

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Submission on Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy

The Officer in Charge
Regional Water Strategies
NSW Dept. Planning, Industry and Environment

I am a long term resident of Terania Creek NSW having moved here in 1986 and have gained some knowledge of the unique biodiversity of this area. I hold a Degree in Land Management, have worked as a bushland regenerator for 15 years and am currently a member of the curatorial team at the Lismore Rainforest Botanic Gardens.

Regional water strategies:

I am in support of the objectives of the Draft Regional Water Strategy

- * Deliver and manage water for local communities
- * Enable economic prosperity
- * Recognise and protect Aboriginal water rights, interests and access to water
- * Protect and enhance the environment
- * Affordability I am particularly concerned that the Rous County Council's proposed Dunoon Dam fails to meet these objectives and should not be included in the Regional Water Strategy.

* Deliver and manage water for local communities

The proposed dam will not provide a guaranteed water supply in times of extended drought. Given the uncertainty of future climate and the scientific evidence of increasing extreme weather, I believe a mix of complementary water efficiency measures, cultural change and reduced household consumption are vital and should be the main focus of a regional water strategy for the Far North Coast.

* Enable economic prosperity

The proposed Dunoon Dam is a very costly development and will significantly raise the cost of water negatively impacting the local economy

* Recognise and protect Aboriginal water rights, interests and access to water

The Dunoon Dam would inundate an area recognised as being of cultural importance to the Wiyabul people of the Bundjalung nation and deny them access to this important natural water resource

* Protect and enhance the environment

If this dam is constructed it will have major, irreversible negative environmental impacts - destroying a unique stand of Warm Temperate Rainforest on sandstone, cutting a koala corridor, destroying wildlife habitat and flooding a number of species of plants listed as Vulnerable, Endangered or Critically Endangered in NSW.

* Affordability

There is no evidence to suggest this dam is the most affordable option, on the contrary, it is significantly more costly than options such as rainwater harvesting from roofs, purification and recycling of waste water or desalination.

I believe the Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy must not include

Rous County Council's Future
Water 2060 project because of its reliance on the building of the
contentious Dunoon Dam, and that the Dunoon dam should not be considered
an acceptable part of a solution to future water needs.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.