

My name is Bradley Reck and my combined properties at Clarendon hold an allocation of 380 megalitres pumping from the Buaraba and the Lockyer creeks. After attending a consultation forum at Lowood regarding the Lower Lockyer Water Supply Scheme I wish to voice my objection to the current proposal regarding the increase of water pricing for irrigation.

While I accept the proposal for Part A as a necessary increase in costs I disagree with the pricing structure proposed for Part B.

Surely the objective of raising prices is clearly to create more revenue but that is unlikely if the farmers in the scheme do not use the water. During the recent years of prolonged drought when Atkinsons Dam had no water, farmers put in infrastructure to harvest run off water and underground water by the use of turkey nest dams. Irrigation pumps that were once in the creek are now on these turkey nests. Farmers will not pump from the creek unless the cost is not prohibitive to their bottom line.

Electricity costs have doubled in the past year and are a major factor for a farmer. For example in our own situation it costs us approx. \$110 per megalitre to pump water from our bore and approx. \$80 per megalitre to pump water from the creek directly to our irrigation system but then adding on the cost of your proposed Part B of \$43.77 will make the cost of pumping from the creek more expensive.

At the consultation forum it was mentioned that you are only gaining revenue from 10% of the allocation from the dam. I propose that the price for Part B be reduced by half, this would be more incentive for myself and other farmers to pump water from the creek rather than from their bores and I would predict that it could raise the allocation used from the dam to over 20%.

Yours sincerely

Bradley Reck

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