

SUBMISSION TO ESCOSA

REFERENCE :

ORROROO WATER QUALITY ISSUE

The Town of Orroroo is the main hub for the rate payers of the District Council Of Orroroo / Carrieton, it is used for Business/ Social and Sporting activity. The point being it is not only the residents of Orroroo that are affected by the quality of mains water that is currently supplied.

Many tourist traveling from NSW to WA access the road network which bring them through our town, as does the Flinders Ranges traffic. The Orroroo Caravan Park comes under extreme pressure when the "Grey Nomads " ask to fill their motor home water tanks. [It is embarrassing to inform the tourist that the water is not suitable for drinking]

Sporting clubs such as Football / Cricket / Bowls / Golf / Tennis and Netball are all affiliated with relevant Associations from a wide area. The clubs are all very aware of the costs associated with the damage to infrastructure caused by the saline water that is supplied. The supply of bottled water for competitors adds to this cost.

Orroroo has the mantle of the worst quality mains water in the state

The costs to Businesses / Clubs / Council / Hospital / Community Home and residents homes is well known with numerous damaged items being documented and put on public view on many occasions. Explaining to visitors when residing at your household to make their shower time as short as possible to save rain water storage is a common occurrence which they find very hard to comprehend.

Council area is predominately farming, consisting of cereal crops / wool / sheep and cattle which certainly add to the states food production and I believe all these people (rate payers) would benefit from their primary town having a potable and drinkable water supply.

Extensive negotiations have occurred over the past sixteen years to try and get a fair and reasonable outcome. Some years ago a rain water tank storage scheme was implemented by the Local Council to help residents with a supply of drinking water and quality that would not damage their infrastructure.

1. The average rainfall in the town is approx/ 12.5 inches
2. But of course if it does not rain a storage tank is irrelevant
3. The cost of buying in bottled water is very expensive (especially for those on fixed income)
4. Dews Kangaroo processing factory endure hefty costs for damage and buying in water
5. The hot water service units at our local hospital are an example of the aggressive nature of the mains water when anode rods erode from 25ml in size to pencil thickness within twelve months.

The preferred option of a pipe line from Peterborough could follow the existing old rail corridor and I am sure SA Water would be able to accommodate connections along the way making the exercise more viable.

All spheres of Government Federal / State and Local are trying to increase economic development and encourage people to come and live in regional communities. The first rule of any community is to have a supply of potable and quality drinking water. Many people in Orroroo have to weigh up what option they have when their rain water supply becomes seriously low.

1. Do they save the water for drinking
2. Run the mains water through their house hold infrastructure and suffer the consequences of replacement costs
3. Buy in water at a cost or use bottle water for drinking

I appreciate the opportunity to put forward my concerns

Col Parkyn
Orroroo
23/3/16