

Submission to:

The Murray-Darling Basin Commission of Inquiry Bill 2019.

As a natural born person of the Commonwealth of Australia I have concern about the Government making a sellable commodity of our water which is in contravention of Sect 100 of the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1901. There was no referendum giving government the right to make a sellable commodity of our water.

It seems to me that our water situation has become more dire as a direct result of inappropriate and illegal government intervention. The people living on the Murray Darling, and our other river systems, are the ones who should be involved with any water management system and the river without inept, bureaucratic government and big foreign owned business involvement.

Our water situation in the Murray Darling, and other river systems, will resolve if the rivers run. What is stopping this is a lack of water infrastructure which government has steadfastly refused to action and implement choosing instead to spend billions on a failed water management plan and favouring foreign investors who have no interest in the health of our river systems but who take billions of litres from our rivers for cotton and rice farms grown inappropriately in an arid environment.

When money and big business become engaged in any enterprise fraud, theft and corruption reign supreme and this appears to be the case with the operation of the Murray Darling authority. A point as an example is the buyback of a water licence for \$80 million AUD which returned no water to the river system but put a huge profit back into the hands of an investor with money going offshore.

What has happened with the Murray Darling and our river systems across the country is not a matter of climate change but a government authority having no idea about what it is doing and self interested, greedy state governments plus a federal government who has failed in undertaking any water infrastructure projects to get our rivers running again. There are solutions out there but government seems unwilling to look at what possibilities exist and to implement such possibilities. In this failure to act in a timely manner government has failed in its duty of care to the people of this nation.

Genuine Australian farmers should not have to pay for their water. Towns along our river systems should not have to pay for their water to survive. They managed quite well before big business and government at all levels saw water as a commodity. To assist the water situation in our river systems government must look at implementing water infrastructure projects which will get our rivers running again.

Water falls from the sky and is not owned by anyone. Agreements to share at no cost can be made with the goodwill of those most affected and appropriate water infrastructure put in place.

If government continue to sell our water as a commodity they must put this in a referendum to the people to change the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1901 by taking out Sect 100 and adding water management to Sect 51.

For your information in support of this submission.

References

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Submitted by:

Concerned natural born person of the Commonwealth of Australia