

**Submission
No 206**

INQUIRY INTO FLOODPLAIN HARVESTING

Name: Mr Paul Pierotti

Date Received: 9 August 2021

As President of Griffith Business Chamber I Paul Pierotti make the following submission.

The Southern Basin communities have given up 74% of the tax payer funded stripping of water for the Basin Plan.

The Southern Basin have had Zero or Low allocations of General security water for years as a direct consequence of the rampant proven illegal, unmetered & unpoliced Flood Plain harvesting of Northern NSW and Queensland.

The still current legislation in NSW Water Sharing Plan for the Gwydir Regulated River Water Source 2002 Appendix 3 State floodplain harvesting principles clearly stipulates Section 4 Floodplain harvesting principles

- (1) all existing floodplain harvesting will be licensed.
- (2) volume limits and flow related access conditions, including metering of pumps
- (3) no new works or expanded floodplain harvesting.
- (4) ONLY floodplain diversions end of the 1994 irrigation season will be considered as within the NSW cap.
- (5) appropriate steps taken to keep harvesting to 1994 cap levels.
- (6) floodplain harvesting rights will not be tradeable.

These laws have been ignored by regulators and are now being blatantly breached by over 1000%

THIS MUST be reversed & laws heavily enforced.

The no flow of the Darling river has meant that the Southern Basin Dam water has been used to make up the shortfall to fulfil the inflexible and antiquated 1914 water sharing arrangement with no allowance for drought, where the so called water managers destructively drained the Menindee Lakes causing the catastrophic fish kill on top of a flood in South Australia.

Yours Faithfully,
Paul Pierotti President of Griffith Business Chamber.