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Dear Mr Windsor,

I write as a concerned citizen of Victoria trying to assist in developing a management system for the Murray and tributaries that will satisfy the various stakeholders involved.

There may be the need for some engineering works but the present problems must be solved by better management of the whole system.

The present proposal of reducing allocations only has produced widespread community anger and will have to be changed.

My experience is only in Victoria and I attach some notes concerning my assessment of water management in the Goulburn River system.

Also attached is a PDF chart showing that the extensive remodelling works being carried out have not produced any improvement in reduction of water lost.

The management policy must focus on reducing the volume of water that goes missing. This requires officers in the field closely watching all aspects of water movements and preventing water going missing. Unfortunately, Victoria has removed many of these people from the field and has lost control over water management.

I also attach some notes prepared for the Murray River. The proposal aims to highlight where water goes missing and to then instigate corrective measures.

You may wish to enquire from the MDBA as to whether they are able to comply with my suggestions.

I send this mail to you as a member of Parliament hoping that it will assist you in solving this divisive problem.

Yours faithfully,

George Gordon

## Prime Minister Gillard Stage two funds

I refer to The Age of 7 November 2010 page 6 where Prime Minister Gillard announces a grant of \$953 million for stage 2 of the Northern Victoria Irrigation Project. Ms Gillard states that we can save [200 billion litres] from seeping and leaking and evaporating.

The Victorian government has already invested \$1000 million in the stage 1 of the project which will cost every Victorian some \$200.

The attached pdf chart shows that no improvement in the management of the Goulburn Irrigation system has occurred in recent seasons and this is so in the last season 09/10. The Prime Minister has been incorrectly advised.

The Goulburn-Murray Water Corporation has a duty to ensure that the water it controls in the reservoirs, rivers and channels is carefully managed and losses of this water are kept to a minimum. The Corporation allows water meters to be some 20% inaccurate and this must cause a large loss of valuable water for which the Corporation is responsible.

For Victoria to commit \$1000 million and get no improvement is bad enough but for the Commonwealth to commit a further \$953 million is the height of incompetence. This commitment is a considerable slug on the “working families” that the government aims to protect.

In The Age of Monday 8 November an article notes that a mini budget will propose Commonwealth spending cuts of \$10 billion, so why throw \$1 billion away on unproductive spending.

Premier Brumby states that stage 1 of the Food Bowl Modernisation Project had already delivered 56 billion litres of savings. He should know that you can't drink or irrigate with savings, you need real water and the chart shows that the water has not been obtained.

In 2007 I gave some thought to the question of missing water on the Murray River between Doctors Point and Wentworth Weir and my work seemed to indicate that:-

Reach of River	Period		Period	
	6 Jun 2007 to 25 Jul 2007		3 Oct 2007 to 3 Dec 2007	
	Missing	Gain	Missing	Gain
	GL	GL	GL	GL
Doctors Point- Corowa		2.0	44.4	
Corowa-Yarrawonga		6.7	40.8	
Yarrawonga-Torrumbarry	28.6		29.7	
Torrumbarry-Swan Hill	37.2		17.9	
Swan Hill-Wakool Junc	27.6		12.6	
Wakool Junc-Euston	24.9		53.6	
Euston-Mildura	35.1		18.1	
Mildura-Wentworth	3.8			16.6

At the time I concluded that there appeared to be a large volume of water missing but I did not see what should be done.

With the recent shortage of water on the Murray River I now have the opinion that:-

1. Improved reporting procedures of the three States should be made mandatory and standardised.
2. MDBA should report the water missing in each reach at fortnightly intervals and put the information on the internet.
3. Wide variations in the fortnightly results should be checked to see if improvements to the system could be made.
4. As a lot of water is involved, the community would be better informed if the results were immediately available for analysis free of charge.