

Call for bi-partisan support on water delivery

Country Alliance Candidate Danny Lee has called on all sides of politics to support the improvement of Victoria's regional water infrastructure.

“As Victoria faces the worst water shortage in living memory, politicians of all persuasions continue to ignore a vast quantity of water going to waste in Victoria each day”, Mr Lee said.

“Over five hundred thousand megalitres, or ten times the amount the Government intends to send to Bendigo and Ballarat, is lost each year from ageing Government water delivery systems by such things as seepage, evaporation, spills channel breaks etc”.

“All of the major parties have had a go at being in charge of water in Victoria over the past thirty plus years, all of them have been aware of these losses but have chosen to ignore them in favour of more popular vote getting issues. To save this water, massive upgrades to these delivery systems need to commence now. The cost will be only a fraction of what is currently being spent on social welfare, and not much more than what was spent on the Commonwealth Games.”

Mr. Lee said called on politicians from both sides to put ambitions aside, and implement a bi-partisan approach, committed to securing Victoria's water supply into the future.

“The benefits of this approach would be hundreds of millions of dollars into regional economies during the infrastructure rebuild phase, a more secure water supply for Victoria into the future, and breathing space to allow alternate sources of water to be properly investigated”, he said.

“Water is our most precious resource, without it we cannot exist, it must be the first priority in future planning for the next generation and those to follow. And remain above politics”, Lee said.

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