

**Submission
No 95**

INQUIRY INTO WATER AUGMENTATION

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Director,
General Purpose Standing Committee No 5

We are graziers from Carinda at the northern end of the Macquarie Marshes, with properties having approximately ten kilometers Macquarie River frontage. We currently feel that we are being railroaded/bullied into having bores, tanks and troughs put on to our properties that will ultimately replace what is left of the Macquarie River here. This is being done in the name of water saving. The list below shows where better savings may be made, and what we have been fighting for over ten years. We feel we are seen as an easier option than some of the savings listed here, or making the cotton and mining industries make more savings.

1. 50 mega litres per day should flow through the Macquarie Marshes for stock and domestic purposes and also to maintain the health of the river. 28 thousand megalitres per year is requires for the irrigation properties on the Lower Macquarie. One of these properties is Lochinvar, which pioneered the growing of cotton in this district.
2. If there is no environmental flow, the water should come through the Northern Bypass Channel, which was constructed for this purpose. The channel should also be properly maintained for efficiency of delivery.
3. The river should always have priority river effluent creeks.
4. The East Marsh is in fact a flood plain. It has been artificially created by extensive earth works, rock walls and water diversion, and therefore does not need water diverted to it.
5. The delivery of water to Nyngan via the Albert Priest Canal is the ultimate in inefficiency due to evaporation and the poor maintenance of the canal.
6. Nyngan has two weir pools, one for town water supply and one for recreational. Both pools should be used for town water supply in times of drought to allow more water to be available to the Macquarie River.

Thank you for taking the time to read our submission.

William G. Masman