

From; Gordon Bebb

Secretary of Toonumbar Water User's Association

9/11/01

To; Chris Spangaro

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Re; Bulk Water Prices form 1 October 2001 draft report.

On behalf of the Toonumbar Water User's Association, we reluctantly accept the new water charges as printed in your draft release. We accept this charge on the basis that it is comparable to the extraction charges being billed to other regulated agricultural extractors.

However, any further increases in these charges will be very strongly opposed. This is because the Toonumbar Water User's and other individuals have been trying to work with the DLWC to develop avenues to increase the usage of water from this regulated stream and therefore increase revenue. To date, we are getting only lip service from the DLWC and any excuse that seems relevant on the day.

We are very conscience of the revenue deficient of this stream, but the doing nothing and raising charges attitude of DLWC is not going to resolve anything either.

To me it is absurd, that during this whole water reform process, we have a wonderful facility to expand and secure viable agricultural industries on the Richmond catchment and all attempts so far are being blocked or hindered.

Yours Sincerely

Gordon Bebb