

Submission re proposal to pipe water along Gunningbah and Duck Creeks.

This proposal was originally put up sometime in the late 1980's early 1990'.

The proposed pipeline is going to be used as an excuse not to supply the yearly replenishment flow to the Lower Bogan.

The idea was vigorously opposed by landholders along the Duck Creek, Gunningbar Creek, Crooked Creek and

the Lower Bogan and eventually the plan was withdrawn.

It is a waste of money, time and effort on the part of taxpayer funded public servants to raise the idea again.

That the piping of water to replace natural flows will lead to an increase in water efficiency may well be proven, but at what cost?

The degradation of a significant series of wetland environments will be the one of the biggest drawbacks. The inconvenience to landholders and the additional costs to them of having to provide alternative watering points for stock as well as the inevitable charges that will be imposed to pay for the construction of the pipeline and the delivery of the water.

How are the licensed irrigators along the Gunningbar and Duck creeks going to be compensated for the loss of their water allocation? It is unlikely that any economically constructed pipeline will be able to deliver the quantities of water required for successful irrigation.

Numerous landholders on the Lower Bogan will be inconvenienced even more as below the confluence of the creeks with the Bogan, they are dependent on flows to replenish their off-river storages for stock and domestic uses.

Also, established training facilities at Gongolgon for our First Nations People would be badly affected as these facilities depend on seasonal and regulated flows

through the creeks to top up their water supplies.

Have any surveys been done as to the possible route of the pipeline and what effect this would be likely to have on overland flows in the time of flood as is being experienced at present. How would the pipeline be affected by the impact of floodwaters.

Lastly but not least, why should one section of the community be adversely inconvenienced to the advantage of another section of the community?

Climate change may well be reality that we all have to face, but it must be done equitably and without disadvantaging one group, be that a municipality or a mine, in favour of another.

Are the sentiments from community consultations going to be listened to or simply ignored as is quite often the case with this sort of consultation process?

Will all those who are going to be affected be given the opportunity to speak at the consultation forums and webinars if they so desire?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Lower Bogan Water Users Association