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Sent: Wednesday, 23 March 2016 5:27 PM  
To: ESCOSA:Essential Services Commission of South Australia  
<[ESCOSAEssentialServicesCommissionofSouthAustralia@escosa.sa.gov.au](mailto:ESCOSAEssentialServicesCommissionofSouthAustralia@escosa.sa.gov.au)>  
Subject: Orroroo

As residents of Orroroo, we are very concerned about the quality of water supplied to us by SA Water.

The water is so saline as to be undrinkable, meaning residents are forced to drink rain or bottled water.

With so many rainwater storage tanks, you can imagine the mosquito problem, sometimes, even in winter!

Pot plants need to be hand watered with tank water otherwise a film of salt soon accumulates on the soil surface and the plant inevitably dies.

The soil is ruined and often the pot also, both must then be disposed of.

Our gardens can only have plants that are salt tolerant or self sufficient to grow in our arid environment.

The plants that survive are often trial and error, we have lost most of our fruit trees that we have purchased.

As you can imagine, this can end up being an expensive, time consuming and frustrating exercise.

Then there is the added cost of repairing or replacing scaled or corroded taps, shower heads, toilets, washing machines, hot water systems and irrigation equipment such as solenoids, valves, drip emitters etc.

Our average rainfall is about 300mls, most of which falls in a handful of rain events, meanly the rest of the year being rain free.

So a reliable source of good quality water for our town is essential.

Good quality water coming to Orroroo via a pipeline from Peterborough will bring considerable benefits to us residents, but most importantly to SA Water.

As the recent experience in Hawker shows, by supplying that town with good quality water, water usage has increased dramatically bringing additional revenue to SA Water.

The same will certainly happen here in Orroroo.

This is a lovely town, however we are in dire need of an economic stimulus that quality water will provide.

Our school has a kitchen that can be used as TAFE training classes for the region. However classes are restricted because of the water quality.

The school care for their expensive equipment and don't want it corroded away through using the saline water currently supplied to us by SA Water.

Most of the local businesses are forced to use rain water, this has extra costs and possible legal implications.

So any business that wishes to set up in Orroroo has to think long and hard about the extra costs just to obtain suitable water. The chances are highly likely that they just won't come here.

However with good quality water, Orroroo will truly be open for business, this can only increase revenue for SA Water as well as benefit the town, socially and economically.

The local hospital and nursing home will finally be able to use tank water for its original purpose, emergency fire water. Patients will no longer have to be supplied with expensive bottled water for drinking.

Finally, us residents will no longer have to endure salt induced itchiness from showering and clothes washing.

We will be able to purchase plants and trees with confidence, the soil will not become salt encrusted and useless.

We also will not have to rely on tank water for drinking.

My cousin from Adelaide recently visited and gave his dusty car a quick hosing. As soon as the water dried, he found out what a mistake that was. Instead of dust on his car, he now had white salt patches all over his car! This salt seems to stick to automobile paint and is very difficult to remove, which he found out after returning home. Not Impressed!

It's quite embarrassing to have overseas friends visit, especially those from less developed countries who find that they can't drink or bath in water from a so called developed country.

Not a good look for South Australia and SA Water.

We urge ESCOSA to recommend SA Water to fast track the construction of a pipeline from Peterborough to Orroroo for all the above reasons.

This area has the highest youth unemployment in the state according to a recent radio report.

Construction of a pipeline will bring added economic benefits to an area suffering record high unemployment.

SA Water are in the business of selling water, we firmly believe that this pipeline will give a very good return for their investment as long as it proceeds within the current planning period.

Increased economic benefits to Orroroo will help our town, bringing deserved kudos to SA Water and those responsible for bringing quality water here.

We look forward to a favourable outcome and being able to enjoy good quality water, something that the rest of SA Water clients enjoy and take for granted.

Yours faithfully,

Barry and Cheera Moody & 2 sons, Raymond and Ryan.

Orroroo 5431