

Submission to Water Sharing Plan - Peel-Namoi

Unregulated River Water Services

BARRABA 234

PC [redacted]

Bryce Wilde  
Executive Director  
Natural Resources Commission

LN No [redacted]

Dear Sir,

Kindly I must apologise for using "Snail Mail"  
& my ordinary Hand Writing.

I appreciate the opportunity to have some  
input into the Water Sharing Plan for Namoi & Peel  
Unregulated River Water Services

This will be about the 5<sup>th</sup> time I have written  
to your Department over the last 10 yrs about water  
& how it can be improved. This submission will be no  
different to the others.

With respect to the "Water Sharing Plan" itself,  
I believe it has failed items 1, 2 & 3 but has delivered  
N<sup>o</sup> 4 because it was designed to fail.

Drought has shown us how precious water is  
& how little of it we have. It is impossible to share  
when there is none! It also becomes a scarce commodity  
which drives up the price & encourages theft.

It is not the sharing of water that needs examination  
but rather the lack of water.

This can only be achieved by the building of  
infrastructure, not the building of bureaucratic departments.

Our last & only water scheme, the Snowy Mountains  
Scheme 1949-1972 has shown us the way.

Many other Water Schemes have been planned but not  
acted upon. Schemes such as the Clarence River Scheme,  
the Bradford Scheme, the Reid Scheme to name a few  
have never been taken seriously & lie somewhere collecting  
dust.

So far as the Peel-Namoi River Systems go, the Apsley River Scheme 1983 would deliver what is needed to re-entire the Peel-Namoi River System & indeed the Murray Darling System bearing in mind that the Murray-Darling System which drains  $\frac{1}{3}$  of Australia receives only 6% of total rainfall we need to build these Water Systems, ~~as no plan to do so.~~

Constance with Minister Pavey shows she is not interested in building Water Systems, & has no plan to do so.

It will take great courage & planning to build these much needed Water Systems & will need to follow the example of the Tennessee River Authority 1934. We did it once & we can do it again.

Please note that I use the word 'System'. A single dam is of little & restricted use where as a well planned System not only delivers water for domestic, stock & irrigation but is a great source of Electricity, helps with flood mitigation, delivers many jobs & prosperity to the whole nation.

I will finish my submission as I have other.

We are a land of "Droughts & Flooding Rivers"  
We need more of more, not less of less.

We have the need, the knowledge, the expertise & the equipment. All we need is the WILL

Thankyou

Richard Withn.

P.S. I would be more than willing to further discuss my submission anywhere at any time.