



**CAPITAL
INVESTMENT GROUP**

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29 April 2022

Bryce Wilde
Natural Resources Commission
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Via email: nrc@nrc.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Wilde

I am writing with respect to the water sharing plan review being undertaken by the Natural Resources Commission.

The Capital Investment Group owns various licenses in respect to property that it owns fronting the Belubula River in Fish Fossil Drive, south-west of Canowindra.

The major issue affecting the land on which we conduct a vineyard and various other irrigated activities is partly the availability of water and partly the lack of appropriate flood mitigation of the Belubula River. Discussions have been held regarding the possible construction of a dam at Cranky Rock or some nearby location to capture strong flows that occur on occasions from streams originating in upstream tributaries and the Mount Canobolos area to become available for irrigation purposes and also to prevent flooding as occurs fairly regularly which can have a devastating effect on lucerne flats.

As we have again come to understand, natural conditions are such that on some occasions there are limited flows in the Belubula River and on other occasions there are floods.

The water sharing plan has increased environmental flows but has had adverse social outcomes in terms of secure employment in the region. In the same way, restrictions imposed under the water sharing plan have led to adverse economic outcomes by limiting the extent to which valuable crops can on occasions be irrigated.

We look forward to reviewing draft proposals for possible changes to the water sharing plan so that we can review the extent to which any new proposals, or a continuation of the existing arrangements, will be for the benefit of the community, not only in terms of the environment but also in terms of social and economic outcomes.

Your faithfully,

Capital Investment Pty Ltd