

12.08.08

The Secretary
Senate Select Committee on
Agricultural and Related Industries
GPO Box 6100
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Subject “Drought Policy Review: Assessment of drought and implementation of five essentials to reduce the World’s climate change effect”.

Dear Senator Heffernan

In response to your invitation “to contribute to the inquiry into food security”, please find enclosed, solutions to restore the good life in the bush, by continuity of pristine water .

In Web/Media searches, I can’t see any can do, key plans for creating permanent water in Australia. In years of “*talkfest’s*” good new water ideas for water supply improvement have not been implemented, to protect “the social fabric of our rural families and communities”.

Your recent statement, “... growing concerns about Australia’s ability to feed itself and a booming world population has prompted an important inquiry into *food production and security*,” (ACTION, NCC, 08. 2008) is welcome, and thank you for heading the enquiry.

At p.63, AFR, 3.7.08, see “*Poverty not reduced by foreign aid*”, by Hristos Doucouliagos, professor of economics at Deakin University school of accounting, economics and finance. “But when the empirical literature on foreign aid is examined, a clear and uncomfortable pattern emerges; after forty years and billions and billions of dollars, the evidence shows that aid has not been effective in alleviating poverty”. Closing the gate after the horse has bolted, has not helped, so the “drought policy review”, must stop the horse from bolting. **Adequate low cost government developed water will give bush people success.** “Development aid programmes, begun in the 1960’s were meant to generate development. Instead they generated a large body of **academic literature** on foreign aid” and no water.

No water will result in our becoming, “the poor white trash of Asia”. Part of the answer was outlined by P.A. Yeomans, in his book, *Water for Every Farm*, by saving the water that falls on the farm. But the ultimate solution in the Climate Change is to do the five essentials listed below to produce low cost irrigation water to use via Humphrey Kempe’s system, outlined in his book *The Astonished Earth*. In 1960, I worked at “Lindsay Point”, an irrigation property which then existed in the north-west corner of Victoria, prior to the Dartmouth dam construction, when Michael (Humphrey’s son) was Manager.

With adequate irrigation creating improved fertility, “Lindsay Point’s” carrying capacity increased to 15 sheep per acre (2.5 head of cattle) all throughout the year, after seven years of quality ecological farming. When the reclaiming of this eroded clay soil began, survey pegs were eight inches out of the ground, due to action of the hooves of sheep and cattle, and strong winds blowing the top soil away to Melbourne, to give them a taste of the bush.

It is elementary, that for Australians to survive and prosper, we must have adequate water to irrigate our farms. And we need five major central principles to which our leaders must be passionately attached and will not sacrifice under any circumstances.

We need five essentials to reduce the world's climate change effect.

1. **STOP WASTING THE WATER.**

(A) Divert and store water by pipe, canals and rivers; 100 million ac ft of water pa, 70% of *average* flow of Queensland's mid-northern, peninsular and gulf rivers, to South Australia, **PRODUCING HYDRO-ELECTRICITY on the way.**

(B) Transmountain diversion from the Clarence/Richmond basins (upper Clarence, Nimboida, Macleay Rivers) to Murray-Darling Basin. Annual water flow available compares to the Snowy Mountains (from 3,000 GL in 1930 to over 11,000 GL now; see "Impacts of water Regulation and Storage", Murray Darling Basin Commission; <http://www.mdbc.gov.au/nrm/water>)

Also a desalination plant (see S/H/S/N/V/D/Ss below) for continuity of production and a fish farm, to quiet the negative talk by local folk. (See "National Infrastructure and National Development", Emeritus Professor Lance Endersbee AO, FTSE.)

2. **GUARANTEE OF WATER IS ESSENTIAL TO LIVE SUCCESSFUL LIVES.** Solar/Hybrid/Safe 4th generation Nuclear/Vacuum Desalination/Power Generation

1,500 Million ac.ft. (1,850,000 GL) of low cost **DESALINATED WATER, to rescue the four eastern States and Murray Darling**, to maintain basic production in droughts. (One cent per 100 Metres³, or \$1.00 a Giga litre)

If we just lease our enriched uranium (U³⁰⁸) to China, India , Russia and the World, a million tons of Canadian / Australian U³⁰⁸ would earn \$500 billion in 5 years, to pay for a million construction employees, to build our infrastructure.

