


**SUBMISSION NO. 76**

Mrs Kay Elson MP  
Federal Member for Forde  
PO Box 1414  
BEENLEIGH QLD 4207

10<sup>th</sup> September, 2002

Dear Mrs Elson/Kay,

Secretary: 

**RECEIVED**

23 SEP 2002

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES  
AND FORESTRY

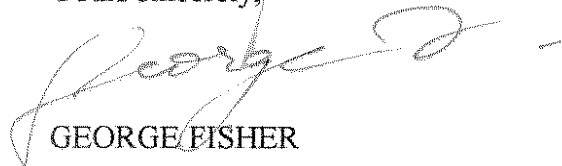
As Chairperson of the "Inquiry into future water supplies for Australia's rural industries and communities", you will soon be reading a submission from the Tamborine Mountain Progress Association (TMPA). I helped draft the submission and fully support it, but would like to add some comments we made on the same subject in the current issue of Tamborine Mountain News, a copy of which was sent to you today. "The Brown behind the Gold" on page 3 deals with our current water problems in rather different words, but the thinking is similar. Whilst the article may perhaps be outside the inquiry's terms of reference, I hope you'll find the time to read it.

There are also items in TMNews, on pages 2,5,6 and 9 which, though not strictly about water, are relevant because of the enormous pressures put upon Tamborine Mountain to expand its tourist activities even further – perhaps even to the extent of allowing the Ecotrans cableway project to go ahead. Many of us think this is not the way to go, for all the clear and logical reasons, and that tourism should be restricted as far as possible to the 'eco' variety.

I hope these comments will complement the TMPA's submission and not detract from it and I wish you well in your deliberations. Ours is a long-standing problem which is becoming ever more serious; as our local Member you are, of course, well aware of this.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

  
GEORGE FISHER

P.S. My wife came across an article on the world's Liquid assets (water) in the Guardian recently. A copy is enclosed in the hope that it will be of interest to your Inquiry. A letter in today's The Australian about the Great Artesian Basin is also highly relevant.

P.P.S. Last Friday morning's events on the Mountain went very well, I thought. My own pictures taken at Pethers were pretty awful, but many of those from St Bernards were excellent. We weren't able to print the enclosed one, but you may wish to add it to your private collection.

11 SEP 2002