

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: SUBMISSION - Draft Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy

Dear Minister and State Planning Department,

I live in Lismore on the Northern Rivers and I am a married mother of 4 children. I am the [REDACTED] Country Women's Association Lismore Evening Branch, member of the Lismore Show Society, [REDACTED] Knitting Nannas Against Gas, was employed for 2 [REDACTED] with Richmond-Tweed Regional Library and I now work as a market coordinator and HSC examination supervisor.

Our family is extremely concerned that Rous County Council proposes to go ahead with the construction of a 50GL dam flooding 267 hectares of rainforest, eucalypt forest and farmland between The Channon and Dunoon. Rous has not considered all options including water efficiency (as happened in Sydney), roof and stormwater harvesting (we have a 1000L drinking water tank on our home in East Lismore that we filter twice and drink) nor water sources that don't need rain such as purified recycled water and desalination.

In this day and age, especially in such a high rainfall region, it is a failure of our society if we continue to destroy important habitat. The proposed dam site will drown part of the last 1% of our ancient Big Scrub Rainforest. Our koalas, platypus and many fish species have been declared by experts to be on the brink of extinction so it is very apparent that now is not the time to destroy remaining habitat regions that support these precious Australian animals.

'Offsets' is a word bandied about so much these days but is meaningless and unacceptable when we are talking about the permanent loss of flora and fauna we all need upon our planet. Nothing can 'offset' the extinction of more species.

Please stop Rous pushing ahead with dam plans and instead work with them and our local councils to explore and research other less-expensive options with greater benefit to our nation. Preservation is key for our future generations with a drinking water supply that meets their requirements without needless annihilation of a whole ecosystem.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
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