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The Hon Tony Windsor B.Ec. MP
Chair
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Australia.

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Dear Mr Windsor,

Thank you for inviting me to make a submission on "the impact of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan in Regional Australia."

I have already sent in my submission but have one further thought that I omitted from my submission.

I refer to the method by which the people of South East Queensland were persuaded to directly use a great deal less water than in the past.

Up until two or three years ago here we were the most extravagant water users in any Australian capital city. We are now the most frugal direct users of water, even despite the fact that in South East Queensland the drought has well and truly broken.

This dramatic change in water consumption appears to have been achieved by a three pronged education program in which both the reasons for the necessary changes and how to actually use less water were promoted by all three tiers of government, the respected environmental organisations as well as all The Media promoting the same educative message.

This appears to have been the formula that resulted in the required positive changes in behaviour whereas in the past all too often The Media has promoted oppositional positions between the Government and Environmentalists.

I believe the most successful outcomes will be achieved through a multi-party, co-operative approach.

Happy Christmas and all the best in the future you choose.

Yours sincerely,

Harry Johnson

Volunteer, Kingfisher Recycling Centre, Aspley Special School.