

Dear Sirs

I have sent a submission to the other Parliamentary committee considering the National Water Commission nonsense and I commend it to you.

But may I also draw your attention to the following matters -

1. The ACT has enough water for a million people (from the ACT Government's and ACTEW's own papers);
2. Its allocation has already been savagely cut;
3. We pay the highest price in the country of water, even though we give away (after returns) 97% or more of our water resource free of charge!;
4. The Water Act appears to conflict with the Self-Government Act and the Seat of Government Act;
5. The ACT water abstraction charge is a usurpation of the Commonwealth's sole power over excise taxation and the Commonwealth will regret it if it does not challenge the ACT in the current High Court litigation launched by Queanbeyan City Council.

The fact is that the Murray ran dry in the 1890s and 1920s. It is NOT a European river which continually flows.

We simply need to store enough water in good years instead of having wasteful and bogus so-called environmental flows which mean our gardens and parks are destroyed. There is no reason on earth for the ACT not to have an unlimited supply of safe, cheap urban water. The ACT dam system was designed for 450,000 people at 1960s per capita consumption levels with no restrictions.

The water shortage in the ACT during the drought was man-made (i.e. ACT Government made) through a policy of emptying dams in a pointless attempt to create European rivers (is there a plan to make our rivers safe for European carp?). Water consumers have been grossly abused. Governments have seized ratepayer-funded assets and abrogated common law rights so as to use water as a taxing mechanism and a sacrificial offering to the goddess Gaia (via extraordinary environmental flows).

If the Arabs could have gardens in mediaeval Spain I do not see why we should have to settle for less.

I attach various papers for the Committee's information.

Urban water policy looks like a scientific and economic fraud on a public which has yet to realize how much it has been lied to. One suspects the anger when they wake up will be vicious and savage indeed (and rightly so).

Yours sincerely

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