

INQUIRY INTO WATER AUGMENTATION

Name: Mr and Mrs Glen and Jacqueline de Brenni
Date received: 27 May 2016

Partially
Confidential

Regarding the treatment received from the Broken Hill Water Board (B.H.W.B)

We have had two issues with the Broken Hill Water Board, water and land from early January 1989.

1. We had a water meter and a pipe line from the previous owner, who said that he could not get water from the meter because of sludge and very high pressure so he put in a Dam. We connected the existing meter and pipe line to our residence and it filled with sludge and burst so we immediately asked advice from Department General Manager and Chief Engineer, we asked for a new connection to the mains pointing out the problem of the sludge and high pressure that and we had. said that the meter was ok and the pipe line was all right to be used except it needed new connections and put us in contact with and who explained the depth of the 2km trench and the placement of the pipeline to our residence. After continual bursts we found out the pipe line was under rated and the water was filthy. So I went to my father who used to run the pumping station he said you are on the scour valve. Contacting and expanding we are on the scour valve he said rudely it is not on the scour valve, it is your connection and the pipe line would have to be replaced with a higher grade pipe line. So with no water and no option we replaced the pipeline for the second time to the same meter and that was a complete failer. We contacted Bill Beckroge .M.P, Michael R Cobb .M.P and everybody we could for help, they contacted and there was no reply from anyone. After our daughter nearly died from Meningitis caused by the water supply we contacted the Anti-Discrimination Board of N.S.W and legal aid. Legal aid said it is however noted a claim could be pursued for . After much corresponds and conversing with the B.H.W.B explaining our position, and asking for a new connection to the mains explaining that our daughter had nearly died. overlooked that our daughter nearly dead and brought up the water bill and I replied that our car was on hire purchase and we could not get a loan because it would send us bankrupt and we would lose our home, although we owned the car. told me "I can do whatever I like to you and I am going to because I can" then he stood on my toes, after much restraint I left. So we contacted the ombudsman on 29 May 1995 and they sent out who inspected the pipeline and agreed that we were on the scour valve and enquired why we hadn't been given another supply, said that there was no more new water connections to the pipe line although he offered a new connection to a . Years later we went to a mediation agreement with the B.H.W.B they agreed to supply water from the pumping station fire main and undertake all work required to reinstall.

The above are subject to the following conditions:

- All parties agree on complete non-disclosure the terms of the agreement
- The de Brenni's agree to pay the amount of \$20 per month, to commence the 1st week in May 1995 towards the outstanding water supply account.
- This agreement is in full and final settlement of any matter between the B.H.W.B and the de Brenni's.

We walked out and did not sign any agreement because we didn't want what happened to our daughter and the rest of the family to be hidden away. We refused to pay for the filthy unpotable water supply from 1989 until 31/12/1997 in the sum of \$19,172.15 from the scour valve. Then the B.H.W.B sent the Sheriff to collect the outstanding \$19,172.15 we sold a \$60,000 Toyota Landcruiser for \$30,000, I reluctantly sent the sheriff to pay the bill on our behalf he came back after he paid the bill and said that they seemed very surprised. We contacted the land and water conservation they immediately gave us an Algae Bore Subsidy application to go on bore water. The bore was completed on October 1995 to obtain an algae free water supply. Our daughter illness is ongoing and all my family suffered from the incompetence of the B.H.W.B. If some notice was taken in early 1989 the river system may not be the condition it is today.

2. Lot number 5252 was brought by she occupied lot 5252, lot 73 and lot 74 they were all fenced when she occupied them. When she got old she sold it to her he occupied lot 5252, lot 73 and lot 74. When he reached the he sold it to Glen and Jaqueline de Brenni who have occupied lot 5252, lot 73 and lot 74 for 27 years and have been rehabilitating the land removing the feral animals including the goats. Mr and Mrs de Brenni have brought surveyed and payed all costs for the extension of lot 5252 on 16/3/1990 we have yet to receive the deeds for the extension.

Kind Regards
Glen and Jacqueline de Brenni
And Family