

Trevor and Sharon Pearce

16th November 2005

The Chairman
Bulk Water Pricing Review
Independent Pricing And Regulatory Tribunal
PO Box Q 290
Q V B POST OFFICE NSW 1230

Dear Sir,

It has come to my attention that the State Water Corporation and the Department of Natural Resources are seeking to significantly increase the price for bulk water. On my farm this increase would see my annual water cost rise from my current rate of around \$2500.00 to around \$20,000.00. This is a rise of \$17,500.00 which will come directly off the bottom line of my business. As a farmer I cannot pass on these costs and therefore have to absorb them.

I find it difficult to understand the reasoning for these rises and how the Corporation and the Department can justify imposing such a huge price rise in such a short period of time. Our farm is unable to cover this rise and still remain profitable. The last few years have been very difficult and it has been a struggle to keep the farm operating. This would be the "nail in the coffin" for us and makes us question why we farm at all. If the drought doesn't destroy you the Government will.

Please reconsider these submissions and encourage them to remain service providers that enable agriculture to grow and contribute to our communities.

Yours sincerely,