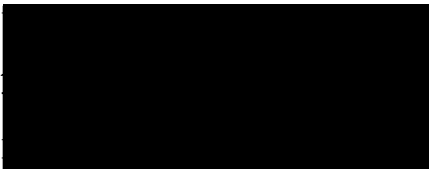


NRDP016  
13/3/08



6th March 2008

Department of Sustainability and Environment,  
Attention: Sustainable Water Strategies branch,  
Office of Water,  
P O Box 500,  
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Dear Sir/Madam,

I do not agree with the proposal in Chapter 4 - Page 72  
Key considerations in moving forward.

I do not agree that any water should be diverted south from  
the northern flowing tributary Rivers of the River Murray.

Diverting any water from the northern flowing Rivers will  
have disastrous impacts on the ecosystems of the River  
Murray and the associated floodplain wetlands. The inland  
Rivers must be allowed to have enough flows downstream to  
flush out salinity and prevent deterioration of water  
quality.


Over allocation from the whole of the Murray Darling Basin  
has been obvious in recent decades and there has been too  
many delays in taking action to overcome this serious problem.

Our irrigated agriculture/horticulture production supports  
rural and urban communities in business, industry, transport,  
manufacturing, tourism, welfare and health and well being.

NW Victoria has an average annual rainfall of 250 mm yet you  
are planning to divert water away from the River Murray to  
supply Melbourne which has an average annual rainfall of  
600 mm. That equation makes no logical sense to be taking  
water from a lower rainfall area and diverting it to a higher  
rainfall area. The higher rainfall area surely has more  
opportunity to collect and store, recycle and reuse that water.

I strongly object to any more water being taken out of the  
Murray Darling Basin.

Yours faithfully,



Pauline Bartels.