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27.8.2020

ACCC's Murray-Darling Basin water markets inquiry interim report – Feedback.

I have read the report to the best of my ability and could not find anything that addresses a problem being faced by a lot of water using Domestic and Stock customers in North East Victoria.

I realise your inquiry is about water trading. Whilst not being a water trader I am a person who buys water basically. I am a Domestic and Stock customer on a small unregulated tributary in the Upper Ovens River area. The points I am about to make may or may not have been covered in the past.

This short video explains our situation very well. <https://youtu.be/zQyZ9g1FVn8>

It seems ludicrous that we in North East Victoria are paying around \$200 per megalitre for water. It is believed that there is some price gouging going on by Goulburn Murray Water. To add insult to injury our annual water bill of around \$400 was increased recently by another \$140 per year license renewal fee.

GMW are charging irrigation infrastructure fees to all customers regardless of whether the customers have the benefit of GMW provided infrastructure or not.

Also, the licences are in no way related to the land on which the water is used. Licence terms can be seemingly altered at whim and there is no certainty that licences will be renewed as a matter of course, for example when property ownership is changed.

I'm just wondering if this is something that is relevant to this inquiry and if so could it be addressed?

I look forward to your response.

Yours faithfully,



Cameron Reid