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Your submission for this review:

My response to the proposed price increases by WaterNSW and WAMC is one of complete disgust as to even consider increasing any cost to the irrigation sector at a time when we have had to spend huge amounts of money installing new electronic water meters to allow meters to be read from one location there for reducing costs to these government owned corporations therefore reducing costs to them at our expense ,therefore before any increases are approved there needs to be a close look at there work practices and work ethic along with what other measures are taken to improve efficiency within WaterNSW as the irrigation farmers have been forced to do to survive . In our case with 3 small irrigation blocks with a total land holding of 100 hectares with 7 WALS and all the associated charges that go with them you can see that we are going to be destroyed by these increases as opposed to an irrigator with 100 hectares of land on one block with 1 WAL where the fees may possibly be acceptable,it appears that if these increases are adopted and I have no doubt that they will be then our fertile river flats will no longer be used to produce food in the future which dose not make sense and would join a growing number of small productive irrigation blocks along the Lachlan river system that no longer produce fruit and vegetables and other irrigation crops. I also noticed there was mention of avoiding bill shock ,we are already suffering from bill shock as finding the funds to services the charges attached to 7 Wals is crippling especially following the severe floods in 2022 and the collapse of the stone fruit industry as a result off low returns and high production as is the case with other irrigation crops ..Another reason to not approve the fee increases especially for the Lachlan river is that we are already paying the 2 nd highest charges for water in the State by a considerable amount in some cases, this is another case of price gouging by a monopoly and an abuse of power by a state owned corporation and can only eventually impact food security going forward . In relation to other stakeholders in the regulated river systems of NSW there is a lot of water allocated for the environment but I have no information about how much is charged to the people of NSW for a megalitre of water released from dams for the environment as I suspect the irrigation farmer is burdened with the bulk off the cost of running the rivers?