

*morning
Session
Bourke

22/3

I am generally willing to see the Basin Plan evolve although I do think that the Bourke area is bearing far more of the pain than is equitable.

The Darling is "an unregulated stream" – well it is about time that some "regulation" took place in relation to "dynamically" managing flows. The powers that be should be estimating the volume of each flow and individually adjusting pumping heights/volumes so that the flow gets as far down the river as possible. Experience over time would enable the knowledge to be gained to accurately regulate the river.

I "guess" that it will mean the large irrigators may need to increase the number of pumps and/or the sizes to enable them to take full advantage of really large flows/floods."

The weir site BU8 upstream of Bourke near "Llandillo" should be developed as a "regulator" and similar "regulators" constructed above all town weirs and existing weirs to allow regulation of flows. To let water go when the regulator is estimated to be re-filled etc.

The windfall that the NSW Govt. got from leasing our "poles and wires", together with the "windfall" from selling the Snowy Scheme should be put to developing the Clarence River Diversion with emphasis on storing water where it is more appropriate. For example, a dam near the Clarence would actually harvest more rainfall than evaporates, rather than the Menindee Lakes where the rainfall is < "one foot" and the evaporation in the order of "ten feet" – dumb.

