

23rd October 2009

Mr James Cox
Chief Executive Officer
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal

My name is John Hergenhan, I am 28years old and I am a fifth generation Dairy Farmer. My partner and I am in the process of taking over the family farm .In relation to the new proposed price increase by state water, I wish to object to on the following grounds;

- 1. We are being paid less now for our milk Per/Litre than we were 9years ago. And in that time water costs have risen.*
- 2. We have been paying our entitlement and receiving very little of the allocation. LAST YEAR WAS 40% AND THIS YEAR IS LOOKING LIKE 5%. I feel like the Government is taking our money and not delivering the water.*
- 3. This has a major impact on the viability of the Farm and its practices, and in mine and my families Farming future.*
- 4. This proposed price increase has a flow on effect and would impact on the Bega Cheese Factory and employment in the Bega Valley. We have been in DROUGHT for the last TEN YEARS and times have been tough enough without the increases you are proposing.*

The Brogo Dam was built to drought proof part of the Bega Valley. Now the Government has taken over they have been taking more water for towns many kilometres away from the watercourse. Instead of building a desalination plant the government should be building more Dams on rivers on the East Coast of Australia, instead of letting the waters run into the sea.

Yours Sincerely
John Hergenhan