

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

To whom it may concern,

Please consider my submission, requesting that options other than the proposed Dunoon Dam be pursued for ensuring water supply to the Far North Coast.

I write as a post graduate student of Archaeology at Flinders University and a resident of the Channon area. I write on behalf of endangered species that would be threatened by the proposed Dam, the iconic koalas and platypus among them.

I write with the understanding that the dam proposal is to flood sites of significance to the local Aboriginal people, including burial sites. In the wake of awareness raised by Juukan Gorge destruction, I ask you to consider the remaining cultural heritage of the world's longest continuous culture as valuable not only to the local Aboriginal people, but to Australians and all humanity.

I am extremely concerned about the 62 ha of Lowland Rainforest Ecologically Endangered Community that is on the site of the proposed second dam on Rocky creek. The proposed dam site would impact a warm-temperate rainforest that is on sandstone- this is very unusual. It is OLDER than the surrounding Mt. Warning derived soils. There remains only 1% of the original 'Big Scrub' that was in this region at the time of colonisation. What remains is unique on a world scale.

We are living in a new era where the environment must be factored in, for economic and health reasons. Climate Change denial is a thing of the past. Centralised water solutions like big dams will be a thing of the past by 2040.

Rous Water has implemented excellent initiatives, and it is disappointing to see them resort to a 'quick fix' solution when other solutions have not been fully implemented. This is a 40 year vision we are talking about. At the very least, we should ALL be flushing toilets and washing clothes with on-site rainwater or recycled purified water, not best quality drinking water.

Rural NSW is all geared for alternative water solutions in the wake of the drought and last summer's fires. Sydney has implemented changes and avoided the expanded Dam solution. So can we, here on the far north coast. Demographically, a significant lot of us have moved here from Sydney. As a community we are prepared to accept responsibility and solutions that are new.

The Far North Coast NSW is home to a very vocal community as I'm sure you are aware, and they are a community that is prepared to stand up for the environment irregardless of how contentious that is.

Please protect the Channon Gorge by not building a second dam on Rocky Creek.

Thankyou,
Happy Christmas and New Year

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

--

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]