

Inquiry into water management in the Coorong and Lower Lakes.

I submit that there are sources of water that could be obtained to augment water supplies to the Lower Lakes. My opinion is as follows:-

- 1 The volumes of water that are not accounted for in the Murray River are extremely high and considerable effort should be instituted to lower the losses and in particular provide better supervision of all extractions.
- 2 Authorities in charge of extractions from the Murray should be required to report extractions from each weir pool so that the losses in each weir pool can be compared and management improved.
- 3 MDBC to establish rules for the extracting authorities that are designed to improve supervision and control of the water extracted.
- 4 Allocations of water from all streams in the Murray Darling basin to be approved by the MDBC . In particular Goulburn system irrigators should get the same allocation as Murray irrigators whenever possible.
- 5 Utilise resources of the Goulburn River to augment water in the Murray River
- 6 I calculate that the water entitlement of the four irrigation areas supplied from the Goulburn River totalled 890 GL and deliveries in these areas totalled 595 GL in year 07/08. There seems to be something like 295 GL that could be available to be purchased on a yearly basis.
- 7 If water is allowed to be diverted from the Goulburn River to Melbourne It will be lost for ever to use in the lower Murray. The diversion of the Goulburn River water to Melbourne should opposed.

Submission by George S Gordon

Inquiry into water management in the Coorong and Lower Lakes (Addendum 1)

The submission by Steve Posselt MIE Aust proposes that “The system will not function properly until the whole basin is controlled by a single entity, prepared to make decisions for the basin”. **I support his proposition.**

Tourale Station has been purchased to obtain 20 Gl of water and at the same time the Victorian Government is committed to taking 75 GL of water from the Murray-Darling Basin for non essential use in Melbourne. The decision to transfer Goulburn River water to Melbourne is crazy and the Commonwealth Government should use its powers to stop this happening.

George Gordon