

MRS. BELINDA SCOTT
MINISTER FOR PLANNING
N.S.W. GOVERNMENT
MACQUARIE STR. SYDNEY N.S.W.

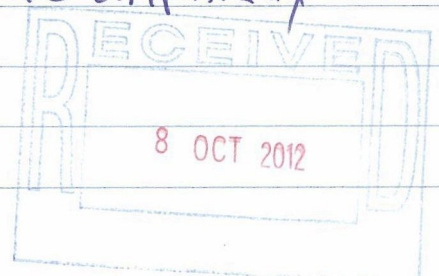
HANS GRABOW
22 BENT WHITLEY PL.
ORANGE N.S.W. 2800
29.09.12

REG: OBJECTION TO THE MACQUARIE RIVER TO ORANGE
PIPELINE PROJECT.

DEAR MURDAN,

AS A RESIDENT OF ORANGE I AM CONCERNED OF THE
PROJECT, MACQUARIE RIVER TO ORANGE PIPELINE AND
TOTALLY AGAINST THE PROJECT FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS.

- 1) THE PIPELINE IS NOT JUSTIFIED BECAUSE IT HAS BEEN DESIGNED
TO SUPPLY AN ARTIFICIALLY HIGH WATER DEMAND. THE PROPOSAL
IS BASED ON "UNRESTRICTED" AVERAGE DAILY WATER USE OF 404 LITRE
PER PERSON/DAY THAT IS MUCH HIGHER THAN RECENT YEARS USAGE
IN ORANGE (225L/P/DAY) AND FOR COMPARABLE TOWNS/CITIES.
- 2) THE PIPELINE WILL PROVIDE AN AVERAGE OF 1616 ML/YR TO
SUNNYPARK DAM (AT A PUMPING COST OF SOME \$800,000
PER YEAR) ON AVERAGE 1300 ML/YR OF THIS SPILLS FROM
THE DAM BACK INTO THE MACQUARIE RIVER UPSTREAM
OF THE PUMP SITE. THE PIPELINE ONLY YIELDS ABOUT A NET
300 ML/YR TO ORANGE'S WATER SUPPLY.
- 3) THERE ARE VIABLE, ALTERNATIVE WATER SOURCES WHICH CAN
BETTER PROVIDE FOR ORANGE'S WATER SECURITY, AT LOWER
COST AND WHICH ARE FAR LESS ENVIRONMENTALLY DAMAGING.
ORANGE COUNCIL HAS SELECTIVELY AND UNFAIRLY
DISMISSED THESE OPTIONS.



- 4) The upper Macquarie River to be impacted by the proposed pipeline is significant habitat for the nationally endangered Trout Cod. Other threatened fish species found in this river reach include Murray Cod, Silver Perch and Catfish. The Environmental Assessment for Aquatic Ecology is seriously deficient in addressing the impacts on these fish. For example it visually examined only 500 m of the 27+ km of river to be impacted. The Aquatic Ecology reports states "The survey undertaken was not intended to serve as a baseline for impact assessment."
- 5) Orange Council has selectively used out-of-date advice on protecting unregulated river environments from the N.S.W. Office of Water to justify the project. Council has ignored other policy requirements which could significantly impact on the operation, yields and the viability of the pipeline.
- 6) The proposed extraction of water from upper Macquarie River at low flows will disrupt fish passage and degrade important habitat values.
- 7) Despite the release of the EA, Orange Council has yet to confirm the pipeline route to the river with four different locations still being considered, each with differing impacts on costs. This invalidates part of the EA.
- 8) The pipeline route will destroy good condition roadside vegetation that provides important wildlife corridors and habitat in a highly cleared landscape.

- 9) The pipeline route with associated access road and power line will cause disturbance to highly unstable soil structures in a very steep terrain, threatening landslides into the river
- 10) A regional water supply solution, which services more than the needs of Orange, needs to be developed using state and federal monies in an ecologically sustainable manner

Further upstream, Bathurst discharges all their TREATED SEWAGE EFFLUENT into the Macquarie River around 3,600 million Ltr. per year or 9 million Ltr. per day, up to 15-16 million Ltr. per day during storm flow events. As well, all Bathurst's UNTREATED dirty urban stormwater runoff discharges into the river. This can make up a significant percentage of flows down to the proposed extraction site for the pipeline.

I for my part am not looking forward in having to drink this water and feel that there are better ways to secure oranges water supply, less costly and without destroying the already fragile environment of the Macquarie River.

I thank you for taking time reading my application.

Regards

Shaun Jackson