

Water and digital infrastructure

Why we wrote this series and how to use it

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Water is the question communities ask most urgently of new industrial development, data centres included and it's the question most often answered with marketing. The facts are knowable: Australia governs water through long-standing sharing systems, cooling choices trade water against electricity and honest accounting can be demanded and checked. This short series puts those facts in community hands.

What these sheets are and aren't

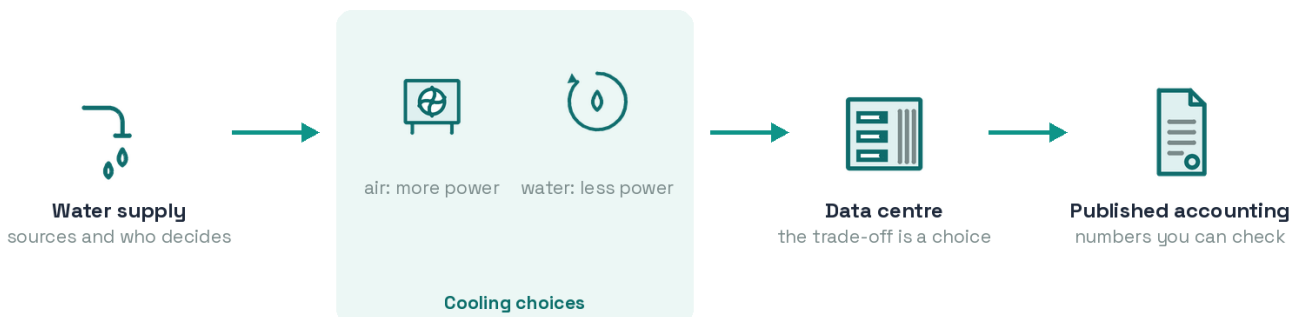
Seven pages: where water comes from and who decides; how industry, agriculture and towns share it; the cooling trade-offs; recycled water; the transparency that makes claims checkable; drought; and the compiled questions. The series' one-line test appears throughout: what is a facility's annual water use, by source, in a dry year and where is that published? Any proponent who answers crisply has done the work.

How to use them

- Facing a proposal? Sheets 03 (cooling) and 05 (transparency) are the core; 07 compiles the questions.
- Farming or holding water entitlements? Start with 01 and 02, then 06 (dry years).
- Every claim in these sheets is jurisdiction-neutral; your state water agency owns the local rules.
- Ask for numbers, not adjectives. These sheets exist to make that reasonable.

The series at a glance

01 Where Australia's water comes from · 02 Industry, agriculture and towns · 03 Cooling and the water trade-off · 04 Recycled and non-potable water · 05 Water accounting and transparency · 06 Drought and resilience · 07 Questions to ask



Want to know more? Every sheet ends with the authorities who own the answers and the questions worth asking. DII takes no position on individual projects; our job is helping you ask the right questions of them. These sheets are general information, not legal or planning advice; a specific proposal is confirmed by qualified assessment.