

From: [david orman](#)
To: [DPIE Greater Sydney Water Strategy Mailbox](#)
Subject: ex mines as future water reservoirs in Hunter valley idea.
Date: Tuesday, 12 October 2021 4:47:50 PM

Hello,

Great to see we are looking forward and planning our future water use and their sources.

This is just an idea, ok hear me out.

In the Hunter Valley, there are many open pit coal mines, where they have dug very large and deep essentially dams or reservoirs out of the earth, right next to the Hunter river.

Once the mine has finished in the area depleting the coal seam, couldn't we retrofit the mine to hold water?

Prepping the future dam so when the Hunter river floods. We channel the excess water into these new and ready reservoirs?

As there are many mines in the area, all very close to each other, all following the Hunter river up and down the valley, we could interconnect them together by either the Hunter River or man made canals. This could hold substantial amounts of water.

Yes there is a cost in rehabilitation of the mines into dams and the necessary pipeline infrastructure getting the water into Greater Sydney.

But as the community doesn't really like the idea of increasing the wall of Warragamba Dam and as Sydney is surrounded by National parks, leading to difficulties building future water reservoirs and sources near Sydney, these HUGE holes in ground already exist now. Its a perfect opportunity.

Anyways. Just an idea I've had for a while, I can't be the only one who's thought of this.

Thanks for your time.

David.