

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

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I am a resident of Lismore and frequent visitor to The Channon. I am an Australian Citizen, a pensioner of 75, previously employed as a crisis support worker for Lifeline.

I have already made a submission by way of the online questionnaire to Rous County Council in respect of this matter.

I strongly object to Rous CC preference for the dam option despite the availability of much more appropriate and sophisticated 21st-century options, plus knowing what we now do about climate disruption and the urgent necessity of preserving species and habitat.

More specifically, I am concerned about:

Loss of endangered and at-risk fish species, especially the eastern freshwater cod.

Severe pressure on platypus habitat, likely hastening endangerment if not extinction locally.

Massive increase of pressure on proven local koala population, including demolition of the renewed southern corridor recently planted by Whian Whian Landcare group.

Further destruction (ecocide) of the 1% remnant of the Big Scrub temperate rainforest which is of national heritage importance, and globally significant in its unique characteristics and the fauna and flora supported there.

Destruction of indigenous heritage for no better reason than "cheapest option" as with Juukan rock shelters by Rio Tinto.

The evident existence of alternative options which are more than likely to return a more sustainable result at a lower cost, details of which have been provided to you but were not earlier considered. This is principally the option known as Water Efficiency and was recommended in the NSW Productivity Commission Green Paper (2020), which Rous CC failed to even consider.

Please also note that there is widespread local opposition. I am aware that DPIE has been working on a Far North Coast Water Strategy and very much appreciate the attention being given to the subject. However it is clear that the Strategy cannot rely on Rous County Council's Future Water 2060 Project which hinges on this controversial and contentious dam being built. I am totally against the project for the reasons above and it is clear locally that there will be sustained and substantial resistance in the event of a failure to change course.

Yours sincerely

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