

- The present Murray Darling Basin Plan draft will remove our life line in rural and regional Australia.
- Country business, services and farms will be severely impacted.
- Removing up to 40% of water from us makes business in rural Australia unviable, unsaleable and unproductive.
- We need our leaders to listen to us now
- Why are you dismissing us and allowing this proposed plan rape our rural communities and rural businesses?

1978 we made a decision when we married to live in rural Australia and we chose Deniliquin because it was

- · drought proof
- affordable
- offered diversity through ability of growing a variety of agricultural products
- offered enormous environmental biodiversity
- community to raise and educate our children

The proposed MDBP will erode all our dreams of seeing our grandchildren grow up in this wonderful community if 20-40% of the water is removed. Businesses such as farming will be decimated and the ramifications in the community will be devastating. Fighting this proposed plan means to me that I am fighting to keep my hairdresser, mechanic, butcher etc in the town as well as seeing our schools remain open so in the future children can be educated locally.

Please acknowledge us. We are desperate and you need to listen to us. The water act needs to be challenged and altered so there is a **balance** between social, economical and environmental outcomes. Not just water for the environment. We rural people are your environmental caretakers.

If the proposed MDBP is adopted how will the water be used? Be accountable.

Pam Wettenhall