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To whom it may concern,

I am an accountant in Griffith and feel well qualified to comment on the basin plan and the affect on my clients and our community.

I feel the decision of this nature should not be made by a group of Academics with little practical knowledge relying on a series of models created to back up their environmental bias. As with most of the green movement they are anti farming and would be quite happy to see Australia Import its food to save the environment.

Farmers are the great environmentalists they look after the land ,conserve water, plant trees and create and favourable environment for much of the bird and animal life in the bush. A Rice farmer client of mine (boo did I say rice)

Told me that his rice bays have more tadpoles than any other years in memory, therefore many more frogs and we all know how important they are. Maybe more rice more frogs.

I have clients wanting to buy and sell farms, businesses and develop land for housing however all this has been put on hold until the decision on the plan is made. This means that our region is affectively on hold until a decision is made. This is causing stress on individuals, decline in property values and therefore equity on bank finance and an exodus of people from our towns.

We have been told it would take 5 good wet years to replenish our dams, it took one wet winter. The environmental lobby seems to be able to make so many claims that don't seem to be questioned yet when invariable they are found to be incorrect nobody says anything. There are so many lies and false assumptions that it becomes very frustration for people in country areas that actually know the land and its ability to recover after 8 years of drought.

How about somebody come up with a unique idea of catching more water ie build new dams. Seems logical if the authority really wants farming to continue in this country. Without the Snowy irrigation systems the Murray and Murrumbidgee rivers would of run dry during this drought, how would the South Australian wetlands of faired then?

We have had 4% of water going over the spill ways on our dams, imagine if we could have caught and stored all that water.

All seems very logical if the powers that be really wanted farming to continue in this region.

Yours Faithfully  
Neil Pilloni