

Why are private irrigation companies [REDACTED] not included in these reforms .The frame work must be changed.Irrigators in our area are being lied to by the company and have been for decades. NSW Water (State Water) was aware of the accuracy problems with the meters that are installed in our area before they were actually installed. [REDACTED] was not a stand alone company at the time and I believe the government are at least in part responsible for the cover up. [REDACTED] was made aware in 1999 these meters would not meet the incoming standards in 2006 but installed them regardless. The MACE series 2 meters were discontinued in 2006 because the manufacturer said they were obsolete. Still to this day we are forced to use these meters; which in our case some simply do not work. Our last rice crop was 2.5 times the area average. All of these meters have a reputation of over reading and in our case this has been proven. The company has refused to do anything about the situation apart from threatening to take legal action against us and say they are within their rights under the Water Act. I have been accused of pumping out of the channels which is a straight out lie; but the company now refuse to talk about it. The company has shown over many years they are unable to handle the responsibility of operating their own internal metering system and in our case the company removed the memory cards to cover up the problem. [REDACTED] say this was done under normal maintenance procedures however the manufacturer do not agree. We have spoken to the [REDACTED] of the company and he told us personally that the company did not even use the correct pipes when the meters were installed. How can the government prosecute individuals and turn a blind eye to such large scale corruption?