Countries providing construction employees for our infrastructure development would have priority to our U³⁰⁸, which would be returned to us for re-constituting in our "Breeder Reactors" at the end of its useful life. The Nuclear waste from our Nuclear Repository, the Plutonium²³⁹ being dispatched by rocket to the sun.

100 Pebble Bed Nuclear Reactor Desalination/Power Plants in China, would reduce their pollution by 50% and give them adequate quality **WATER PRODUCTION.**

"This technology claims a dramatically higher level of safety and efficiency. Instead of water, it uses pyrolytic graphite as the neutron moderator, and an inert gas such as helium, as the coolant at very high temperature, to drive a turbine directly. This eliminates complex steam management systems from the design, increasing transfer efficiency (ratio of electrical output) to about 50%. The gases do not dissolve contaminants or absorb neutrons as water does, so the core has less radioactive fluids and is more economical and safer than light water reactors."

The helium gas goes through pipes in the solar stills to keep the desalination process going 24/7. After being used by the turbine to produce electricity, the helium gas maintains the Solar Hybrid Nuclear vacuum stills at a temperature of 60-80° to give maximum distillate at low cost (1 cent per 100 M³) for quality pristine fresh water.

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The Solar Hybrid safe Nuclear Vacuum Desalination Stills (S/H/S/N/V/D/Ss) need to be located where adequate pristine sea water is available, preferably where high tides enable sea water to be “loaded” for gravity supply, to the S/H/S/N/V/D/Ss.

“The performance of the system (efficiency) depends on meteorological parameters, namely wind velocity, solar radiation, sky temperatures, ambient temperature. Besides the meteorological parameters, it also depends on water parameters, such as salt concentration, algae formation on water, and mineral layers on basin water.”

“The highest useful intensity wavelength is 0.47 microns, the range of visible beams. Intensity of solar radiation reaching the earth’s surface ranges from 0 to about 1,050 W/m² at the equator. Most of this radiation comes directly from the sun, but about 10% comes as scattered light, even on cloudy days.”

“Efficiency rates for solar plants range from 25/40% in winter and from 30/60% during months of high radiation intensity; real rate depends on design, construction and operation of the plant and on ambient conditions. For example, a distillate flow rate of around 5 kg/m² is possible with an assumed water temperature of 80^o C and mean radiation intensity of 24.5 mega joules per square metre (MJ/m²), conditions typical in the Northern Hemisphere in July; in such circumstances, the Still has a mean efficiency of 50 per cent. Combined with solar energy heating / evaporating water inside solar stills – heat transfer/storage from nuclear, geo-thermal or coal, radically improves productivity/reliability.” (*Desalination in the 21st Century.*)

“About 90 per cent of France’s electrical power comes from hydro-electricity and nuclear power, which helps explain why France is able to reduce its dependence on imported petroleum and meet its greenhouse gas reduction targets.”

“The contrast with Australia could not be more stark”.

“Australia is heavily dependent on coal-fired power stations which, according to the Australian Coal Association, produce about 85% of Australia’s electric power which is used not only for domestic purposes, but also sustains some of Australia’s largest industries, including the manufacture of aluminium, most of which is exported.”

“Combustion of coal produces carbon dioxide, and so the electricity generators, which have an outstanding record of producing low-cost energy on which Australia’s prosperity is based, are now to be the victims of the new carbon-trading scheme unveiled by Canberra academic, Professor Ross Garnaut.”

“Mr Rudd is hell-bent on introducing an emissions-trading scheme which will be an effective tax on energy, forcing even more of Australia’s beleaguered manufacturing industries to shut down or move off-shore.”

“- with the impact of drought/rising fuel prices, it will also signal the death-knell for much of Australia’s agriculture, on which “our” prosperity has traditionally rested.”

“The impact of Mr Rudd’s utterly futile policies will be felt by all Australians.”
Peter Westmore, national president, National Civic Council; NW, p.24, 2.8.2008.

3. WE NEED QUALITY TREES TO IMPROVE RAIN AND AIR PURITY.

A full range of trees is vital to restore reforestation and without water, young trees die; mature trees are lost by “bushfires”, unless sprinkler systems are in fire breaks. We need a sound carbon credit system for positive planning. (See “Making sense of carbon-trading”, Peter Westmore, NW, p.24, 23/6/07, “If Australia was serious, it would forget about emissions trading; invest in biofuel technology instead”; also “Picking winners is a losing proposition”, Brian Toohey, TWAFR, p.63, 24-25.5.08; “Climate change policy is wrongly tilted towards carbon capture and storage (CCS).

