

Manjimup and Pemberton Landowners
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22 January 2019

Hon Michael McCormack MP
Minister for Infrastructure and Transport
House of Representatives
Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600
minister.mccormack@infrastructure.gov.au

Ref: MC18-007530

Dear Minister

SELF-SUPPLY WATER USERS AND THE SOUTHERN FORESTS IRRIGATION SCHEME

Thank you for your letter of 14 December 2018 in response to our letter of 11 September 2018 on 'SELF-SUPPLY WATER USERS AND THE SOUTHERN FORESTS IRRIGATION SCHEME'.

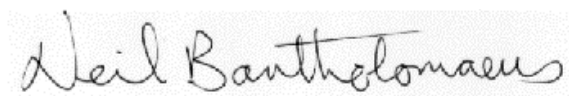
We appreciate you meeting with a group of self-supply water users when you visited Manjimup in October. There has been a year of controversy over the negative impact of the proposed Southern Forests Irrigation Scheme on the majority interests of self-supply water users in the Manjimup region regarded as the 'food bowl of the South West'. This controversy has not been resolved.

On 20 December 2018, representatives of self-supply water users, through our Manjimup and Pemberton Landowners group, met with State Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food, Hon Alannah MacTiernan MLC to discuss the continuing concern of self-supply water users in relation to the proposed Southern Forests Irrigation Scheme (SFIS). Attached for your information are memoranda sent to Minister MacTiernan and a request to the Minister, being:

“Conclusion and request: Self-supply water food producers, if allowed access to water for growth, can generate greater value for the local, State and National economies than SFIS, without requiring public subsidy. Prime agricultural land which is zoned ‘Priority Agriculture’ should have priority use of water, at up to 70% of mean annual stream flow. Minister, please convince the Minister for Water to increase the allocation of water for self-supply water food producers. This is the lowest cost option for more ‘water for food’ in the ‘food bowl of the South West’.”

We commend the detail of the attached letter to Minister MacTiernan of 18 January 2019 to you and your colleagues considering the proposed Southern Forests Irrigation Scheme.

Yours sincerely



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Convener
Manjimup and Pemberton Landowners
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Attachment: letter of 18 January 2019 to State Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food on 'MEETING ON INTERESTS OF SELF-SUPPLY WATER USERS, MANJIMUP & PEMBERTON'.