

"Helping our irrigation industries to grow
from Waroona to Dardanup."



HARVEY WATER

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Ms Jan Paniperis
Committee Clerk
Public Administration & Finance Committee
Water Services Inquiry Subcommittee
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Ms Paniperis

SUMMARY STATEMENT BY HARVEY WATER

After reading the transcript of my evidence I realised that I had not summarised it as well as I might. I therefore submit the following to complete Harvey Water's submission.

"Harvey Water is doing two very important things with this piping / trade proposal in relation to the current need for water in the IWSS.

First, we are offering water at the lowest cost that can be currently obtained relative to other sources. It is a bargain. It is about half the cost of the water which will come from the desalination plant, for example.

Secondly, we are guaranteeing the supply of 42 Gigalitres of water over the next 3 years. It will take 3 years before water from the desal plant comes on line and the water we are offering will help fill the need during the construction period. We have front loaded our offer so that we are guaranteeing 10 GL in the first year, 14 GL in the second and 18 GL in the third year respectively making a total of 42 GL. Thereafter there will be 18 GL per year available on the same risk basis as any water which is supplied from a rain fed surface storage.


Finally, we again draw your attention to the Wellington dam, the opportunity it presents to provide water and the injury that has been suffered by irrigators through no fault of their own and with no recompense or support for the past 40 years. The actual environmental damage that has been caused by this salty water is many many times more worth consideration than the relatively small possibility of damage that could be caused by leakage into the groundwater from the coal mining voids.

We have calculated that every year irrigators in the Collie River Irrigation district apply enough salt to their land in the irrigation area to cover the Subiaco Oval to the depth of Aaron Sandilands (a very tall Dockers ruckman) upraised hand.

Harvey Water recommends the piping and trade proposal to you as a sensible, logical and cheap option to provide a win-win outcome for water use and supply and emphasises that the full value of the proposal will only be obtained when Wellington dam salinity is reduced to prevent the environmental damage that is already happening.

Please contact Harvey Water if you would like more information.

Yours sincerely


Geoff Calder
GENERAL MANAGER

Gjc 12/08/04