

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have heard you are looking into the issue of water for Australia and I have some suggestions for your committee—

I have read in last weeks Sun Herald about the excellant proposed plan to water the outback in Australia which Mr Richard Pratt of Visys Industries-Melbourne has put before a Federal Parliamentary Committee/inquiry.

I also have solutions to Australia's problems of the current drought and of our waste water. I thought that these solutions could be merged in some way.

The current drought is with us and is a regular occurrence in some parts of Australia and will be in the future. Instead of passively sitting through this drought and then going through more drought again as no doubt will happen in this country time after time, why don't we do something about dealing with the problem which is ---water.

At the same time we actually have a problem with dealing with our water—that is our waste water .

From every household, office, factory and commercial business, every day in every town and city in this country we have an oversupply of water in the form of used water. Billions of litres of water every year get pumped into the ocean in the form of effluent waste. This has been a short term fix and an easy instant gratification attempt at dealing with it.

What we as a country have not dealt with or looked at is linking these 2 problems and using each one to solve the other one. It is an achievable situation for us.

In practical terms and to explain in detail what we can do is ;

Direct this waste water inland to all areas, treat it so that it can be used for irrigation and treat the effluent so it can be used as fertiliser. This way we no longer need to pollute our oceans, the fish population get to survive and multiply and can be farmed for food, crops can grow, farmers can prosper and won't need Govt money to drain the economy. Our population can decentralise and we can have a wise use of our land instead of the degradation that happens now. This new method would create jobs/prosperity all down the line for all kinds of people.

You will have thought of the cost no doubt and there would be a cost but how much is already being spent in the short term? The cost already of Govt subsidies, lost primary production, sad and hurting, desitute farmers and their families, and our 18<sup>th</sup> century attitudes to these issues. What we also get is bushfires, dying livestock and abandoned crops.

Is it possible you have any plan to help bring about solutions to this unfortunate and unnecessary situation. ? Do you know if there is any working party, submissions, Government body, or people who might have these same solutions in mind?

In the latest issue of Time magazine we are told that in the USA there is a new task force set up to solve their water problems. Is there something we can do to have one here in OZ?

I would appreciate any suggestions you might have to put forward these solutions to the appropriate people,

please advise,  
thanks  
Best Regards

Leonie Hale

