0	-	-
1958	12.2	174.0	-	-
1959	19.6	477.0	-	-
1960	12.2	249.0	-	-
1961	61.2	483.0	-	-
1962	63.6	329.0	-	-
1963	78.3	497	-	-
1964	26.9	169	-	-
1965	9.79	37.3	-	-
1966	14.7	122	-	-
1967	26.9	147	-	-
1968	0	16.5	43 - (April & Oct.-Nov.-Dec.)	1 (13 April)
1969	0.49	168	11 (Jan.-Feb.)	-
1970	26.9	80.4		-
1971	3.67	127.0	-	-

Comment by Dr. D. Ingle-Smith:

The flow records for the gauging at Mongarlowe for the years 1950-71 indicate that for many of the years the abstraction of 3 megalitres per day would cause relatively little effect on the downstrem flow or downstream users.

However, in the summers of 1955-56 and 1968-69 there were both zero flow days (see table) and a larger number of days when the flow was below 3 megalitres. As Mongarlowe is well downstream of Monga the number of days in dry years when flow could be expected to be close to zero with pumping could, conservatively, be as high as 60 or 70 days. The implications for users downstream of the pump are therefore obvious.

We understand that in dry periods only a small proportion of the pumped 3 megalitres is usable. A sensible water management strategy would be for minimum levels to be set for river flow on the Mongarlowe; if flow fell below such levels pumping would be discontinued. Suggested minimum levels are difficult to suggest quickly and without more information, but perhaps 6 megalitres could be suggested.
