

SUBMISSION TO QCA
IRRIGATION PRICES FOR SUNWATER SCHEME 2011-2016

To Whom It May Concern

Our Family have been on 'Alberta Vale' since the early 1900's. We are now in our 6th generation. Our small block is all river flats on the Dawson River. Good money was paid to have the river block and of course having a river block comes with its advantages and disadvantages. The family survived on growing lucerne, crops and dairy as the water was at NO COST back then.

Unfortunate for us, but very beneficial for others the Neville Hewitt Weir was erected and our enterprise went from thriving to not so viable. Allocations were handed out and the once dryland properties were now more practical. To cut a long story short the scheme was oversold which thus led to nil allocations in the dryer times (even for us when our block was all river flats and we relied on crops not cattle for income). We must add that we were told that once the weir was paid for the irrigators would not be charged anymore (what happened there!!!)

We would like to submit that the Queensland Competition Authority pay us a visit as we realize that this is more of a personal submission. There should be some sort of concession for the very few farmers who live on the river and have already paid the price for the water before weirs were constructed.

Sunwater can't expect to increase prices when the farmer will not make anymore money due to all the increase in costings.

If Sunwater think they own the water that God has put in the river systems maybe we should charge them for all the damage 'their' water did to our place in the recent floods.

Paul McLellan

Bronwyn McLellan