

Submitted on Thursday, November 15, 2018 - 03:44

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DETAILS  
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Company:  
First name: Annabelle  
Last name: Garratt  
Address: [REDACTED]  
Suburb: [REDACTED]  
State: [REDACTED]  
Postcode: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Sector: Agriculture

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NATIVE VEGETATION CLEARING  
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\*1 . Would a strategic approach to clearing, through a strategic purpose permit, benefit you?\*

Response: yes  
Comments:

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\*2. Is the 'purpose component' reasonable to apply considering the added complexity of assessing this type of clearing permit?\*

Response: no  
Comments:

n/a

\*3. Is the proposed fee structure fair and does it adequately reflect differences in the financial capacity of clearing permit applicants?\*

Response: no  
Comments:

n/a

\*4. What is the likely impact on your business or industry of the proposed clearing fee structure?\*

Comments:

n/a

\*5. Additional comments regarding Native Vegetation Clearing not addressed in the questions above.\*

Comments:

n/a

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WATER  
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\*6. Do you consider it reasonable for taxpayers to pay 100 per cent of the cost of assessing water licence

and permit applications and if so, why?\*

Response: no

Comments:

Of course not, but while we as tax payers obligingly pay for some hundreds of thousands of able bodied people to live in Australia and not work a day in their lives, I think it only fair for those people who are working, who are paying their own way and who are significantly contributing to the economy, society and community be given some lenience for using water that's in their backyard. Paying thousands of dollars for a water licence on top of the implementation of a bore, pump and meter system and still seeing little to no interaction, benefit or support from the Department, is not appropriate.

\*7. If water licence and permit assessment fees were introduced, what do you consider to be an appropriate fee for a water licence or permit application?\*

Comments:

The applicant is already paying for the bore, the meter, the pump and yes, they should pay some form of fee for the use of a public resource (aquifer). But thinking people will be happy to pay upwards of \$5000 to renew a licence when they already have the infrastructure, already pay rates etc. is unreasonable. I believe that a cost recovery is appropriate, but the amount that you are aiming for, with little to no change in KPIs for your employees or increase in standard, is not warranted.

\*8. Would you consider a risk-based model for determining water licence and permit application fees to be appropriate? If not, what basis could the department use to structure fees?\*

Response: yes

Comments:

To some degree.

\*9. What would be the likely impact on your business or industry if water licence and permit fees were introduced?\*

Comments:

For many businesses it may mean that they aren't able to spend as much money in the local community anymore, it might be a tipping point for some small family businesses, it may mean that some ones kids get smaller presents from Santa, or it may mean very little to some large scale businesses. The point is, it will impact on a lot of businesses and a lot of small scale family owned and operated businesses in Australia, that we are so proud of and fortunate to have. The continual increase in fees from Departments like yours is only driving these little Aussie businesses to the brink.

\*10. If water licence and permit assessment fees were introduced, how could the collection of fees be

timed to better support your business or industry?

For example, would you benefit from paying fees up front, at the end of a licence assessment or annualised over the term of the licence?\*

Response: end

Comments

Either make people pay a full fee once a assessment is SUCCESSFUL or create an annual fee so that the cost can be spread out year to year and have a smaller impact on small businesses profit margins

\*11 . Additional comments regarding Water licences and permits not addressed in the questions above.\*

Comments: