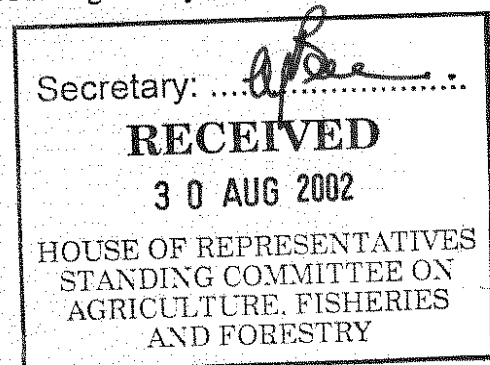


**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
FARMERS FEDERATION**

"The Authoritative Voice of a United Farming Industry"

30th August 2002

Hon Warren Truss MP
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
PO Box 283
MARYBOROUGH SA 4650



Dear Minister Truss

RE: Water Use Issues

The South Australian Farmers Federation thanks the minister for the opportunity to express an opportunity on this most important of matters.

Simply put, the South Australian Farmers Federation believes that water management in Australia must ensure the following -

- *Environmental flows
- *The real value of water used in primary production is used to assess industries viability
- *Potable supplies which are of suitable quality and quantity

To achieve these ends a series of measures need to be addressed ;

- *COAG 1994 outcomes delivered
- *Water Pricing reflecting its true value - both domestic and rural (the community will pay more for a disposable bottle of water at the shop than a K/L at the tap)
- *Transferability and tradability of water allocations
- *More emphasis on best use practices
- *Domestic better user campaigns

- *Better monitoring and evaluation of ground water resources
 - *Skilled community groups providing policy and leadership
 - *Adequate financial resources for change information
 - *Genuine cross border outcomes
 - *Property rights used to encourage change and the provision of facilities to track change
- change
- *Metropolitan culture change to encourage people to see water as a valuable finite resource
 - *Whole of community approach to fixing water related problems rather than selective finger pointing approaches.

Yours sincerely

Kent Martin
Chair, Natural Resources Committee
South Australian Farmers Federation

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