

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: [REDACTED]  
To: [REDACTED] Cc:  
[REDACTED]  
Subject: SUBMISSION - FNC Water Strategy

SUBMISSION - FNC Water Strategy

Dear Sir/Madam

My name is [REDACTED] and I am a ratepayer in the Lismore Shire. I have worked in community development and community services in the local area for many years. I now run my own healing practice for women.

I am writing to voice my concern that the Far North Coast Water Strategy may rely too heavily on Rous' Future Water 2060 Project, and in particular the controversial Dunoon Dam. I would like to acknowledge the hard work that is being done by DPIE to develop the FNC Water Strategy. I know this must be a difficult process to undertake.

I believe that the Dunoon Dam project should not proceed, and it is very important that alternatives are developed within the FNC Water Strategic Plan.

I oppose the Dunoon Dam on ecological and cultural grounds. As a local person, I have spent many years walking, swimming and camping in the creek valleys and forests where this Dam is proposed to be built. I can attest to the vital ecological importance of this area. It is ecologically criminal to drown the proposed creeks and valleys, especially in these times of dire climate change.

I believe that dam projects are highly unsustainable, with many examples of ill effects from all around the world. There are many alternatives that are smarter, cheaper and more sustainable.

I have worked for many years with Traditional Custodians of the Widjabul Waibal and Bundjalung peoples, and have developed close kinship ties. I can tell you that local Custodians and Elders are deeply opposed to the Dunoon Dam. This area of land is of vital significance to the Widjabul people. It contains many important cultural sites, including sacred birthing pools. Creating this dam would be an act of cultural genocide, and an act of continued colonisation and oppression of First Nations peoples.

For these reasons and many more, I know that the majority of the local community are opposed to the creation of the Dunoon Dam. I don't believe that this project will pass any form of community consultation. 91% of submissions to Rous Water regarding this dam have been in the negative. As the Northern Rivers has a highly active and vocal constituency, you can expect ongoing opposition to the dam project.

I hope that you will consider my submission in regards to the water strategy, and look for alternatives that do not rely on this dam project.

Thank you for your time

Regards  
[REDACTED]

