



Attention: Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Dear sir or madam,

The water policies driven by this government over the past year (at least) are of great concern to my friends, my colleagues and me.

If the government was to truly look into alternative water solutions, at least supplementing Melbourne's water supply by more sustainable means than a desalination plant or piping water from the Murray Goulburn region, they will surely be recognised well beyond their current term for their good action.

We could be the ones that lead the way in water conservation rather than in ways that generally cheapen this precious resource by inherently lazy habit forming ways. Through our current and potential future practices you would hardly believe that we are living in the driest country in the world. On the occasions when it does rain here, why aren't we catching the rain rather than freely passing it on to our storm water drains? Storm water drains are for overflow not for sending precious cargo out to sea as a means to justify possible desalinisation deals for the government. What about a new dam, water tanks or good old domestic education?

I believe the government is choosing last resort measures as easy fixes; we need to stop wasting the water we have and start adopting more innovative, sustainable water solutions.

Although it is easy for me to stand back criticising the government, yet it is these difficult decisions in which our trust has been placed for them to handle best. This is what good management is remembered for and bad management reminded of. The choice is yours!

Sincerely,

Richard Pearse