

15 November 2005

The Chairman
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART)
Bulk Water Review
PO Box Q 290
QUEEN VICTORIA POST OFFICE NSW 1230

Re: Proposed Water Price Increases – Brogo River

Recent announcements by IPART regarding water pricing for users on the Brogo River are of great concern.

As a current primary producer relying on water as an integral part of my business I have little doubt that if the above is allowed to occur there will be severe ramifications across the entire Bega valley.

In all likelihood, if I was subjected to such price increases the viability of this farm to operate at a profit would be severely hindered, as would a number of other successful farms in the district.

Due to the difficult circumstances suffered by this district in recent times it would take years for the area to recover the profitability in farming, even under the current water pricing structure. With the recent increases in fuel and ongoing operating costs, to further burden farmers with extra charges would make it impossible to continue to operate already struggling businesses.

Yours Sincerely

David Irwin
Glenall Farm