

## INQUIRY INTO FLOODPLAIN HARVESTING

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 12 July 2021

---

Partially  
Confidential

With the evident rise of collapsing ecosystems throughout NSW both as a result of the on set of climate change but also the ineptitude of the state government, it should come to no surprise that same line of thought falls upon those in the cotton industry and their exploitation of floodplain harvesting.

Floodplain harvesting should serve the simple purpose of keeping flood waters as reserve in a time of drought, yet when there is no drought, floodplain harvesting still occurs, as evident by the reduced water flow towards the southern towns of NSW.

From Narandra to Wilicania all the way to Griffith, these towns are feeling the effects of what is essentially illegal water theft, and because these towns don't get a natural circulation of water, they water sources become contaminated with Blue-Green algae (if ingested can cause major health effects- from skin rashes to respiratory issues to neurological problems).

In the financial sector every cent you earn is to be documented and assessed, if you earn over a certain threshold- you pay tax, if you exceed what you make and don't declare it you could get fined or gaolled.

Why is the same not said for water?

Why- because it is a resource essential for life (the other two components are a heat source such as the sun, and the right elements N,C,O,H,P)

Yet water has a pricetag, so why not regulate how it is managed, and especially when it comes to floodplain harvesting.