



**Committee Secretariat
House of Representatives Standing Committee
on the Impact of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan in Regional Australia.**

Dear Sir/Madam,

WE are writing to you in regard to the release of the Guide to the Murray Darling Basin Plan and our total abhorrence of this, and its contents, which we totally disagree with for the following reasons:-

The water Act of 2005 needs to be changed and include all of Australia, including the cities and the regional areas, not just aimed at the rural towns and the farming communities.

The plan needs to achieve a fair and equitable balance between the irrigators, who rely on the water for their sustainable, Agricultural, farming practices and the Environment.

The last ten [10] years of Drought has caused not only the environment to suffer, but equally, the towns and the irrigators of the Murray Darling Basin.

Our town of Deniliquin is already feeling the consequences of the MDBP and it's ongoing effects on our small community. This rural town and the surrounding communities relies on the Primary Industries and their produce for their economic outcome, not to mention the National economic gain from our export markets.

If the MDBP shuts down, our Agricultural Primary Industries and our Rural towns will collapse. Have you considered the ramifications, financial, social and mental health needs and the untold disastrous outcomes of the communities in these Rural Towns.

I DONT THINK SO !!!

We have already had to face early in 2010, the shut down of our Timber Industries, to please the Greens, and the consequences of this----- Devastation. These industries were sustainably managed for over 100 years and a renewable source of the timber in our gum forests maintained. The loss of jobs and the closing down of once thriving Business's in and around Deniliquin and Barham, has caused a significant loss to these towns.

The decade long drought and the exodus from the small towns and farms has caused extreme hardships in our towns.

Things that are imperative to do: - 1 Get rid of the Barrages in South Australia. 2 Extra storage Dams on all the Systems. 3 Bringing water from the Burdicken, Clarence and Fitzroy Rivers. 4 MDBA should include those directly affected by the outcome i.e. Farmers and People from the Rural towns and Communities and Business. 5 The MDBP should consider all the Rivers and their pre dam flows, as well as post dam and mimic Rivers flows prior to Dams and Weirs being constructed. 6 Melbourne and Adelaide and any others directly benefiting from the Water should be included in the MDBP 7 Have you got a Refugee Centre big enough for us all, when you close down our Rural Towns? 8 Where are you going to get your food from when you close down our Rural towns and farms? We produce our food with integrity and of the highest quality----- perhaps you intend to import from China and like minded countries, with all their free range chemicals added to their food production and the human excreta they use for fertilizer. FOOD FOR THOUGHT !!!

Yours Faithfully

Raymond and Karen Zanatta

19/12/2010