



IPART,

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

Irrigators of the Peel Valley should not be expected to pay the prices being proposed by the NSW Office of Water for water which they are incapable of delivering based on a history of long term average annual extraction limits.

To ask for increases four times that of present prices and be no more efficient in the delivery of that water is an absurd notion to contemplate.

The irrigators of the Peel Valley have done nothing to warrant their being priced out of the irrigation industry. That we should be expected to pay almost eight times the usage price for a ML of water when compared to the Murrumbidgee is ridiculous!

This would make it impossible to make a bale of hay and economically compete on the open market. The efficiency of the NSW Office of Water appears **not** to have improved by four times the same amount. This department still appears to be run by the same incompetents put in place by this same incompetent government whose belief in full cost recovery would mean the pricing out of the irrigation industry along the Peel Valley.

This valley cannot, was not and should not be expected to shoulder the burden of increased prices associated with full cost recovery in future pricing adjustments. It was never the original intention when Chaffey Dam was built.

This action by the NSW Office of Water equates to government-condoned robbery.

It therefore remains the duty of IPART to act responsibly in determining future water pricing for the Peel Valley.

Yours sincerely,
Len Simon.