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**Sent:** Friday, 20 January 2012 12:37 PM  
**To:** Flood Insurance  
**Subject:** racv

Since being notified by way of a letter from my insurer - RACV - that I would be expected to pay "a relatively larger" increase in my home and contents insurance policy, I have been keeping readers of my newspaper informed about this insurance problem, as this was a region affected by the storms and flooding of early 2011.

Despite the fact that those actually affected by flooding was a small minority, I found that the RACV adopted a 'blanket' approach, lumbering all policy-holders in so-called flood-prone regions with huge increases, in some cases around 600 percent.

My case, which I have illustrated to readers, is a typical example. My home is 60 metres off the Murray River at Colignan, on a small cliff (hill) and well above the 1956 flood level. In the 2011 high river, the Murray River didn't break the bank near my place. I wasn't affected by the storms that dumped 12 inches of rain in about four hours on my property, my place wasn't flooded at all, and I never made a claim as a result.

Despite that, when I made inquiries as to what I could expect when my policy came up for renewal, I was told that my premium would rise from just over \$500 to just under \$3000. And I subsequently found I am not Robinson Crusoe.

I can understand insurance companies adopting a tough approach in areas of high risk...but I can't see why the rest of us have to shoulder the burden. The RACV doesn't even have an 'opt out' clause....they told me that their flood cover will now be a standard part of future policies in flood-risk areas.

I intend to follow this issue through to its conclusion, not just highlighting by case involving the RACV, but any and all insurance companies who are adopting such a inequitable approach to home and contents insurance. It is a ludicrous situation, unfair in the extreme, and will be an impost on ordinary households that will be beyond their reach. I have repeatedly asked my insurer for an explanation of these astronomical rises, and what I will be expected to pay when my policy comes up for renewal in June, and they don't even have the courtesy to get back to me.

Regards.

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