From: ████████████████████████████
Sent: Wednesday, 13 July 2022 9:03 AM
To: DPIE W Regional Water Strategies Mailbox <regionalwater.strategies@dpie.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Western Regional Water Strategy Community Feedback

Dear Sir/ Madam,
Please accept my feedback to the Western Regional Water Strategy.

I was lucky enough to join a cultural tour of the Baaka River at the height of the last drought. It was terrible to see a community elder crying about the loss. Water is ofcourse essential to life, but seeing that the social fabric also depended on it, made me realise that no riverflow or water holes meant there was no place for the wholesome joy children experience when they play in water courses. This is what broke that elder's heart.

Everyone knows it is better to proceed cautiously than fix the mistakes when we feel the consequence, including over allocation of water.

I strongly support the Inland Rivers Network and Environmental Defenders Office submissions and strongly support protection of river health and wildlife, including Commitment 3- pump screens and 4 with respect to removing or modifying harmful floodplain structures before licences are given.

Also I strongly support Options 23, 24, 25. 26, 27,28 and 29.

I strongly support The River Rangers Program and Options 16-22 and Options that reduce water consumption, including water recycling and efficiencies. I do not support increasing dependency on the GAB.

I do not support renewing town weirs, or regulating the Barwon-Darling.

Better connectivity to the Lower Darling and Murray Rivers and more regular flows to the Darling Anabranch should also be part of the strategy.

I am grateful to the Inland Rivers Network and EDO for their diligence, guidance and perseverance. It was devastating to see the scale of clearing taking place out West, lack of birdlife and the huge water storage dams, all dry.

We need to remember to factor in environmental and social health before assuming the economics will work, if it works for some.

Thank you,
████████████
████████████
██████████████████
████████████