

**To:** Water Markets (DELWP)  
**Subject:** PROPOSED CHANGES TO GOULBURN TO MURRAY TRADE RULES

To whom it may concern

As a large irrigator in both Goulburn and lower Murray, I concerned that no modelling or impact assessment seems to have been completed so irrigators and communities below the choke can understand the impact of reducing summer flows under a range of drought scenarios. At the very least some detailed modelling should be completed to show the impact on water availability (and likely cost increase of temp water to Lower Murray uses and the likely decline in temp water value in Goulburn) if these rules had been in place over the last few years when Lower Murray irrigators relied heavily on the Goulburn River to deleiver much needed water. Furthermore, how can possible solutions be sensibly suggested, discussed, debated or even costed if the economic and social impact of this change is not clearly outlined. For many years, the Victorian Government has given water use licences to irrigators and encouraged development below the choke and I assumed they did this based on deliverability within the constraints of the existing system? Will these changes now mean that those below the choke with current water use licences will be without water in future drought years?

In summary, whilst I agree that the environment needs to be protected, the review completely fails to provide a detailed impact assessment on irrigators and communities below the choke and fails to outline possible solutions and the cost of such solutions.

*Kind regards,*

**Rob McGavin**  
**CEO**  
**Boundary Bend Olives**



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