Submission No 76

## IMPACTS OF THE WATER AMENDMENT (RESTORING OUR RIVERS) ACT 2023 ON NSW REGIONAL COMMUNITIES

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Date Received: 14 April 2025

Buying water from irrigators makes the communities where the water is taken from a less viable and resilient community. Less water means . less agricultural production with less economic activity and ultimately less people and less services as th economy shrinks. Less irrigation water means lower water sales by water NSW , resulting in reduced revenue for water NSW. Water NSW is proposing to increase their charges by 185 % in the NSW Murray over 5 years. We cannot afford to pay such a large increase. We are growing food and fibre .

The changes in how water is allocated is unfair. The changing to a requirement of 3 years water for towns to be held in storages from 2 years requirement is unnecessary as this water is already High Security water. In dry years this will mean a reduced water allocation.