

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

To whom it may concern,

Please do not dam Rocky Creek with a second dam. Like many of the local community in the far north coast I moved from outside the area and lived in the Dunoon area due to its spectacular environment and socially engaged community.

1.

Endangered Ecological Communities are regionally and state significant, not just local, and have a special legal status precisely because they are critically important.

The elimination of this EEC would not just be a local loss – it would be an irreparable loss to Australia.

The proposed dam would destroy 34 ha of the lowland rainforest on site, or 3.6% of the remaining Big Scrub. This is a very significant amount to delete from such an important regional forest.

Subtropical rainforest makes up 55 ha of that 62 ha and the remaining 7 ha is warm-temperate rainforest on sandstone.

This forest can never be recreated.

2.

The 2011 Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (CHIA) document provides overwhelming evidence that this particular valley is of major significance for the Widjabal-Wiyabal people.

"Aboriginal stakeholders are of the opinion that the sites should remain undisturbed and that no level of disturbance is considered acceptable, especially when concerned with impacts upon the burials, which they see serving as a direct link to the ancestors of the registered stakeholders".

The cultural meaning of this place is apparent not just in the artefacts and burial sites but in the ongoing living connection that local people have with this landscape.

Thankyou for considering my application in defense of the environment and cultural heritage of this beautiful part of the world.

Yours sincerely,

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