“If the goal is to achieve low emissions, it doesn’t really matter whether the energy source is renewable. If a cost-effective way can be found to use coal with few emissions, fine. But the government and Garnaut are fixated on one type of technology, carbon capture/storage that they wrongly regard as synonymous with a different technology called clean coal. It is now highly unlikely that CCS will prove commercially viable for cutting emissions from coal-fired electricity generation”.)

IN OTHER WORDS, CCS IS A HOAX.

“Geothermal and wave sources will prove cheaper than clean coal, with solar thermal and wind power playing a role. CSIRO technologist Louis Wibberley argues it would be much better to put a sizeable slice of available R&D dollars into finding ways to turn waste CO₂ into something of commercial value or greatly improving efficiency of coal use by developing carbon fuel cells. (See TWAFR, 15-16.12.2007)”

4. WE MUST TOP UP OUR LAKES SO EVAPORATION BRINGS RAIN.

Creating 100,000 sq miles of Permanent Fresh Water Lakes (PFWL) for Australia, needs 384 million acre ft of water p.a. if evaporation *averages* six feet p.a. Salt-water lakes, can be re-supplied by gravity-fed seawater; aquaculture created by Japanese tuna/whale farming. (North America has 95,000 sq miles of PFWL.)

5. **GEOHERMAL.** Beneath our feet, is a massive source of efficient, emission-free 24/7 **THERMAL POWER TO PRODUCE ELECTRICITY**, if wind / rivers stop, to **SHUT DOWN THE DIRTY COAL FIRED POWER STATIONS BY 2015.** We can convert dirty coal by Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) Gas-to-Liquid (GTL) Coal-to-liquid (CTL) or by the Toffler process, to produce ultra clean, low cost diesel / petrol, with Bio-fuels and “Hydrogen”, ASAP. Linc Energy has a “Significant Project” status from the Qld. Govt.

(See “The future looks green and very hot”, Stephen Wisenthai, p.52, AFR,17.1.08, and “UH-OH; WE PICKED THE WRONG CURE FOR COAL”, B.Toohy, WAFR, 15-16.12. 07; Louis Wibberley’s paper, CSIRO energy technologist, on direct carbon fuel cells, using electrochemical process to generate electricity directly from carbon; and “Miners warm to federal liquid fuel plan”, D. Crowe, p.13, AFR, 27.02.08.

Also please note particularly;

“Foolish to waste nuclear opportunity” Anthony Bergin, p.55, A.F.R., 24/1/07;
“Nuclear Desalination”, UIC Nuclear Issues Briefing Paper # 74, Oct. 2006.)

<http://www.uic.com.au/nip74.htm> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pebble_bed_reactor

My 4.2.8 letter to PM Rudd, and to other Politicians over the years seeking drought proofing action, show they have ignored the best advice in the World, and failed to

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act on what everybody needs. (See 4.2.08 PM Rudd letter and Appendix B, “Time to replace lying stooges with truthful leaders, Confronting the lies about agriculture”.)

Since the Snowy Mountains scheme was built, nothing of consequence has been done to provide the water needed when the big droughts visit. Farmers have had their water “stolen” all over the country, leaving farms high and dry. **To add insult to injury, laws created have “debased” land titles.** The State Government and “old” Council refused a further sub-division of my farm so I could remain viable, after failing to provide water for all 58 acres for profitable enterprise.

Mr Peter Beattie said the drought was “unexpected”. Rot! The CSIRO climate report going back 1,000 years, showed up many droughts, one of 30 years.

These authorities, have mistreated the electoral voters; their needs, requests, wishes, and basic human rights, all neglected when Australia’s Constitution Law forbids it. Co-Operative process has been ignored, as required by the Australian Constitution.

See “Housing bans shed land value”, Matthew Cranston, P. 57, Australian Financial Review (AFR), 23.6.08; decisions by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council (MRSC) and Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT).

But the decision by MRSC & VCAT, “has basically wiped everything off the value of the land. If I can’t sell within the next few months I ... have to declare bankruptcy.”

