

**RESOLUTIONS CARRIED AT VICTORIAN FARMER'S
FEDERATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE – JUNE 2008, WITH
PARTICUALR REFERNCE TO UPPER CATCHMENT WATER
ISSUES.**

The Resolutions are:

- • **Resolution 24 – This Conference strongly endorses the principle that no common law or statutory rights should be taken from a landowner without compensation.**
- • **Resolution 41 – “That the proposal to the Northern Region Sustainable Water Strategy discussion Paper for a well resourced Inquiry into the economic and environmental advantages of using the limited available water at its source be supported.”**
- • **Resolution 42 – “Given that an estimated 1 million megalitres of water flows from private land east of the Hume Freeway, that Conference support, as a principle of equity between farmers, that in any distribution of “new” water, resulting from savings from investment by State and Federal Governments, a percentage of that water be allocated to the landowners from whose land significant volumes of water flow. Such allocation be capped at 20,000 megalitres, and be a non tradeable asset for use only on the originating land.”**
- • **Resolution 45 – “The Victorian Government be asked to review the definition of waterway and the removal of unnecessary regulation with reference to farm dams.”**

Resolution 42 is a significant policy development by the VFF, and is supportive of the case put by the Upper Catchment Water Committee, and would, we believe, be viewed by Government as a sensible way forward in the economically and environmentally efficient use of the limited water resource, involves the Government in minimal cost, and does not infringe on any existing water rights. Resolution 45 supports work currently being done by the VFF, and Ammar Jarrar has requested examples of adverse effects, particularly delays, caused by the current procedures required to obtain a permit to build a dam, in order to add force to his negotiations.

David Evans, Chair Upper Catchment Water Committee.