

MDBP Review 2023

1. A. No more money spent on on farm efficiency works. This has been a huge waste of money and indeed lead to more water taken from the system. Reduce all allocations via water resource plans and enforce NSW take up the slack and work it back into line with the rest of the states. Remove lobbyists from private meetings in all setting to bring back some semblance of credibility to the MDBA. Fiddling the figures is a disaster waiting to happen. Bring back the full total required to reach higher targets. I am watching hay trucks go north from Victoria. I see stock trucks coming from Queensland. And in the middle new south Wales is growing cash crop for starvation.
2. I am going to strictly comment on NSW here. The lack of water resource plans for NSW is no accident and that warrants further investigation. The current plans were formed under dubious circumstance and altered after public review. The quality of water in the Barwon darling is revolting to say the least. Its winter and we have BGA warnings right along the system less the 6 months after a record flood. Critical human water needs are still wanting. The treatment plants can not handle the turbidity and do not remove the toxins released from the dead algae. The lack of discission over environmental watering is obvious. Ignoring whole electorates almost. Where are the EWAGs for the Barwon darling?
3. Whilst there has been some action in regard to compliance higher fines and removal of equal quantity of water permanently would better reflect the community expectations considering some members of our community are criminalised a whole lot more for a whole lot less. I understand this feels done and done but that a comment that needed to be made.
4. The plan was modelled on data that didn't include the extreme warm and dry times. Then it was dwindled down by bureaucrats with no actual concept of what the impacts are. Remodel it. Give us the true target back and start buying water back and cutting allocations obtained under a corrupt NSW government read LNP.
5. The plan does not address the needs of Aboriginal People at all. The resource plans do not cater for access. The Culgoa, the Narran, the Birri and many other Queensland fed rivers have not been written into these plans and the cross-border coordinator was out of his depth over all of it.
6. Community consultation pre covid was non-existent. With covid it is non-existent. The only voices ever heard are local government representing private interests and lobbyists. I submitted multiple questions to the NSW water minister Pavey and to the dpi. No answers.
7. The lessons are, tell the truth. Irrigation farming and particularly cotton, are highly efficient in their human requirements. What used to take a team of 8 per shift now takes 1 person. So don't spin that economic lie again. Many of the towns in western NSW run on welfare with NGOs and NPO's dominating the money.
8. That's got to be laughable considering the scathing report from the south Australian royal commission. No action has been taken by NSW and even to the point of the denial of truth by the previous NSW government. The communication of water laws, regulations and general news falls to concerned community members tracking it for free in our own time to keep the deck even. We have no chance when the general community gets fed propaganda directly from [redacted] and his duel mouth piece. This is a public resource that should not be a commodity. Take it off the stock market and do the right thing, not the profitable thing.
9. The whole thing needs a clean-up. The stink left by the LNP has leaked all over the MDBA.