



The Yanco Creek & Tributaries Advisory Council Inc.

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3 November 2005

Review of Bulk Water Pricing 2005/2010
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
Level 2
44 Market Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam

REVIEW OF 2005 - 2010 BULK WATER PRICES.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the Review of State Water's Bulk Water Prices.

We are a contributing group to the Murrumbidgee Private Irrigators Inc and are in general agreement with their submission.

We wish to limit our submission to issues surrounding the Yanco Creek System Levy.

The last IPART submission enabled State Water to place a levy on Yanco Creek and Tributaries irrigators of \$0.90 and on Murrumbidgee Valley irrigators of \$0.417 per mega litre. State Water had advised that the savings that could be generated from the Yanco Creek System were such that they would benefit the whole of the Murrumbidgee Valley and therefore the wider valley should be given an opportunity to invest in the savings. Murrumbidgee Valley irrigators were happy to support and pay the levy if savings were to be retained in the valley.

Subsequently DNR made it clear that the government will have first right of call on savings and therefore they can not guarantee that savings will remain in the valley. As a group, Yanco Creek and Tributaries Advisory Council could not expect other irrigators in the valley to pay a levy when they obviously would get no benefit. The valley wide part of the levy will not be collected. At a meeting held at Hay on August 11th attended by representatives from all valley users including irrigation companies gave unanimous in principle support for the levy to be placed on Yanco Creek irrigators for implementation of their natural resource management plan.

State Water confirmed that inclusion of the Yanco Creek System levy in this part of the determination was overlooked. As you are aware both State Water and ourselves have contacted the Tribunal with a view to having the levy included in this determination. The Yanco Creek and Tributaries Advisory

Annual General Meeting was held on October 19th in Jerilderie and at the meeting, members voted unanimously to ask for the \$0.90 per megalitre levy to be placed on water accounts for the period of the determination.

The money will be available in a trust account and administered by a committee made up of representatives of YACTAC, State Water, CMA's and some independent members. This account needs to be transparent in nature with all accounting details being available to the committee members at all times.

The Yanco Creek and Tributaries Advisory Council is committed to ensuring that its Natural Resource Management Plan is implemented to ensure the economic viability of the businesses that depend on the resource and that the system is managed in a more environmentally friendly manner. To this end we ask that IPART allow State Water to levy our members \$0.90 per megalitre for the duration of the determination.

Yours sincerely

Richard Sleigh
Chairman

Lee A Furness
CEO