

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: [REDACTED]
To: DPIE W Regional Water Strategies Mailbox
Cc: office@pavey.minister.nsw.gov.au
Subject: SUBMISSION - FNC Water Strategy

SUBMISSION – FNC Water Strategy.

Good evening DPIE and State Water Minister,

I am a long term resident of The Channon having grown up exploring the creek that is proposed to be dammed to supply water to our growing region. In fact the proposed dam wall would be on my mother's property. I, and my family, have made our home upstream of The Channon village and our home and lives would be adversely effected were this dam to go ahead. These are where my personal reason come from to object to the dam's construction, but surprisingly that is the least of my argument against.

I am writing this submission as part of your feedback request regarding the Far North Coast Water Strategy Draft.

And I do that because it has become apparent that Rous County Council is not accurately representing the members of the community. Nor acting in our best interest.

I am a business operator (Arborist) and incredibly practically minded and do not oppose dams in principal. But in this case there has been sufficient reason unearthed that show the Dunoon Dam would be detrimental on economical, ecological and cultural grounds. This is compounded drastically by an outdated organisation trying to push an overtly costly and flawed scheme that not only ignores community desire but seems to be ignoring the current best practice of water management and the science behind it!

The local groups who have been raised to question and now challenge the path Rous County Council has outlined, have no doubt shared with you the relevant ecological and cultural concerns. They didn't have to dig for them because they came up the first times the dam was researched. The fact that Rous County Council is pushing ahead despite clear opposition from the traditional custodians, the Wijabal Wia-bal, as well as the 91% of the 1290 formal submissions made to the Rous County Council that oppose it's construction, should be a clear indication of the poor social connection they are operating under.

And beyond all of this, surely it's the science that it ultimately comes down to. How do we as a community supply water for ourselves going into the future? A future likely to include the ramifications of a warming climate and likely less reliable rainfall for this area. As I said, I'm very practically minded and putting a second dam on the same creek that is not able to provide at the present levels isn't smart. Bringing infrastructure and usage up to modern practise, and listening to and working with the knowledge of experts is.

I ask you to bring Rous County Council up to speed with what modern Australia must now expect of water supply and management.

I ask you to bring Rous County Council up to speed on what modern Australia expects in terms of culture respect of the burial sites of the traditional custodians.

I ask you to bring Rous County Council up to speed in terms of preservation of important ecological areas.

I think if you were to do even one of these things the proposed Dunoon Dam would not go ahead.

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