



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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MEDIA RELEASE

5 April 2004

Windsor supports Water Committee findings

An Interim Report of the Inquiry into Rural Water Supplies has been presented to the Government today in Canberra.

Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor, a member of the House of Representatives Agriculture Committee, has welcomed the Interim Report saying the need to present an Interim Report was due to the urgent issues relating to increased flow rates in the Murray Darling that the Committee believed could not await the publication of its full report.

The Report recommends that the Australian Government urge the Murray Darling Basin Ministerial Council to postpone plans to commit an additional 500 gigalitres in increased river flows to the River Murray until:

- A comprehensive program of data collection and monitoring by independent scientists is completed;
- Non flow alternatives for environmental management are considered and reported upon more thoroughly; and
- A full and comprehensive audit focussed specifically on the Murray Darling Basin's water resources, including all new data, is conducted.

The Interim Report is available on the Federal Parliamentary Website

www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/primind/watering/index.htm

Mr Windsor is available for comment on 0427 66 8868

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