

Namoi Community Network

Namoi Water Study in Limbo

The Namoi Community Network continues to ask the hard questions of the NSW State Government. The questions relate directly to the completion of the Namoi Catchment Water Study.

“We have written to the Mining Minister Chris Hartcher on two occasions without reply” said Hugh Price Chair of the Namoi Community Network.

“The completion of the study is vitally important to the people of the Namoi Catchment and for the proposed mining and gas projects being fast tracked by the NSW state government. The failure to deliver is completely unacceptable.”

“We want to know when the study will be peer reviewed, when scenario seven will be released and when the study will be handed over to the Namoi CMA so the modeling of new data can carry on” he said.

It is even more surprising that the Federal Government’s Environment Minister Tony Burke has not required answers from the NSW Government on the outstanding issues.

It is common knowledge that the Federal Government has not yet handed over its funding allocation to the State because the NSW Minister has failed to comply with its agreements.

“If the Federal Government cannot even demand completion of the Namoi Catchment Water Study when they funded one third of it, what real authority will the independent expert scientific committees have to assess mining development applications?” said Hugh Price.

“We can only conclude that Scenario 7 is too concerning for public consumption or the Minister intends to bury the study in the bowels of the newly created Local Land Services. Either way it is unacceptable that the Study is in limbo” said Mr Price.

Further analysis and comment will be made available in the near term.

Phone: Hugh Price 0429 352903 for interview and comment.