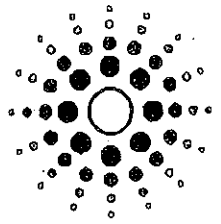


Natural Resources Advisory Council
NEW SOUTH WALES



The Chair
Standing Committee on Natural Resource Management (Climate Change)
Parliament House, Macquarie St
Sydney NSW 2000
Fax: (02) 9230 3309

Dear Chair

The issue of reduced water security arising from climate change and the likely effects on local communities and agricultural production systems is a matter of great interest to the NSW Natural Resources Advisory Council. In particular, the Council has an ongoing interest in:

- Whether the sustainable diversion limits established in the surface water and groundwater sharing plans reflect a realistic picture of water availability in these systems, especially under a climate change scenario.
- The consequent lack of security of supply for water users and the environment due to low water availability.
- Exploring the opportunities to assess the socio-economic impacts of the movement of licensed water out of certain areas through market activation of permanent and (to a lesser extent) temporary trades. It should be noted that NRAC supports the development of a market in water.
- Exploring the role city dwellers can play in assisting themselves and the rural community to work and live in the more water constrained environment envisaged with climate change.

The Council has had the pleasure of participating in previous inquiries of the Natural Resource Management (Climate Change) Standing Committee and would be delighted to arrange for a small panel of its members to give evidence to this inquiry. Please contact Karen Greenhill A/Manager, NRAC Secretariat on 9895 7331 for further information.

Yours sincerely

Phyllis Miller OAM
Convenor

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