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Sent: Saturday, 19 November 2011 10:01 AM
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Subject: Input into QCA Consultation - Sun Water Irrigation Prices 2012-17

Attention Graham Cave
Investigating Officer
Ombudsmans Office

DISBANDMENT OF MISTAKE SUNWATER CORP

The Federal Govt recommendation re Qld water management in the Beattie/Howard COAG Water reforms was to first offer scheme management to the allocation holders as happens in southern state schemes so that water cost could be world food production competitive..

Sure some schemes such as Mareeba-Dimbulah have squabbling,clamoring producer organisations who seem to be unable to come together outside their Fruit& Vegie,CaneGrower,Tobacco industries but forming a profit oriented Corporation as Sunwater was a leap in the opposite direction as far as having world competitive irrigation food production...Schemes such as Mareeba-Dimbulah have the \$13M Tinaroo Dam which has paid for itself thousands of times over in Tobacco taxes & community benefit , it also has gravity fed water that now is so expensive there is tens of thousand of ML of unused allocation available for Sunwater to double sell to their Corp cousin Stanwell Hydro at an undeclared price...

Further evidence of the overpriced water is that Banks want 50% deposit for a Mareeba-Dimbulah farm with a water allocation but a farm with only a domestic supply the deposit requirement is much less which is saying that off farm income is more desirable than on farm income. There has been past periods where Banks would not lend at all on Dimbulah farms..In Qld Banks will not accept water without land as security...

The depths to which Sunwater has sunk in its pursuit of profits is demonstrated in their confidentiality agreement with Stanwell Hydro Corp so that Sunwater can release unallocated Tinaroo Dam storage water to Stanwell Hydro while the water restricted residents of low coastal Cairns are told they need to use proven dangerous rob peter to pay paul Aquifer water....

That Sunwater needs large revenue streams there is no doubt in the mind of anyone who takes a look at the Sunwater's overkill,out there management , however in a food shortage world population of 7billion many who have little or no money to pay for food there are a few us us who are not going to do as most of our hobbled,toothless, blinkered,farmer organisations ,ABC& watchdogs are doing; it beggars belief that our Qld Govt CMC & organisations like the National Farmers Federation are choosing to sit on their hands..
State Govt Cash Cows and Fat Cat Administration should not/ will not take priority over our nations food export/import intersts and the lives of millions of hungry/starving people around the world....

That the Qld Govt Stanwell Barron River hydro has refused to use spare Irrigators water preferring to used the undisclosed priced unallocated Tinaroo Dam storage water is contempt of the local community and contempt for our nations intersts; it is also an indication that the umbrella of collusion/protection goes higher than the Corporation level...

That at least some,, possibly all of the unallocated Tinaroo Dam storage water released by Sunwater for Stanwell Hydro has the Part A Sunwater paid in advance charge paid up would seem to be criminal behaviour but our Qld Govt CMC Crime & Misconduct Commission does not see it that way as they say they cannot help.

No doubt it is in Sunwater's interest to have high water charges as this results in more water that can be quietly double sold; that the Qld Govt appointed the Qld Govt QCA to review the irrigation water price does come across as aggrance and an insult to the intelligence of voters...

That the Qld DERM does not include estimated costings in its Far Nt Qld Water Strategy which includes rejections and recommendations is an indication of collusion which is confronting when the Cairns Council has for years been telling its residents there is a shortage of regional water and that they need to use the "least cost option" Aquifer water....The truth of the matter is that tens of thousands of ML of Tinaroo Dam storage water is/has been dumped into ocean via the Barron River Stanwell Corp Hydro at Cairns...

One objective of the Howard/Beattie COAG Water Reforms was to separate water from land so water could find its way to the highest value use via the market, unfortunately most Qld people are not aware there is a water market and water registry but contempt for the COAG agreement is displayed by Sunwater refusing to "Carry Over" water for any allocation holder who does not have a Sunwater meter; the PartA Sunwater water charge is to cover fixed cost such as the meter on Tinaroo Dam....

There is a message in all this for farmers who are keen to describe themselves as busy exhausted people., if you are so busy/dumb as to pay into organisations that sit on their hands then you create a Sunwater culture. The message to any change of Govt in Qld is that the people who are not going to sit on their hands while people starve and our nation imports more food will still be here...

There is many cost saving alternative ways our water schemes could be run; that the Regional Councils have been deafening in their silence is an indication of guilt, it is not enough for them with their duplication of Admin/equipment to say this is not our concern..The Barron River ROP Resource Operating Plan is supposed to be where stakeholders have their input,,it is obvious when there has not been a Freedom of Information request re hydro releases that the Councils are either slack or complicit or both....

We need to shorten the chain on our watchdogs especially the ABC who cannot make a story of the above but with their correspondents around the world have strayed into other peoples backyard as they did with their non specific exaggerated reporting of the Thai flood resulting in damage to the Thai tourist industry.,lets fix our own backyard..

GOODBY SUNWATER IT HAS NOT BEEN NICE KNOWING YOU

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