

Dear Sir,

I attended the recent meeting at the Powerhouse Motel Tamworth and came away with some real reservations regarding cease to pump rules on Attunga Creek.

I feel that we are being penalised that we cannot pump when the creek stops running. When the creek is running we don't have to pump. We water mainly lucerne and consider ourselves sustainable farmers having farmed these soils for over 100 years.

With no pumping we can't grow feed to feed our stock, not to mention a lot of money invested in plant & equipment and infrastructure.

We are efficient irrigators using underground mains and irrigation pipes, no water lost to evaporation or soakage. We only use water when we need it, unlike our neighbours in the Namoi & Gwydir Valleys who use their entire allocation.

However if these CTP rules eventuate maybe we will have to build on farm storage and when the creek is running use our full allocation. something that is not environmentally sustainable.

Also with no pumping, means no income, means no money to pay your water charges, as has just happened on the Lachlan. The flow on effects of no irrigation industry will cost the area millions of dollars

Concerned farmer  
John Wiseman