

3516 - 9 FEB 2005

DATE RECEIVED

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Mt Larcom Q 4695  
3-2-05

Qld Competition Authority  
G. P.O. Box 2257  
Brisbane Q 4001

To Whom it May Concern

I believe that the current proposal to increase water prices - dramatically - in Mt Larcom - is ludicrous. The suggested price rise from 65c to \$8.69 per KL - a huge increase - is unheard of in any other industry - How can you get away with it?

My husband and I purchased a home in Mt Larcom with the belief that water - an essential commodity - was supplied at an affordable price. This suggested price rise is over and above our financial means - We simply can't afford it! We will have no option but to reduce / disconnect from the supply and rely on rain water in tanks. This is a step backwards - however it is an alternative option we can accomplish with a one off cost - not an annual slog.

Sadly any new development for Mt Larcom will be lost. Current homes will lose their value - including ours. What is the true motive behind this outrageous increase? Who benefits? not Mt Larcom residents. There is a school, pool, tennis courts, show grounds, a caravan park and other local businesses - How will they survive? Why kill off a thriving community? Someone needs to fight for small communities and keep them alive!

Mt Larcom offers the alternative lifestyle and this should not be lost by poor business acumen or very poor insight into long term outcomes for owners of homes or businesses in Mt Larcom

I urge the Queensland Competition Authority people to visit my home and see what is being 'murdered' by such extreme prices for water. Personally, that water comes freely from the skies - you do not pay for it so why outprice the user for personal greed of a board.

I believe common sense should come to the fore - water prices should be kept affordable for families and all people can choose their place of residence - anywhere in Queensland - and be catered for with equality - like its city counterparts.

Other communities pay far less - eg Agnes Water pays \$2.80KL + they are a reasonable distance away from a major town network.

I await your response and believe a compromise is achievable by all concerned.

Yours faithfully  
m Daley

on behalf of Darryl Meridys Daley