



Andrew Wilkie MP
INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR CLARK

24 MAY 2020

The Hon Josh Frydenberg MP
Treasurer
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Treasurer *Josh*

I am alarmed to learn that foreign acquisition of water entitlements do not require compulsory Foreign Investment Review Board approval unless it is a direct purchase by a foreign government. I also understand that the additional restrictions imposed by the Government on foreign investment due to the COVID-19 pandemic will not necessarily apply to water purchases by private foreign investors.

I trust you'd agree that we live in a drought-prone country where water is one of our most precious commodities. Clearly it is ludicrous that, on their own, water entitlements do not require FIRB approval and I ask that this loophole be closed as a matter of urgency.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Wilkie MP
Independent Member for Clark