Submission on Native vegetation regulation Murray Davies via Wentworth

I attended the Wentworth meeting for Native Vegetation Regulation.

I should have walked out. We were told (shoved down our necks) that we don't own the land and that we really should not have a say in the native vegetation.

(That is how it came over) we just pay shire rates and other rates total \$30,000. and have to pay 5 or 6 million for not owning the properties, We should have a say.

I own Burtundy station 80,000ac, Have 10,000ac conservation also have 400ac river frontage and freehold conservation.

Native vegetation regulation has been written by greenies for greenies and have an agenda to send farmers broke. Regulations are a disgrace for a Government department to put up. It's disappointing to see government departments putting up regulations that are deliberately set to send farmers to the wall. PVPs are designed not to work in the farmers interest and should be scraped.

CMA staff that are in the field have a green agenda and do not come to the job with and unbiased approach. When discussing a project in the field its all about vegetation nothing about the production side of the project. If a project has a high production benefit and a lower vegetation outcome its does not go ahead.

To prove a point look at the regulations, they contradict themselves, are not in the communities interest, you need to be a lawyer to completely understand them, even the staff at the Wentworth meeting were unsure.

Monies that CMA hand out for various projects have conservation outcomes but no production outcomes. Production should be the first target to meet.

Native vegetation regulation have not been written for the Southern Mallee area. Southern Mallee project locked up some 300,000ac for conservation, regulations were written with native vegetation and production as its base. Reason it was scrapped was gov departments did not have complete control, it was a shared control and it worked.

I have cleared 15,000ac and had a phone call to say that I had cleared 5ac to much, then the native vegetation POLICE turned up with tape recorders, but then found that their maps were wrong and I hadn't over cleared at all. (very upsetting)

Gravel Pits

Roads need to be maintained gravel pits should be between the properties and the shire and nothing to do with native vegetation regulations.

Single Trees small clumps

On cropping land single trees and small clumps should be allowed to be cleared and should be encouraged with no offset. Grants should meet part of the cost of removing the single trees and small clumps. (diesel grant)

Fence lines

Fence lines should be cleared 40 ft each side, in heavy scrub. In a bush fire situation this allows a vehicle with a water tank in tow to be turned around.

Gate ways and stock yards

Gate ways in heavy scrub 10ac should be cleared to allow safe work area to put cattle & sheep through a gate, this should also be around cattle yards or stock yards.

Farmers that lock up land for private conservation or fence rivers or water ways should be able to build up credits.

Murray Davies ph