- A. “NSW, Victoria and Queensland are limiting home building.
- B. Many fear the focus on keeping land agricultural has gone overboard.
- C. It may hit superannuation investors”

1. “Tighter control of housing development on rural land in Queensland is reducing the value of small farms”.
2. “In late May the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal upheld a decision by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council to refuse to grant a permit for a dwelling on land at Kyneton, owned by potato wholesaler Leo Hatzigiannis”.

“They refused because: ‘The proposed dwellings would result in fragmentation of agricultural land, which is zoned rural residential’ and was ‘not reasonably required for the conduct of agricultural activity conducted on the land’”.

“In NSW an independent panel for the Central West Rural Lands enquiry found the definition of agriculture was changing, with “big farms getting bigger and small farms smaller ... off-farm income has become the norm”.

“Mr Keating said authorities claimed the primary zoning ‘is for agricultural purposes, but it’s gone overboard – it’s an ideology which is rife throughout the country”.

“A new state Environmental Planning Policy (Rural Lands) 2008, introduced last month, enables “the subdivision of rural land for the purpose of primary production below the minimum lot size, without allowance for a dwelling”.

How can proper planning of homes, “destroy the landscape”? It may have a small impact on agricultural use of land, if decreasing economies of scale involve a small area. But in most cases the reallocation of land will allow purchase of extra land and water adjacent to the “homestead”.

3. “Woodend Real Estate Agent, John Keating “doubts the need to maintain the land solely for agricultural purposes, and believes many of the farms are not viable on their own, and are relying on off-farm incomes.”
4. “Similar legislation is being considered in far north Queensland. The Draft Far North Queensland Regional Plan 2025 proposes restricting ‘further fragmentation of land holdings below 60 hectares’ and ‘expansion of rural residential development outside areas already allocated within the rural living area’”.
5. “Gary Hopkins from FNQ Property Shop said if the regulations went ahead it could have ‘enormous ramifications, especially for older farmers who have their land as their superannuation plan’”.

I believe some of our politicians have stopped listening to the electorate and no longer act in our best interests. The position is well expressed by the following:

“On 20 June 1899, 519,374 Australians (162,458 Victorians) voted at a referendum to accept the Australian Constitution. (*The population of Australia at that time, excluding aboriginal persons, was approximately 3,800,000*) The Constitution thus became a document that authorised the Australian Parliament to be created. The Constitution became a document that defined and limited the power of the Federal Parliament of Australia.”

“ **It is a fact** that the Australian Parliament only exists because a majority of electors in **all** of the states agreed to it being formed.”

“**It is a fact** that the *only authority that our parliament has, is the authority that the electors grant it*”.

“**It is a fact that Australian electors are sovereign over their parliaments**”.

“The body of the electors in an electorate comprise the **Electors’ Parliament** of that electorate”.

“**It is a fact** that the **Electors’ Parliament** elects **their member** to represent **their will** in one of the various **Member Parliaments** such as the state or federal parliaments or local council. *The Electors’ Parliament elects all the Members Parliaments. The Electors’ Parliament is sovereign over **all** of the Members Parliaments*”.

“**It is a fact**, that when the will of the Electors’ Parliament is determined by **referendum** or by **mandate** as either wanting a particular law or wanting a particular law removed, then the government and the courts are legally bound to obey that will”.

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“ It is a fact that there has never been an election or referendum in which 100% of electors entitled to vote, have voted. The will of the electorate has always been determined from the sample of those electors who have voted”.

“If the elected government (member Parliaments) or the courts refuse to act on the will of the electors as determined by referendum, they are automatically acting outside their authority. The people are therefore **legally exempt** from the law in question”.

“It does not matter who or what organisation determines the will of the electors but only that the will of electors has been accurately and properly determined”.

