

## **870 OPHIR ROAD, SUMMER HILL CREEK.**

To Belinda Scott

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### **Orange Drought Relief Connection ie Macquarie Pipeline**

We would like to make an objection to this proposal on the following grounds:

1. The EA is inadequate. The survey protocols are not sufficient to detect rare species and the likely impact on them. For a project such as this, concerning federally-threatened species, commonwealth guidelines should be followed for all taxa.
2. The route is still not finalised. As affected landowners, we have direct evidence of that. We offered our property to reduce damage to mature trees. Whilst initially accepted, OCC has since switched the route back to the road verge, where more damage is inevitable.
3. The biodiversity offsets need to be clarified as EECs are involved.
4. The pipeline may cause injury or death to native fauna, particularly small species that can pass through stock fences. This needs to be clarified in a fauna management plan, such as that being drafted by the NSW Office of Water Landowners' Subforum.
5. The overall damage to the environment, particularly the Box Gum Woodland and the Superb Parrot, as well as to declining woodland birds species, is not acceptable.
6. The OCC should redo its integrated water cycle management plan and take into account other sources of water. It should not assume that either this pipeline, nor the stormwater harvesting stage II is 'business as usual'. OCC should adopt a more regional perspective and pay serious consideration of a long term pipeline to Burrendong Dam. This could be aligned for much of the route along the railway line, hence minimising much of the environmental damage and the running costs would be reduced as water would only need to be drawn up when needed, not every time the dam drops below 90%.
7. OCC has inflated the need for an additional water source as it has used an unrealistic demand scenario of unlimited use.

Cilla Kinross and Graham Sawyer

15 October 2012.

