

Essential Services Commission,
Level 2 35 Spring St
Melbourne 3000.
13th April 13, 2008.



To whom it may concern,

I understand from our local paper that you have invited feedback re water treatment plant at Landsborough.

My partner and I own the business at Murphy's Country Pub Landsborough and I have had the need to speak to Central Highlands Water re the water quality that is supplied to the hotel. I was told by one representative about the water project for Landsborough and the problem would be solved. I had to inform this person that the project was promised for January 2008. It has been the belief of the community that the funding for the water treatment was already available and has been since 2007. I was pasted to another representative to explain the situation to me and I was told the following.

The first point was that Treasury was holding up progress by requesting some report. (2) That land had to be required for the plant and this would be completed by mid 2008. (3) That council had to rezone the land to be used for the plant.

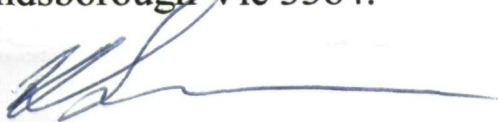
I challenged this representative on whether Central Highlands Water had in place a charter that required them to supply a quality product and I was told that they had informed the community that the water was of such a poor quality it was not to be used for drinking, cooking or food preparation so cop it on the chin.

I have been in touch with the Pyrenees Shire, Mr Joe Helper's office seeking assistance in gaining a low cost loan or grant so that we can put fresh water into the hotel, but without success. We are a

very small hotel and we don't have a large profit, infact my partner and I don't draw a wage. We have had to replace the hot water system already at a cost of \$1700.00, our dishwasher requires constant service and its stainless steel, our septic system struggles and I verily believe that it is caused by the salty water killing the bacteria that is needed to assist the system to function correctly.

I believe that its time the great minds of this country stopped looking at the heavens to solve this problem and got off their bums and did something about helping all the small communities that have serious water quality problems, after all we pay our taxes rates, perhaps the government should cut overseas spending by 5% and spend it at home.

Yours Sincerely
Harold Smith
Murphy's Country Pub
Landsborough Vic 3384.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'H. Smith', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.