

**Submission  
No 133**

## **INQUIRY INTO FLOODPLAIN HARVESTING**

**Name:** Mr Daniel Giezekamp

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Dear Committee on Floodplain Harvesting.

Water is a critical resource, especially to regional Australia. Moreover, access to clean and safe to consume water is a human right. It is clear that inquiry into the ethics and methods of the current operations of those that either run farms or have access to water rights is essential to ensure those that live in regional Australia have the quality of life that is to be expected of anyone who can call themselves Australian.

Within this country, suicide is a matter of incredible significance. As a country, everything should be done to ensure that no one feels the level of truly hopeless that it takes to consider such things as suicide. When areas that are unnaturally impacted by even more severe droughts than they should be, even considering the effects of climate change, show elevated suicide statistics, it is clear that water and the treatment of it as property in this country needs to be examined.

- a) If floodplain harvesting is causing these issues is a question that needs to be answered and proven, and an effective method of being able to ascertain this is critical.
- b) It is necessary to assess the ethics of any changes to the water plan and to enact new water regulations in the wake of the results of the inquiry.
- c) It must be determined if any amount of water can be taken from natural processes like floods and stored without consequence to the environment or those that require access to water further along the system. It must be determined if any property is located somewhere along the river such that it will not cause harm to anyone downstream.

Kind regards,  
Daniel Giezekamp.