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**To:** DPIE W Regional Water Strategies Mailbox  
**Cc:** office@pavey.minister.nsw.gov.au; DPIE Water Enquiries Mailbox  
**Subject:** SUBMISSION - FNC Water Strategy

SUBMISSION - FNC Water Strategy

Hello,

I am a concerned resident and I want to use the opportunity to present my opinion in regards to the water strategy and the Dunoon Dam in particular.

I am not a scientist, I am not an activist, but I am a worried human being, when looking around the world and seeing what is being done to this planet. We act and live as if we don't need to think of future generations; as if we had another planet ready to go, once this one doesn't sustain us anymore and has become uninhabitable. By simply using the brain, that I was born with, I can see and comprehend, and that's why I feel compelled to send this email.

I am opposing the Dunoon Dam.

There are several reasons for that:

1. The destruction of pristine and unique nature and home to many endangered species of wildlife is something we can NOT afford. We depend on it as much as it depends on us. Once destroyed it will NEVER come back. I know that the intrinsic value of nature isn't something that governments, councils etc. care about, because nowadays everything has to have a monetary value in order to have a chance to be saved. Places like this, with some of the last Big Shrub, with Koalas, with rare frogs and so much more are worth being saved...they have incredible value, no matter, which perspective you see it from.

2. There are other options!!! The dam is NOT the only option and it certainly isn't a smart option. In your papers I read about the many options available...why not combine the smartest and most innovative ones and make it work. Why are we, as humans, always inclined to do things "the way, they have been done before". Look forward, not backward...use new scientific ideas, projects, research etc. Yes, we have built dams in the past. And yes, it has worked. But now, more than ever, we have to invest in better, smarter options. Options that suit not only people, but also the environment, because without a functioning natural world and the services it provides for us, we can't survive long term. And that is not just a phrase, it is reality.

I know desalination is expensive and there would have to be processes in place to protect marine life from getting sucked into a processing plant, but other countries show, that it can work and costs for operating such a plant can be lowered by using solar power. Then there are the so-called Hydropanels, which look very promising...especially in humid areas.

Another point, I would like to raise, is, that reforestation will help against droughts and water shortages...forests are rain- and windmakers, which is scientifically proven. Australia put itself into the spot, it is in, due to deforestation and therefore increase of droughts and danger of flash flooding, when heavy rains occur.

A combination of those innovative and existing options will solve the problem, the dam is not needed for that.

3. Raise awareness...humans are still wasting way too much water...require homes to have rain tanks, require new developments to have wastewater reuse systems installed etc. Educate people that it isn't necessary to shower twice a day or to keep the water running, while putting soap on...

We need to re-learn, that water is a precious resource. Couldn't it be a possibility to stagger the prices for water? If a household uses more than the "necessary" amount, the price should go up once the household exceeds that limit. Some people need this kind of pressure to learn...

I am hoping that my and all the other submissions have an impact and you are not just asking for input only to put it aside straight away. Everyone I know, everyone I have met, opposes the dam and since this is a democratic country, the voices of the people should be heard. Don't just go ahead with something, only because it was proposed and seems like an "easy and quick fix". Look beyond and look into the future. Plan and execute sustainable and innovative options...listen to people, they have good ideas. Don't just listen to big corporations and officials...don't investigate further into the dam option, spend the money on investigating the smart options!

I am sending this email, hoping, that we can make an impact.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]