

FILE NOTE

DATE: 27 January 2005
FILE REF: 05-19
**SUBJECT: GAWB 2004 DRAFT REPORT
COMMENT BY KEITH BATTERHAM, CALLIOPE**

Mr Keith Batterham, a resident of Calliope, rang to register his concern about the proposed increase in water charges to apply to Calliope Shire Council as a result of the Authority's investigation of GAWB.

He was concerned that despite the commendable efforts of Shire residents to substantially reduce consumption during the drought, the cost of water was now going to increase substantially.

I advised that the main cause of the proposed increase in the cost of bulk treated water supplied to Calliope Shire was a result on the significant decline in GAWB's projected demand for water (estimated to be 32% below what had been estimated three years ago). While GAWB's costs have remained relatively constant, the impact of lower demand would be that GAWB's costs would now have to be recovered from a smaller demand.

It is unfortunate, but this may result in higher prices to customers as it is likely that any increase in costs associated with bulk water supply from GAWB will be passed on to customers by the Calliope Shire Council.

Mr Batterham advised that he intended to register his concerns with GAWB.

R J Donnet