

Your details

Title: Mr
First name: Thomas
Last name: Woolaston
Email: stratharlie@bigpond.com
Organisation (if relevant): Irrigator in the Peel Valley
Position in organisation:
Address: STRATHARLIE, [4404 Oxley Highway](#).
Suburb: Somerton
Postcode: NSW
Type of submission: I am making a personal submission
Do you want your name published?: No
Privacy statement: I agree to the above statement

Your submission

Enter text below or upload a document:

Whilst I have no problems in having a water meter to record usage we are already burdened with the drought (for which we receive very limited assistance) and really do not want another imposition at this stage. We have meters where required and maintain them to the best of our ability. The majority of irrigators are honest and do their best to maintain the integrity of the water meters and there will still be people wanting to cheat the new requirements and in turn cheating their fellow irrigators. I have always battled to find good water meters which are trouble free and the last one we purchased did not last for one years entitlement of water before it had to be repaired. This meter was not cover by warranty. I am worried that this new scheme is being carried out in haste and that there will be many problems with it, not to mention the cost to irrigators. I believe that there was a scheme around Sydney whereby the government paid for the meters, the meters were unsuccessful and that the whole scheme became redundant.This was an expensive failure but fortunately for the irrigators it was funded by government. The way in which the water meters are to be installed reminds me of how the government tried to shift the cost of the fire levy from insurances policies to council rates. This was an expensive failure met again by taxpayers. There needs to be more research into the quality of meters so that reliability is achieved. Then to add to this problem the maintaining of the transmission of data is of a real concern. The birds cause much damage to any piece of gear that they can get their beaks to. The push for these meters is being done by people who do not have a good understanding of the problems and of the costs. It is wrong to consider the size of pumps when implementing this scheme because the size is not a true indication of what the pump can pump. Two 150 mm centrifical pumps can vary from two megalitre a a day to in excess of eight megalitre a a day. Technology is great but reliability is better. I believe that there have been people employed to see that irrigators do the right thing but these people have not done a very good job in enforcing the the rules so the irrigators are going to have to pay more for their failures. There are many inequitable features of irrigation and the government departments do not seem to be interested in correcting them. I sent an email to Water NSW around February 2018 and still not havenot received a reply. They are a monopoly and should be made to try and make our lives easier not harder, at the same time trying to give us better value for our money. At this stage what is planned will not give irrigators value for money, will not stop the cheats and is being rushed.

File upload: No file uploaded

Form Information

Site Name NSW Department of Industry
Site Id 47409
Page Standard Name NSW Government's Water Reform Action Plan
Page Standard Id 134654
Page Custom Form Name Submissions on draft metering regulation and policies
Page Custom Form Id 171616
Url <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water-reform/make-a-submission>
Submission Id 177035
Submission Time 28 Sep 2018 6:12 pm
Submission IP Address 1.129.107.173