



As you are aware, the report states it has considered the social economic impact and that is WHY the amount required for the river is the lowest the scientific analysis requires for river health.

You know all that but what you are not seriously considering is:

- 1) It is a silly notion that the proposed cut back will adversely affect crop production. There are innumerable palatable crops* that thrive on less water that can be profitably grown especially as demand on food is going to outstrip supply. In fact, the committee is in no position to determine the economic impact without considering what potential alternative crops there are.
- 2) Huge tracts of land in Oz are growing sheep and cattle when they could be growing grains and pulses* e.g. basalt soils around Glen Innes get 850 mm rain per annum.
- 3) I have heard nothing about the positive effect on tourism \$\$\$\$ from a healthy river system.
- 4) Engineering solutions as proposed (irrigation, covered channels, etc) are not a substitute for cutbacks but rather a means to cope with lower allocation mitigating impact on crop potentials.

5) Cotton wasn't grown in Oz until the 1970's. We shouldn't be growing it now.

6) If rice production is crippled, and Oz needs rice then there is plenty of sugar cane land available for rice production.

7) We over allocated and now must correct that mistake. Farmers are usually screaming, quite rightfully so, about restrictions on their land and water use w/o compensation. So far I haven't heard anyone complain about the money they will receive for the buy back of some of their allocation.

8) Huge areas of Australia should not be grazing cows and sheep. It is nuts we are not farming kangaroos and going into contract with MacDonald's. I've asked hundreds of backpackers and they are all fans of the idea.

“Jump on down to MacDonald's for a McRoo burger...Kids the Joey-burger comes in its own pouch! So hop to it...McRoo burgers they're the best.”

* I have purposely avoided specifying potential profitable crops. There literally are too many to mention just a few. The research required is climate, soil, rainfall; available water allocation at the Australian site is matched to other areas of the planet. What crops are being successfully grown there are front-runners for that location in Australia.

Treefully, Dr. Paul Recher, ethnobotanist

A history of the universe: the short story

"Hydrogen is a light, odorless gas, which, if given, enough time, turns into people."