“The members comprising our various Member Parliaments have been **derelict in their duty to discover the majority will** of the electors (parliament) and to decide laws accordingly. Worse, they have created laws against the electors majority will, that have no moral or ethical foundation. To whom do we turn when the Member Parliaments and the courts break the law? The electors. **It is the electors who ultimately have power to try Acts passed by parliament and it is the electors who may judge them valid or invalid”.**

“It is the duty of the elected members to determine the will of the electorate they serve and to act and pass legislation in accordance with that will. It is the duty of the electors to ensure the elected member is representing and **passing legislation according to their will”.**

“ Australians have **always had this option** available, but have not used it in the past. However the situation is now serious. Politicians can no longer be trusted to act in our best interests. Political parties are undemocratic. Royal inquiries, petitions and protests are futile. We cannot any longer leave it to politicians to decide for us what we want. **It is up to us to tell them what we want and what they must do”.**

“Neither the Australian Electoral Commission not any State or Territory electoral commissions practice what we preach. Some improvements are:

1. Ballot papers are in triplicate. For the first time in our history voters receive a copy of their vote.
2. Voters, after being marked off the electoral role must sign a ledger to receive their ballot.
3. Ballots are numerically numbered in sequence, and pens, **not pencils**, are used to mark ballots.”

“Remember, it is the electors who **elect our parliaments** and **it is the electors** who give to our elected members various powers **limited by the Australian Constitution**, to represent us and act on our behalf in **our best interest**. We give them permission to only create laws, infrastructure and social systems that **serve and benefit us** and that foster our democracy, social stability, well being and which will **increase** our standard of living. **We are not servants of our laws**, infrastructure and social systems. Our founding fathers did not ever intend for us to be in any way shackled or burdened by such creations. **Such servitude betrays the freedom of our human spirit and the founding principles of our democracy. We give permission to politicians to only create laws that**

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serve us, we do not serve the law. At the foundation of all good laws there is the spirit of the law. The *spirit of the law overrules the letter of the law*. Our parliaments and the courts have seemingly forgotten or are deliberately transgressing these important principles”.

We must act for **“laws, infrastructure and social systems that serve and benefit us, to foster our democracy, social stability, well being and which will increase our standard of living”**.

Examples of political exploitation against our best interests can be found in the taxi Bailment system; where *“the working poor”* are robbed of their “on-costs” (Superannuation, holiday pay, long service leave, etc) to cut living standards.

“Agricultural food security, is the main crisis facing Australia, as the Nations food industry and World survival are seriously threatened.” Environmental neglect on water, unfair competition, government dithering / incompetence.

“Senator Bill Heffernan heads an enquiry into Australia’s ability to feed itself; a booming world population has prompted this important inquiry into food production and security.

The inquiry into Australia’s agriculture and associated industries will focus on food that is:

- (a) Affordable to consumers;
- (b) Viable for production by farmers; and
- (c) Of sustainable impact on the environment.

Submissions are to be in by August 14, with the inquiry to report by November 27.

Potentially, this enquiry could go to the heart of the crisis facing Australian agriculture, which seriously threatens the Nations food security.

The organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) states, in its annual survey of agriculture in developed nations, that Australian farmers have the lowest farm gate price in the developed world. That price is roughly equal to the corrupt world price for agricultural products, which is underpinned by subsidies averaging 27% of gross farm income, a 15% consumer subsidy and some export subsidies. Some products are dumped on the world market below the cost of production.

For more than 20 years, Australian government policies have kept farm gate prices down. The result is that farmers are among the lowest income group in Australia. The steady loss of farmers is now threatening Australia’s food security and Australia’s ability to feed a rapidly growing world.”

“Behind the crisis

For more than two decades agricultural policy has been based on the false assumption that Australia exports 80% of its product and consumes only 20%. Falsely focusing on exports, governments have argued that by deregulating rural industries under National Competition Policy and allowing in cheap food products, Aussie farmers would compete more against each other and against imports. This would make them more efficient,

keeping down food prices. Then when the World Trade Organisation (WTO) achieved free trade in agriculture, opening up the US, EU and Japanese markets, Australian farmers would gain huge benefits from accessing the World's richest economies.

In reality, as Dr Mark McGovern has shown and as the Australian Bureau of Statistics has agreed, Australia exports between 22.5% and 36% of its product (The Customs House Agreement, Agricultural Production Destination Committee of the Queensland National Party, 9 May, 2000.) If we take an approximate export figure of roughly 30% of farm production by value, then about 70% of rural product is sold into the domestic market (McGovern, Dr Mark, QUT School of Marketing and International Business, "On the Unimportance of Exports to Australian Agriculture", *The Australian Journal of Regional Studies*, Vol. 5, No. 2, 1999)

This fundamental mistake about the destination of agriculture has meant that policy focused on exports has been fundamentally flawed. Deregulation of 14 areas of agriculture has meant that farmers, who have no bargaining power over their imports (farm equipment, fertilizer, seeds etc) or their farm output, are left to bargain with a small number of processors, just two dominant supermarkets. Meanwhile, cheap, dumped imports are undermining the all important domestic market for farmers. Farmers only have to lose 10% of the domestic market to imports, then to compensate they would have to boost exports by 30%. This is well nigh impossible.

