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Water Management Charges Review for the Peel Valley Regulated and Ground Water users.

Why doesn't the NSW Office of Water have the same pricing regime as State Water for the 2010 and onwards bulk water determination?

With the inability to deliver a consistent and reliable water supply in the Peel Valley it would seem to be scandalous for the NSW Office of Water to request increases in water charges of up to four times that of prices for the 06-10 period.

They have been unable to deliver any increase in reliability or competence in administration, yet ask irrigators to wear their incompetence and cop a four hundred percent increase in costs.

The NSW Office of Water was largely responsible for the recent Peel Valley Water Sharing Plan which set twenty percent as the long term average annual extraction level, meaning that eighty percent of entitlement cannot be used for most of the time. Bearing this in mind, they have requested large price increases in order to eventually recoup full cost recovery based on a twenty percent availability. Their need to ramp up prices will make the present irrigation industry in the Peel Valley unsustainable.

Why should the livelihood of Peel Valley irrigators be jeopardized by the whims of bureaucrats who are unfamiliar and out of touch with reality in the Peel Valley? If you are truly independent then look at these proposed price rises and make a sensible adjustment **not** one that is potentially the catalyst for the demise of the irrigation industry within the Peel Valley.

Please act sensibly and responsibly. Our future depends on your independent decision!

Yours sincerely,  
Bruce Evans.