

Online submission: Water take measurement and metering policy - [REDACTED]

1 message

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Tue, Apr 10, 2018 at 4:20 PM

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Water take measurement and metering policy

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Question one, No additional objectives. Any new licences, no matter what size should be metered. While agreeing with the sentiments of cost in retrospectively fitting meters to all users is cost prohibitive, my question is how will these users be monitored as climate variability changes crop needs especially in coastal areas that currently enjoy reliable rainfall. As crops like avocados and nuts etc become more valuable the need for water will no doubt increase. That is the main issue I see in the future. It is fairly obvious in the broad-acre areas what is going on. Looking at other options proposed, I believe it should be a no meter no pump proposal. All the other options are way to complicated and will create major problems with interpretation. I think the proposed metering requirements are commonsense. The whole system needs to be simplified as much as possible. That way costs will be kept to a minimum in the long term, less chance of misinterpretation of the rules and regulations. Telemetry should be obligatory to ensure real time collection of data and observation by NSW Water. Self reporting should be phased out. If required then information should be uploaded daily to digital online portal. There should be no self reporting beyond an emergency requirement due to a faulty meter. Clearly a staged roll out of the metering needs to happen with the high risk areas the first to be installed. If other manufacturers do chose to enter the market, the guidelines for the meters has to be rigid so there can be no issue between manufactures on how the meters operate. The roll-out timelines are tight with conformance going to be difficult to manage. Stage 1 is probably achievable but Stage 2 and 3 not. Unregulated rivers constitute high risk and should a top priority. If there is information which suggests there are coastal areas at risk then they should be given a higher priority as well. I believe private ownership would be the way to go. To ensure compliance with the running of the meters, telemetry would need to be mandatory for remote monitoring by an independent authority and also the water licence holder.

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Form Information

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Make a submission on the water reform consultation papers

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