

**RESPONSE TO DISCUSSION PAPER PRESENTED BY RICK NEWMAN ON  
BEHALF OF DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL  
REGULATION.**

**Meeting held at Ngala Geraldton on the 14-11-18 at 6.00 pm.**

**Attended by W.M. Radford on behalf of L.C. Hamersley.**

**REPLY TO POINTS OF DISCUSSION.**

**1/ In regards to Tax Payers paying for 100% of costs.**

**As a Farmer I am of the opinion that a Registration Fee per bore is valid and that the resource should be policed. All costs to this Service should be recoverable if the fees were structured properly ALL BORES SHOULD BE REGISTERED, INCLUDING ALL RESIDENTIAL AND HOBBY FARMER BORES.**

**For example the police register all vehicles and they police the act. They do not charge us for the roads.**

**A farmer buys his farm and registered it but he does not have to pay extra for the soil rain and Sun.**

**If the above was introduced your income would be sufficient to cover your costs as can be seen by my analysis**

<b>There are approximately 500 Stations with 50 bores each =</b>	<b>25,000 bores.</b>
<b>There are approximately 2000 Farmers with 5 bores per farm =</b>	<b>10,000 bores.</b>
<b>The population of Perth would be close to 2,000,000 people actually 1943,858 with 818,081 dwellings say one in ten had a bore, there would be =</b>	<b>81,000 bores.</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>116,000 bores.</b>

**Bear in mind there are 118,310 registered bores.**

**So we can say there are 200,000 bores in this state. The cost to this state to register these bores is \$14,000,000. as per your data. Now if this was spread across all bores the registration of a producing bore should be \$70.00 per bore.**

**You could categorize the registration on usage of water. The following is an example.**

**Up to 10 mega liters per annum. 100,000 bores @ \$50 = REGO COST \$5,000,000.**

**This based on 2,000 metres growing vegetables @**

**14 liters per square meter per day.**

**From 10 meg to 20 mega liter per annum 75,000 bores @ \$100 = \$7,500,000.**

**From 20 meg and more. per annum. 25,000 bores @ \$125 = \$3,125,000.**

**Total returns from registration**

**\$15,625,000.**

**This gives you a million plus dollars to find all the bores. The costs are similar to vehicle registration and I am certain the rural sector will accept this form of collection of your costs.**

**To charge farmers higher costs before production has never been done, and your proposal is a tax, and we feel we get taxed on our profits not on our costs.**

**Should you impose your proposal it will make our costs of production whether it be vegetables or feed for livestock too high.**

**Causing unemployment of labor of at least per Irrigation License of which there are 25,000 which would mean 50,000 people would lose employment state wide.**

**Country towns are finding it hard to survive and your action will have a big impost on business and communities.**

**The cost to install an Irrigation bore is approximately \$50,000 per bore and needs replacing every 10 years in some cases. So another cost just makes putting in a crop just too high.**

**It is my opinion that the present Government is taking the easy way out by taxing the boys in the bush for water as a vote lost in the bush means nothing as they have all the civilians in built up areas to get their votes.**

**This is just a repeat of Moora High School.**

## **EVERY ONE PAYS OR NO ONE PAYS**

### **2/ IN REGARDS TO POINT TWO.**

**I suggest that the application fee, and the assessment should be at least \$1,000. as would be a days work to do it properly for one person. This would be over and above Registration fee.**

### **3/ POINT THREE.**

**I think risk assessment should be done on every bore based on history of said Aquifer. If you meter every bore over 1 Meg per annum would make this job easier.**

### **4/ POINT FOUR.**

**If your proposal is used it will affect every irrigation farmer as mentioned earlier.**

**Your proposal is a tax as you are trying to charge us for the water.**

**Do you tax the sun and rain that a farmer gets?**

**Do you tax a population unfairly for their use of water?**

**I THINK NOT IF YOU WANT COOPERATION FROM FARMERS.**

### **5/ POINT FIVE.**

**Fees for Registration should be collected annually the same as your car license.**

**It would be appreciated if you took note of the following.**

- 1/ All bores to be registered.
- 2/ All bores that are not for home or stock use be metered.
- 3/ All bores that serve large irrigation projects should have a water meter that has telemetry technology that reports usage to the Water and Rivers, so as you who are responsible for the water we use have an accurate data to control this rare resource. Farmers are only human and many try to cheat the system, the above will stop that.

That the Department use satellite imagery the same way as the Police and Agricultural Department, to police any area larger than 2,000 square meters and see that that bore is Registered.

A good advertising program would make a lot of bores get registered.

A Class 3 Driller was asked to drill a bore after an application was lodged with your Department. On starting to Drill said production bore the owner found DWER did not approve of a production bore. So the driller finished the job, put a shed over it and installed a small domestic type bore some metres away.

Not only did DWER not get the final fee, but the Aquifer is being used with no scrutiny.

The Driller should have his license taken away from him and the farmer should pay a \$50,000. fine. It is our water and it should be saved properly.

I L.C. Hamersley, Walkaway. 6528 do prove of the above submission written by W.M. Radford on my behalf. Thank you for receiving this submission. Yours faithfully,

Sign here.....

ATTENTION DARRYL.

Please read and ring Len Hamersley with any comments on Ph [REDACTED]. As he would like to send this submission today if possible, thanks Bill Radford.