

The Chairman,
Dear Sir,

In reference to an article attributed to you that appeared recently in the Daily Advertiser at Wagga Wagga., requesting comment.

I'm concerned that there seems to be a feeling in the wider community and media that the climatic conditions of the last ten years from 2000 to 2010 are from now on to be the normal conditions, and that period was not a drought as traditionally known, but rather a shift to permanent dry conditions.

My father along with many other farmers during the 1940's placed great faith in the weather predictions of Inigo Jones , who was ridiculed by the established scientific community for his methods, despite his accuracy. Jones who died in 1954/5 , predicted a 10 year drought from the year 2000.

Further more that period was to be followed by several years of normal to above average rainfall on the eastern states of Australia.(He got the first part right!)

With the current MDBP urging reductions of 30 and 40 % irrigation rights, I believe there needs to be an alternative plan to ensure a relaxation of the new allocations should there be an increase in the amount of water available, than is currently believed will be the norm.

I understand that some years ago the Queensland government allocated water rights far and beyond the availability of the water in their storage dams. Surely these allocations need to be reduced rather than those in the Riverina and MIA irrigation areas which have proven themselves to be huge producers per hectare.

The Italian immigrants of the late 40's and 1950's have developed Griffith and surrounding areas into a genuine food bowl , please do not allow these areas to be decimated by poorly based thinking .

The current political process seems to talk in Billions of dollars, which allows for a large potential for waste. I would like to see a program where all parties agree to a long term program, Say 20 to 25 years, for infrastructure in Australia, such as the Brisbane to Melbourne rail , and a water pipeline from Queensland to the Darling system. The Ord River to Perth, The current Broadband plan , even hospitals to be placed on a list to be progressively funded , regardless of which party holds government.

I intend to print this E-mail and attach to it a copy of letter to the Editor that appeared in the Wagga Daily advertiser on November 24th 2010, from Terry Maloney as Secretary of South West Anglers Association INC , I found the letter most informative and I support what is stated. I recommend the letter to you and hope you will take the time to read it.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission.

Your Faithfully ,
John F Evans