

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: FNC Regional water strategy 2020

[REDACTED]

Dear Sir madam,
FNC regional water strategy 2020

I'm a 52-year-old farmer from the Northern Rivers [REDACTED] at the Channon, northern NSW.

Thank you for thinking of us way up here And our future water needs.

In terms of the future water strategy please do not rely on the Dunoon Dam Because of the following reasons.

There is widespread community opposition to the dam because of the environmental economic and social impact. The community would like costed options of the alternatives which don't involve environmental destruction and destroying indigenous sacred sites.

There are 62 ha of low land rainforest on this site only 1% of the big scrub rainforest remains and the Channon gorge contains warm temperate rainforest on sandstone. A very rare occurrence. The dam wall construction would destroy 92% of this. There are nine threatened flora species, 17 fauna species which have been identified that are listed as threatened under the TSC Act NSW(including the koala one Fruitbat six micro bats and eight birds and one frog. Northcoast koalas were under extinction pressure even before 70% of our regional quite a population was killed in a 2019 summer bushfires.

The 2011 terrestrial ecology impact assessment identified 72 ha of Tallowwood and flooded gum koala habitat. Construction of the dam with sever the koala corridors. Habitat fragmentation continues to the decline and koala populations.

The dam puts extension pressure on platypus. Rocky Creek is a breeding ground for platypus. The Dunoon Dan Woodhouse on the decline of the species due to settlement loading smothering their habitat.

There is widespread opposition to Dunoon Dan and Rous have not been open and transparent with you or us.

91% of 1290 submissions received by Rous Are opposed to the dam option because they believe that Dunoon Dam will leave us vulnerable to a warming climate. Rous have not listen to the experts who recommend a mix of the complimentary water strategies According to "all options on the table" by the Water services Association of Australia 2020. Professor Stuart Khan from the institute of Sustainability at the University of Technology, Sydney has said that a resilient water system would have 30 to 50% of supply from sources that don't depend on Rain such as purified recycled water and desalination ,both of which can be powered by renewable energy -according to ABC North Coast radio 22/10/20. And Rous's future water 2060 fails to mention systems resilience as important and seriously examined only groundwater in Dunoon dam according to their own report future water project 2060. Rous County Council have failed to show leadership in contemporary water management. All options need to be given serious attention include a water efficiency, roof and stormwater harvesting including tanks and water sources that don't need rain such as purified recycle water and desalination. Rous County Council failed to provide leadership and increase the knowledge of innovative water management in its community and to its users. I There is a lack of Familiarity with options showcased by the water services Association of Australia and its report "all options on the table 2020" The narrow focus on the new dam is stunted water literacy in our region. This is a deficit that you the DPIE Needs to rectify in the regional strategy. Rous has ignored systemwide water efficiency which is cheap and recommended, according to the WSAA paper "all options on the table" page 3. Professor Stuart White identified significant potential increase in rates apply through efficiency measures neglected by Rous. The lack of attention to water efficiency is evident from the fact that during the past two years there was a significant amount of time when Rous did not employ a demand management officer. The position is now filled part time, reflecting the low priority that row still attaches to water efficiency. In conclusion please do not rely on the Dunoon dam as part of the future strategy. Dams are outdated and do not provide the water security anticipated. In fact they will leave us vulnerable to climate warming.

Thank you very much

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