

Fax for the attention of Members of the Senate Committee for Rural and Regional Affairs  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT

27<sup>th</sup> September 2006

Dear Members of the Senate Committee,


Please see enclosed copy of another of my letters concerning water, for your perusal.

My enclosed letter is titled, 'Facts do not cease because they are ignored'.

Thank you for considering my views. I understand that a lot of people have a lot of different opinions and ideas regarding water usage and management and that is fair enough too. But nonetheless, I would be very grateful if my concerns are at least carefully considered by the Senate Committee and in fact by the wider community, as I believe that what we do now will cause an effect on the future availability of the water resource for our kids.

This is such a crucial issue for us all. I believe Water is everyone's responsibility and therefore I believe we all need to be extremely careful with regard to policy for the priceless resource.

Yours sincerely,

  
Wendy Bunce

N.B. Total of two (2) pages sent in this fax, including this cover page.

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**Facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored.**

A quotation by Aldous Huxley

I believe the Australian community may be growing increasingly fed up with governments that effectively make policies to suit big business demands, regardless of the risks or consequences for the rest of us.

We elected these politicians to look after us and to care for our Environment and especially to ensure we are all able to maintain our precious life dependant water resources. We didn't elect the government to make water laws to make money! How any government could have the audacity to make water policies based on an Economic return must surely be without doubt the greatest example of greed and ignorance in resource governance ever enacted in the history of our Nation.

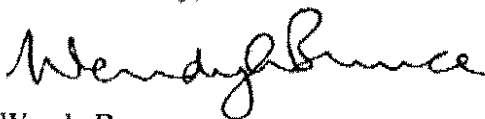
The facts are that Australia is predominately a flat dry continent. Occasionally we do get huge flooding rains, but overall our lovely old country is always going to be water vulnerable. We all need to recognize this fact and stop trying to make money out of our increasingly limited water resources. Governments have a responsibility to make sure water policies save our precious water resources for life, not ensure profit from it for business.

It seems as though the prime leaders of our governments are teamed rather too closely to resource management generally. Making water into a tradable commodity is simply dangerous in my view. Perhaps government likes to ignore the fact that we have a very finite water reserve in this country but ignoring that fact will not make it cease to exist.

In the last thirty years, commerce selfishness and general government denial has largely dominated our regulated water usage. Our regulated rivers are in a disgraceful state of neglect and collapse.

Our climate is getting hotter and drier and we know this fact. We all need water to survive. Our water must be available, affordable and sustainable for all of us and for nature as well. Our rivers and our precious groundwater resources urgently need to be allowed to return to a more naturally balanced state. That is what good water policy should ensure. Water is for life, not for profit.

Yours sincerely,



Wendy Bunce