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

To whom it may concern:

I live in New Brighton, NSW2483 and we get our water supply from Rous Water. As I write this we are receiving 100ml of rain, so its hard to think about drought, but we certainly recall last year at this time, the sky grey with smoke and even near the sea, we worried about bush fires. We live in a time when the environment is under assault and all the wildlife is suffering. Yes, we will need more water if the temperatures continue to rise and the population grow. However, the Rous Future Water 2060 Project suggests a new dam in Dunoon which is 19th century thinking.

We need to find new and innovative strategies such as some of those suggested in the Far North Coast Strategy Report. Maintaining and diversifying water supplies is an admirable goal especially while protecting and enhancing natural systems. There are many ways we can conserve water. Requiring home owners to put in a water tank is one option. Requiring new construction to have toilets that recycle the water or composting toilets. It seems insane not to use grey water on our gardens for instance.

What is not a suitable solution is the proposed Dunoon Dam. It would require the flooding of 267 hectares of rainforest, eucalypt forest and prime farmland that feeds this region. The dam would endanger Aboriginal heritage and destroy part of the Big Scrub rainforest. This will further endanger our already dwindling koalas. We have droughts and floods in our area. In the past the dam has overflowed and caused flooding.

Instead we would like to impose stronger rules about water efficiency and water harvesting. I noticed and have reported many examples of water wastage in the Byronshire. More incentives for water efficiency could be tried.

The community is eager to find new and more creative solutions for water strategies of the future. Building a dam is not one of them. Please consider the strong opposition among the people of the Northern Rivers to the dam proposal.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

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[REDACTED]  
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