



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES
Ms Tara Cheyne MLA (Chair), Miss Candice Burch MLA (Deputy Chair), Mr James Milligan

Submission Cover Sheet

Inquiry into the supply of water to the Tharwa Community

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From: [Steve Angus](#)
To: [LA Committee - ETCS](#)
Subject: Tharwa Water Supply
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To the committee

I am writing in regard to the Tharwa water supply , firstly the way in which the so called consultation has been conducted is appalling , telling the residents , that this what they are getting is not consultation , then denigrating them when they come up with viable alternatives that offer genuine solutions to the problem is equally appalling . The residents of Tharwa are the major stakeholders in the whole design process , they should have been involved from day one .The E.S.A are the end user , not the owner of the project , and a very infrequent end user if you go by the history of fires in the Tharwa village .

The current proposal as it stands would destroy the amenity of the village , devalue the surrounding properties and to boot serve no useful purpose in the case of a building fire because Tharwa is too far away from the nearest fire station , for A.C.T. Fire and Rescue to do anything other than stop the fire spreading to adjacent residences [see A.C.T Fire and Rescue ' s pre suppression plan for Tharwa 2018] .

The most effective of form defence against fire either bushfire or structure fire is for the homeowner to have access to a reliable source of water to rapidly attack a fire of either type , i.e. a garden hose will be just as effective in defending your property against fire if you attack it earlier enough. access to a reliable water supply [all be it ageing] in 2003 contributed greatly to saving the village of Tharwa . By denying the residents of Tharwa access to water , the government is acting against its own Strategic Bushfire Management plan [2019 to 2024]

The residents of Tharwa have the same rights as homeowners in Canberra to reliable government supplied water source , we pay the same rates , imagine the uproar if the government refused to supply water to a suburb in town . The real solution to the problem would be to continue the main from Banks along the Tharwa road , across the bridge and into Tharwa , but in the meantime the best result would be to position the pump , generator and tanks on the land where the present tanks are , run pipe down to hydrant point in front of the school that could be used by both A.C.T. Fire and Rescue and the Rural Fire service , and connect the residents in to a metered supply administered by the Tharwa Community Association .

The A.C.T. Government has set a precedent already with the village of

Urriarra ' s water supply so why can't it do it again with Tharwa

Stephen Angus

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