

Stephen & Mary Guthrey

Trading as "SJ & M Guthrey"

PO Box 99
"Elmgrove"
220 Angledale Road
BEGA NSW 2550
AUSTRALIA

29th November 2010

Mr James Cox
Chief Executive Officer
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
PO Box Q290
QVB Post Office NSW 1230

RE: Submission to IPART on NSW Office of Water (NOW) Draft Report October 2010

Dear Mr Cox,

The IPART Draft Determination for NOW has placed the Brogo River Irrigators in a position of having to wear another increased costs. I believe these costs are unjustified, with little information provided to justify such a high increase(73%). It is hard to see how much work NOW actually does on the ground on the regulated Brogo River in the Bega Valley as they are invisible people who impose decisions from on high.

The combination of State Water pricing and NOW pricing makes South Coast regulated extremely expensive compared to many other river systems especially those away from the coast. I continue to wonder if the farmers in the Bega Valley have an ability to pay that far exceeds the ability for farmers in the other valleys. If this is the case then please enlighten me as it is not reflected in my profitability.

I would like to feel confident that IPART would examine the real costs in the Bega Valley and make an informed decision but I am not holding my breath.

Yours faithfully

Stephen Guthrey