The deregulation of agriculture has suited free market policies of successive governments. Adjunct free trade policies have seen imports undermine the domestic market. Many imports have been "dumped" on the world market at below cost, yet Australia has virtually abandoned the use of its anti-dumping rules, which could otherwise exclude such products from entering the country. Free market policy has spilt over to quarantine, where decisions on dangerous imports carrying potentially dangerous diseases have been made more with trade considerations in mind than with quarantine concerns. This same policy has affected water policy, where free trade in farmer's permanent water rights is seriously damaging irrigation farming, the most productive part of Australian agriculture.

In one sense governments have recognised that there is a problem – they see a serious lack of investment in agriculture. Instead of identifying their policies as being the cause, governments have supported managed investment schemes (MIS) which deliver large tax breaks to wealthy investors in agriculture. These MIS are investing in tree plantations, turning high value dairy farms, sugar cane farms and others into low value tree production. Other MIS in olives, nuts and other products are leading to a massive over production that will see these industries collapse, wiping out genuine farmers.

The combined effects of these policies has been to severely weaken the rural sector at all levels. The drought is now bringing this crisis to a head."

"Even if the world food shortage causes world food prices to increase, this is unlikely to help Australian farmers because world food prices are still heavily subsidised, the high Australian dollar means smaller returns, and farm input costs – of fuel, fertilizer and other inputs – are rising steeply."

Therefore, Australians in the bush must have a Super-Co-operative, as exist in Spain, Holland, Japan, Scandinavia, Canada and Britain. (See *Credit Unions an endangered species, and Lessons from Mondragon*, Dr Race Matthews.)

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New-generation agricultural co-operatives will give farmers better continuity of production, a better quality lifestyle and better average long term incomes.

Now we have high “Food prices, and discrepancy between the price farmers receive and the price consumers pay. This is made possible because individual farmers have no power to bargain a price for their product, while two supermarkets can exercise near monopoly price powers, particularly in areas of the market where they have little competition.”

“With two supermarkets dominating grocery markets they use a number of unfair trading practices to beat down their purchase prices and put other competitors out of business.”

Also we must stop: “ The amount of imported products on supermarket shelves. Importers should be required to prove that their product has been produced under the same stringent phyto-sanitary conditions as food produced in Australia, and there should be comprehensive testing of all imports for chemical residues.”

“The systemic failure of quarantine as being revealed by the two major inquiries into Australia’s quarantine authorities.” (ACTION, The National Civic Council, August, 2008)

May I wish you all the best in your commonsense review to right the wrongs.

Yours sincerely

Rob Lemon

APPENDIX C.

HOW MUCH WATER DOES THE PLANET HAVE?

POLLUTION is out of control and the Queensland Government continues to exacerbate **Climate Change (CC)** as lies about dirty coal, creates disaster for Australians.

“A World Water Council study detailed in London recently found only 2.5% of the world’s water is not salty, and 66.67% of that is trapped in the icecaps and glaciers.

Of what is left, about 20% is in remote areas and most of the rest comes at the wrong time and in the wrong place, as with monsoons and floods.

The amount of fresh water for human use is less than 0.08% of all the water on the planet. 70% of fresh water is used for agriculture and demands -- are soaring rapidly.

The World Water Council says in two decades use of water by humans will increase by 40%, and that 17% more water than is available will be needed to grow the world’s food.

The Council said only rapid and imaginative innovation could avoid the crisis.
(Des Houghton, C.M., p.60, 16-17/6/07.)

Appendix A

We need water for the four eastern states, the Murray/Darling and the lakes, when droughts visit; it may be 1,500 million ac.ft. 1,850,000 Giga-litres by 25 Plants each producing 60 million ac.ft. of water p.a. by 100 sq miles of Solar Hybrid Stills, & 4th Generation Nuclear, Vacuum Desalination, Electricity producing (SHS, 4th GN,VD,E Stills. See Appendix H, p.20, 4.2.8 Rudd letter). Can you confirm the requirements?

