

QLD COMPETITION AUTHORITY

7 FEB 2005 3506

DATE RECEIVED

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4695

4th February 2005
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SUBJECT: QUEENSLAND COMPETITION AUTHORITY, WATER COSTS FOR GAWB.

Dear Sir/Madam,

The price being quoted by the GAWB for the supply of water to Mount Marlon (the maximum price set down by the QCA of \$8.87 per kilolitre) is extremely excessive.

While it is quite obvious that water supply is critical in most areas of Queensland we believe that charging exorbitant prices to small communities such as ours will not solve any problem.

I am sure no other company or organisation could justify such an increase to their products of this proportion, such as our water charges rise of 1300%. This is the only small community in Queensland being subjected to these ridiculous price hike. We do believe that the present Government wish to force our small community back into the dark ages and actually watch to see if our community withers and dies, with this ridiculous water price rise of 1300%.

Whilst during the prolonged drought the residents of Mount Marlon abided by the local Government water restrictions and saved water, this being over a long period of time and are still conserving water and being on the end of the line, we are now being punished for conserving water and being



the end of the line.

The water line was first introduced to Mount Larcom in 1980/81 when Queensland Cement Ltd came into being, this also had a condition that Mount Larcom residents be supplied with water at the same cost as Q.C.L. and now Cement Australia, this seems to have been very conveniently lost by certain people. Now that the Cement process has gone from a wet process to a dry process therefore causing a drop in the water consumption from 600 M³ per month to 25 M³ per month - does this mean the people of Mount Larcom has to pick up the tab.

I don't believe the residents of Mount Larcom had any say in the depletion of water usage by Q.C.L. and I don't think the people of Mount Larcom had any say in how long the drought was going to last and I don't think the people of Mount Larcom had any say in the building or raising of Awoonga Dam, so I don't believe the people of Mount Larcom should have to pay any more than any other parts of the catchment area. I don't believe we should be singled out by the B.C.A. to be the first small town to be ground into the dirt, in Queensland.

It is most unacceptable by the residents of Mount Larcom and request that the B.C.A. rethink this unreasonable draft and put into place a more reasonable and sensible draft.

Thank you for your time

Yours respectfully
Brian C. May

