

Mary Ann Franco-Dixon

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Sent: Saturday, 12 November 2011 7:57 AM
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Subject: QCA-Sunwater Irrigation Price Review ,, 1 pm,, 28 Nov Mareeba RSL

Questions that should be asked/answered

- A) With 7 billion people facing food shortages in a global economy why are consumers not invited to participate
- B) Why is public interest information such as the amount/price of Tinaroo Dam storage water released for the Hydro/environment not available
- C) Why is the Hydro allowed to refuse to use spare Tinaroo Dam allocation
- D) In some years the Tinaroo Dam declared releases for irrigation/urban/industry are up to 70,000ML less than allocation, it follows that the undeclared/unallocated water released to the hydro has the Part A paid up; if the dam does not fill in the next wet season Nominal Allocations are reduced which means it was irrigators insurance water that used by the hydro.
- E) Why does the hydro not contribute to the operation cost of the scheme
- F) The COAG Water Reforms of the Beattie-Howard era separated water from land so water could more easily find its way to the highest value use via the market; why does the Sunwater Carry Over Application form contain a clause stating that Sunwater will not carry over water for anyone who does not have a Sunwater meter,, the Part A Sunwater charge is for fixed cost such as the meter on Tinaroo Dam.
- G) The Rudd Govt made grants to the states to upgrade & standardise water market reporting; why is the Qld DERM water market website current to Sept 09...note Tinaroo allocation sell for less than the Murray Darling where there is no Dam capital cost..
- H) Why is one Sunwater customer Stanwell Hydro allowed to have a confidentiality agreement with Sunwater...

Please note that a Sunwater RTI Right to Information Application was lodged on August 10 to find out the amount/price of unallocated Tinaroo hydro releases for the last 15 years, this was refused and an a review was lodged with the Information Commissioner who says it may take up to 2 years for him to decide if he will release; this information can be obtained in a court proceeding

Also note that Tinaroo Dam was fully allocated when the sugar mill came to the Tableland, since then Tinaroo has failed twice and was lucky to get the type of rain event it takes to fill; it was not intended that the hydro receive unallocated water after Tinaroo Dam was fully allocated; as the dam is high up in the catchment environment releases (hydro) would be questionable...

The Barron River ROP Resource Operation Plan is supposed to be where stakeholders have input, yet the info required for meaningful input is denied...

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