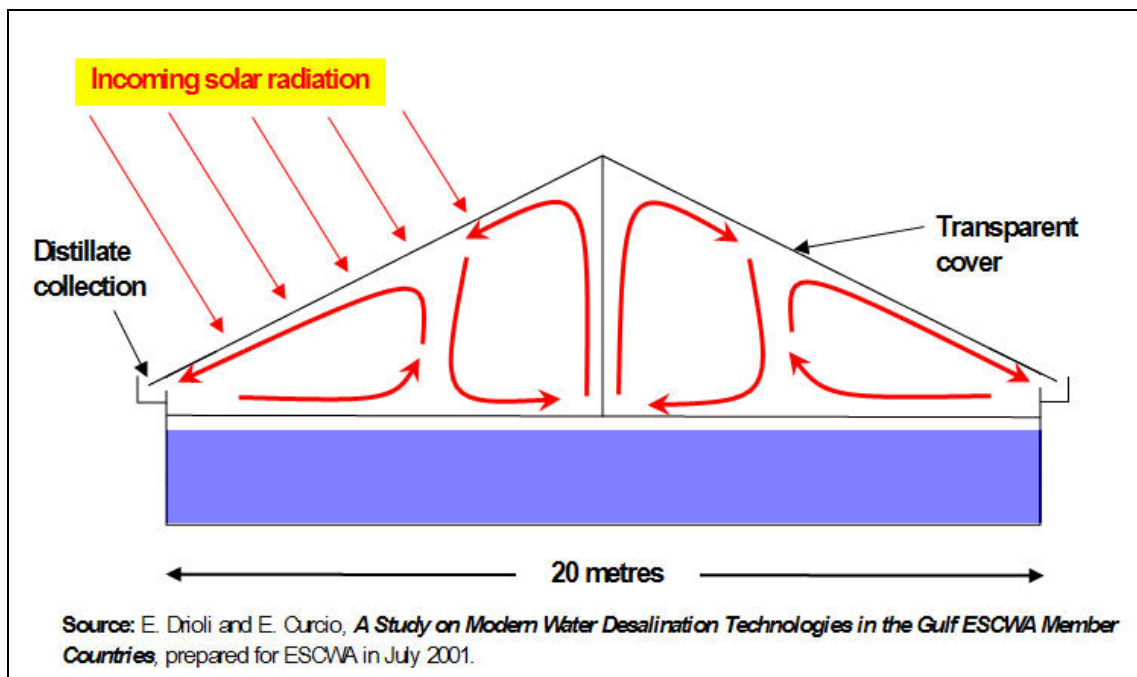


Figure 1: When the salt in the sea water being distilled in the still has reached 7%, i.e. twice the salt content of normal sea water (3.5%) it is discharged to the ocean, without any ill effect to sea grass or sea-animals. However if this percentage proves unsatisfactory, it can be varied by timing, to give either an increase or decrease of salt content. Present indications suggest that the used sea water salt content should not exceed twice the normal range, when released back to the ocean, to avoid any ecological problems. The whole process is automatic, with the still water containing the high content salt returned to the ocean, and the fresh sea water fed into the still at the same constant rate, from large reservoirs replenished by the tides. Normal distillation commences at 80^o C; vacuum distillation at 60^o C, for better production. The pipes which go through the still basins, bring the heated helium gas from the power turbine to heat the water in the stills, for constant water desalination production 24/7.

“The greenhouse-type flat solar still is simple to build and operate(see figures 6.14 and 6.15). The still consists of an airtight space in which evaporation and condensation occur simultaneously. Solar radiation penetrates this space through a tilted transparent cover and is partially absorbed by the water in the basin below. The bottom of the basin is lined in black to promote absorption. The water is heated to a temperature higher than that of the transparent cover but lower than the water’s boiling point (normally 50^o to 80^o C). Convection currents are formed and the air-vapour mixture moves upward, where it comes in contact with the cover and cools, becomes saturated, partly condenses, and drips back into the water being treated. The distillate forms a thin film along the inside of the transparent cover and is collected in gutters.”¹

¹ L. Rizzuti et al (eds.), *Solar Desalination for the 21st Century*, 207-214.C 2007 Springer, p. 128.

APPENDIX B.

TIME TO REPLACE LYING STOOGES WITH TRUTHFUL LEADERS.

