

Belinda Scott - Macquarie Pipeline

From: John Da rin <jdr827391@y7mail.com>
To: "orange@parliament.nsw.gov.au" <orange@parliament.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 12/10/2012 5:24 PM
Subject: Macquarie Pipeline

JOHN DA RIN
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MR. ANDREW GEE
MEMBER FOR ORANGE

Re: the Macquarie River to Orange Pipeline Project

Sir,

I am against this proposed method of bringing extra water to Orange. Water is a Regional, State and National issue not some myopic Orange concern. It smacks of selfishness. Australia is the direst continent on Earth. This we have been taught in Australia since probably education began.

To remove water from a river, uphill, 30+ kilometers away seems a waste of resources. Yes we do need to grow rural towns to assist in decentralising the cities but each town must live within its means. Granted Orange is not on a river and so needs to get extra water from somewhere if it is to grow. However the pipeline, while a quick, easy and cheap option, is not the best option. Other measures as outlined and proposed by the Orange Water Alliance stand head and shoulders over the pipeline concept.

I have listened to experts deliver facts and figures for and against this proposal and I have to say that I am not convinced the EA for the pipeline stacks up. The study was done expediently to push this concept through. There is no doubt in my mind that there is and has been back room heavy handed tactics at play simply to achieve a personal result. Add to this an attitude in OCC of putting Dubbo and Bathurst out of business.

Rural towns should not be competing against each other like dogged footy players but should be working together to compliment existing and new facilities. They should not be like the Jones trying to keep up with the Smiths. Otherwise Melbourne would have an Opera House. The State Government has done well to build the new Hospital in Orange on land it already owned rather than what Orange City Council wanted, i.e. at the now CSU campus in North East Orange. The Primary Industry department needs to be enhanced not diminished and Government needs to look at other decentralising options to suit all regional towns. This helps to have a stable income so there is not the reliance on one industry.

Water needs to be given the same treatment. Regionalise it. That way the towns of Blayney, Parkes, Forbes, Orange and everything in between take ownership of water needs and begin to work and grow together instead of the us and them competitive stupidity.

I trust you will pass this onto the relevant Departments and Ministers

Yours sincerely,

John Da Rin