

26th October 2009

Mr. Nathan Rees
Premier of NSW
Level 40 Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Farrer Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Premier

Re: The River Red Gum wetlands/ river banks of NSW.

All parties are well aware of the river water flows in the Murray-Darling area. A year ago I/we drove down the Murrumbidgee roads and the Murray (to Kangaroo Island), and on our return camped in the Victorian Hattah-Kulkyne, then walked at times along the Murray river banks. The state of the Red River Red Gums is marked and depressing. To be warned to neither drink nor bathe in the wetlands lakes because of algae emphasizes the decline in the viability of these areas.

I write to urge the present government to create extensive new National Parks along the Murray and Murrumbidgee rivers, and to further address environmental water flows in those rivers.

I recognize that there are many additional aspects to this request. You will have many formal submissions in these matters.

It is my request that you urgently and constructively address these areas.

A separate matter, shooting in National Parks. This is a most unreasonable proposition, both in relation to use of the parks, the lives of the threatened animals, and the safety and amenity of those who use the National Parks, whether by driving through on the roadways, or walking and camping as we regularly do.

I would like to think that the present government left a better legacy to NSW than the continuing death of the River Red Gums and their associated plants and animals, and a degradation in the National Parks System – which System is in large part an inheritance from previous Labour governments of this state.

Yours sincerely



Keith Lethlean

Copy to: Mr. John Robertson, Minister for Environment and Climate Changes & Water, Level 35, Governor Macquarie Tower,
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