“Confronting the lies about agriculture.

Free market lies about agriculture have led to policies that seriously damage our rural industries. For over two decades, farmers and the public have been told the following:

LIE # 1: The primary market for rural product is the export market. Hence, farmers have to accept the agenda of National Competition Policy to deregulate agricultural industries, tariffs, irrigation water, etc., in order to make farmers become more efficient, so as to compete better on world markets.

In reality, the primary market for most of Australian agriculture is the domestic market. As Dr Mark McGovern, an economist with the Queensland University of Technology, has shown, we don't export 80 per cent and consume 20 per cent of rural product. WE export around 30 per cent and consume about 70 per cent.

Even for most commodity export industries – like meat, wheat, sugar and dairy – their biggest single market is the domestic market.

LIE # 2: If only Australia can lead the way for the rest of the World in cutting subsidies to farmers and adopting free-trade policies, then the rest of the world will follow and our farmers will benefit from a huge boom in exports.

Hence, in the late 1980s, Australia led a group of developing nations to form the Cairns Group, to pursue the abolition of all subsidies and promote free trade in world agriculture. This was done in the run-up to the evolution of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (the GATT) into the World Trade Organization. (WTO)

This campaign failed because both the GATT (1947) and the WTO (1994) treated agriculture as separate from all other forms of production and trade. They recognised that farmers had no market power over the price of their inputs or their outputs, leaving them vulnerable to exploitation, particularly by processors and powerful supermarkets. The WTO Agreement on Agriculture (1995) confirmed five areas in which governments could assist farmers.

Today, Australia is still pursuing free trade in world agriculture, when the US, EU and Japan say they want to expand production and protect their farmers. It's not going to happen.

LIE # 3: Australian farmers must become more efficient and competitive to succeed on the world market and compete with cheap imports.

Yet *Agricultural Policies in OECD Countries Monitoring and Evaluation, Highlights, 2003* report in the developed world, Australian farmers receive the lowest subsidies and the lowest farm-gate price, and our consumers enjoy the cheapest food.

In fact, farmers in other developed nations have a farm-gate price 32 per cent higher than Australian farmers, and their consumers pay 37 per cent more for their food than Australians.

LIE # 4: Quarantine cannot provide absolute security against imported diseases, and that if we want other countries to buy our food, we have to accept their imports or they will challenge our quarantine rules in the WTO.

Robert Lemon to Senator Bill Heffernan, re Inquiry into food security.

Yet the WTO states that Australia can have its quarantine bar as high as it chooses. It says, "... with Australia heavily dependent on agriculture and a major exporter of agricultural commodities and agricultural food products, which receive relatively little government assistance and are sold at world market prices, these [quarantine] measures are believed to be necessary to ensure that Australia's reputation as a reliable exporter of high-quality agricultural products is not jeopardised by pests and diseases."(WTO press release, September 25, 2002.)

LIE # 5: Australia has to accept the closing of more and more of its fishing and timber industries for the sake of the environment.

As more of Australia's managed, sustainable timber and fishing industries are closed down, we are importing from countries where unmanaged exploitation of forests and reefs is causing major environmental destruction.

LIE # 6: Farmers are only 3 per cent of the economy; that is why they have no political voice.

Yet the Australian Farm Institute report, *Australia's Farm-Dependent Economy* (1995), showed that the farm-dependent economy – inputs, agriculture and output sectors – make up 12.2 per cent (\$72.4 billion) of the Australian economy and 17.2 per cent of the workforce. And how many times have farmers been told:

LIE # 7: Why should taxpayers subsidise farmers?

The question should be reversed. Why should farmers have to carry unrepeatable debts, get a second job, send their wives to work, use their children as unpaid labourers, and live on very low incomes to subsidise Australian consumers with the cheapest, safest food in the world? For 20 years, farmers have been told:

LIE # 8: Farmers should diversify their production, to get into niche industries.

But niche industries are by definition small with limited markets. They cannot replace large, commodity industries.

Australian farmers can produce anything. What they cannot get is a fair price for the products into the domestic market.

LIE # 9: Australia can get by with a quarter of the number of farmers we have today.

Yet they now hear politicians saying that, if something isn't done soon, we will have a serious shortage of farmers in a few years time.

This amended article originated from Pat Byrne. N.W. p.9, 16/7/2005"