Put in mail box on 2/4/85

19/3/85

Editor The MERCURY Hobart

Dear Sir:

The 1983/4 Annual Review of HEC gives its bonded debt as \$1174 million. This is nearly \$3000 per map,woman and child. Payment of interest consumes 51¢ of every dollar of revenue without reducing debt one iota. Electricity is cheap. Interest is expensive.

So far the Commonwealth has contributed \$23.5 million in compensation for loss of Gordon dam. This money should have been used to reduce the immense bonded debt. Unfortunately, the money is being blown to the four winds on irrelevant projects. Our politicos are remarkably incompetent, irresponsible and profligate. Mr. Hawke should have tied some strings to the dam compensation money.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

Grote Reber

Michael Street Bothwell 7030