

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: [REDACTED]
To: DPIE W Regional Water Strategies Mailbox
Cc: office@pavey.minister.nsw.gov.au
Subject: Submission for the Draft Regional Water Strategy for Far North Coast NSW

To Whom it concerns,

I appreciate the opportunity the DPIE is providing the community to contribute to future water security in my local region.

My name is [REDACTED], I have lived in the Far North Coast area for over twenty years. In that time I have come to value the natural environment. I have lived in a rural location and been responsible for the provision of my own water. I live within meters of a creek that contributes to local public water supply. I am saddened by the degradation of many local waterways and what appears to be wasteful use of water.

I would like to share my concerns about Rouse County Council proposal or option for a dam to the Draft Regional Water Strategy for the Far North Coast.

I object to the proposed damming of the Rocky River in The Channon/Dunoon area.

I have read Rouse County Council Future Water Plan 2060 and after considering the information believe there are many alternative options and regulations to minimise demand and provide secure water sources.

Here are some of the reasons why a dam in this area is not acceptable:

The loss of rare sandstone based warm temperate rainforest, further stress and loss of habitat for threatened species of flossed fauna, and the destruction of local wildlife corridors is negligent.

Aquatic and riparian plant and animal communities would also be negatively impacted or lost.

The destruction of significant Aboriginal cultural sites is not acceptable nor necessary.

The area has received many hours of rehabilitation works by the Whian Whian Land Care group.

The impact of cattle dip sites that would be submerged has not been addressed.

Given that the demand for water during periods of drought appears to be a significant driver in the dam proposal, it seems Rouse County Council have not investigated a regional wide demand and efficiency audit of all residents not just Rouse customers and users.

Increasing efficiency and subsiding water tanks in the region could contribute to available flows in low rain events has not been investigated.

It seems Rouse County Council based future water demand on fairly simple calculations of future population growth proposed by developers rather than complex investigation of all county residents behaviours.

I am not a Rouse customer nor are any of my neighbors, we have never been eligible for any assistance in lowering our water use through subsidies of water efficiency appliances or storage capabilities. Many of the people in my rural neighborhood pump from local creeks or have inadequate storage capacity in dry times. With support we could avoid drawing on Rouse water supplies through the use of purchased tanker delivered water during drought.

There appear to be many experts who believe the economics of optimizing available water supply and decreasing demand have not be investigated and compared to the outstanding costs of building a new dam.

The Rouse plan as presented does not address the regions needs into the future.

For the above reasons and concerns I object to the proposed The Channon-Dunoon dam.

Yours Sincerely

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