

From: regionalwater.strategies@dpi.nsw.gov.au
Sent: [REDACTED]
To: DPIE W Regional Water Strategies Mailbox
Subject: Your submission for Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy

1. Information on confidentiality and privacy

I give my permission for my submission to be publicly available on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website.: Yes

I would like my personal details to be kept confidential.: No

2. Your details

Email address: [REDACTED]

Name: Johanna Kijas

Address: [REDACTED]

Contact phone number: [REDACTED]

Do you identify as an Aboriginal person?: No

Are you an individual or representing an organisation?: Individual

3. Organisation or business details

Who do you represent?:

If you selected Government, please clarify.:

If you selected Peak representative organisation, please clarify.:

4. Draft Regional Water Strategy objectives and vision

Do you support this vision for the Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy? : Yes

If no, please outline your vision for the long term management of water resources in this region?: However I believe that Protection and enhancement of the environment should be second. Without that we can't have all the rest. I am glad to see 'affordability' at the bottom as it's 'affordability' at what cost?

5. Information and modelling used to develop the Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy

Do you have any comments about the information used to develop this strategy?:

Please provide details if there is additional information you think we should consider?:

6. Stochastic modelling method

Do you have any comments about the modelling method used to develop this strategy?:

Is there any additional information that you believe could help us assess the benefits and disadvantages of draft options?:

7. Opportunities and challenges for water management in the Far North Coast region

Do you have any comments on the opportunities, risks and challenges identified?: I am heartened that this strategy indicates that there is much research still to do beyond the current Rous recommendation that favours the Dunoon Dam. ... 'However, combining some of the options might mean that other options cannot be pursued. At present, we do not have enough information to understand the trade-offs between options or combinations of options that are described in Table 5.'

Are there any additional opportunities, risks and challenges that we should consider and what options could address these?: Regarding risks and challenges I am concerned about the level of dismay and sense of futility among some key Indigenous stakeholders that the rhetoric about Aboriginal consultancy is hollow and will just be traded off with monetary compensation rather than protection of sites.

8. Draft Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy options

Which five (5) options do you think are most important?: 1. Remove impediments of water use reuse projects and educate on potable reuse 2. River Recovery Program for the Far North Coast: a region-wide program on instream works, riparian vegetation and sediment control 3. Regional network efficiency audit 4. Regional desalination 5. Establish sustainable extraction limits for Far North Coast surface water and groundwater sources

Please comment on why you think these options are most important? : The cheapest economic options do not necessarily make for the best long term and overall options. We need to find other options into the future than dams. Desalination, for example, might be expensive but could service the booming coastal populations in dry times. Educating the population on potable reuse, let alone industrial reuse would solve many water issues into the future. We are an area that should be ready to educate and innovate.

Which five (5) options do you think are least important? (If any): 1. New Dunoon Dam on Rocky Creek 2. New Dunoon Dam on Rocky Creek

Please comment on why you think these options are least important? : Your options list provides many other ways to bring water security to our region, with it's expanding population, into the future without destroying significant Indigenous sites, part of the small pieces of remaining Big Scrub, destroying downstream habitats along our river system that is already in deep trouble all the way to the sea and without fixing wasted water across the relevant council regions.

Do you have any comments on the draft options?:

9. Option combinations

Do you have any thoughts on how the options could be combined with other options?: Many of these options could be acted on now - ie system wide water auditing and efficiencies, action on long-planned and shelved reuse strategies, water harvesting, renewable-powered desalination, contingency planning re drought with ongoing education campaigns on water saving (as Rous has been doing) with reasons for why we need quicker activation of restrictions.

Are there additional options that we should consider?:

10. Other comments

Do you have any other comments about the Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy?: I'll keep reading it and refer back to it. The report is accessible.

11. Referral

How did you hear about the public exhibition of this strategy?: Other