



The Leak Doctor Australia Pty Ltd  
83 Mercantile Way  
MALAGA WA 6090

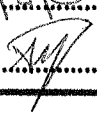
ACN 009 001 978  
ABN 78 673 277 241

Ph: 08 9249 5777  
Fax: 08 9249 5788  
Toll Free Fax (orders): 1800 651 618  
Email: [doustinfo@doustproducts.com.au](mailto:doustinfo@doustproducts.com.au)

[www.doustproducts.com.au](http://www.doustproducts.com.au)

3 August 2007

Dr Mal Washer  
Federal Member for Moore  
3 Boas Avenue  
Joondaloo WA 6027

Submission No:	..... 1 .....
Date Received:	..... 2/8/07 .....
Secretary:	.....  .....

Dear Mal,

RE – PLUMBING QUALITY IN AUSTRALIA

I would offer the following suggestions;

1. In my view the State Government utilities should cease all their tax payer funded "Waterwise" program's and adopt policies that do not interfere with a competitive marketplace. A recent "Waterwise" program conducted by the Western Australian Water Corporation was ceased in April, 2006 after only 1% of 2,150 property audits accepted the recommendations for the installation of water wise products. To my knowledge these Government utilities conducted no market research, adopting a relative arrogant approach to the consumer of attempting to educate, or subsidize the consumers purchase. I would suggest that these Government utilities do not have the expertise to be successful in an open marketplace, their expertise lies in the sale of water without competition to the Australian householder. Another example of this is the Queensland Government which recently awarded a \$22.5 million dollar contract to UXC for the introduction of water saving products targeting 150,000 homes. It is these types of contracts that extinguish competition as it remains extremely difficult for private enterprise to complete with such a large subsidized Government competitor. As a manufacturer of water saving products the UXC group will not evaluate my products for consideration, they will only install products from an affiliated supplier. It remains a formidable task that the Australian consumer will receive the required research and development with completing manufacturers of water saving products in such a limited marketplace.
2. Allow all the Australian Standards license holders to vote and nominate for those to be considered for the committees which control the relative standards which are applied in a particular product group. Included should be reasons for the standards given with submissions accepted for review at present larger players now control these committees and many within the Industry feel that these larger players are compromising the standards.

3. The greatest loss of water in Australia is well recognized as a dripping tap, yet Wells or other regulations do not cover illegal tap washers or in general illegal poor performing plumbing products which consistently flood the Australian market. I have consistently suggested the following legislation. "It is an offence to install, sell, import, and manufacturer or promote any product within Australia without the required Australian standards."
4. At present the "Wells" water saving legislation requires that the flow rate from 150kpa – 350kpa should not exceed 2 liters a minute. The natural law of physics determines a 50% increase with such a pressure increase, therefore considering our existing tap ware has a variance of 11litres a minute at around 350kpa, which remains the average Australian household water pressure. Why would Australia legislate to make water saving products more expensive and less reliable?

Kind Regards,

*Philip Doust*  
DIRECTOR  
Doust Plumbing Products