

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

Firstly I appreciate the opportunity to submit my objection to the Channon-Dunoon Dam proposal which is included in the DPIE Draft Regional Water Strategy.

I live on the Wilson River at Eltham on 28 acres where we have 400 Pecan trees. We have tank water and in the past 23 years we have not run out of water, mainly due to the fact that we have had to use water wisely and recycle as much as possible. The 2018-2019 drought was an extreme test on humans capacity to change water use habits. Some cities/regions did very well, others were severely affected and not necessarily due to their own mismanagement of water. The Murray-Darling water trading was an abuse of human rights for many communities.

I do not support the proposed Dam for the following reasons:

- * In order to build the dam an immense area of the Channon Gorge and its endangered ecological community of lowland rainforest, threatened flora and fauna species will be 'wiped out'. We have already lost thousands of hectares of habitat in the Northern Rivers - North Coast region and with Climate Change now upon us, we cannot afford to lose anymore flora and fauna, tipping the ecological balance.
- * Cultural sites would be destroyed with no respect to our local indigenous communities.
- * The dam would encourage continued inefficient and wasteful water management by local governments as they would have no incentive to do things differently.
- * Cost efficiency of water. The General Manager himself stated that 'he expected a fourfold increase in the cost of supplying water if the dam is built'.

I support the following alternatives to a costly and destructive dam:

- * Water Harvesting - Councils to encourage/demand water tanks on all new (and existing) developments. The Australian Government advises that "depending on tank size and climate, mains water use can be reduced by up to 100%. This in turn can help reduce the need for new dams or desalination plants; protect remaining environmental flows in rivers; reduce infrastructure operating costs". Rainwater harvesting also decreases stormwater runoff, thereby helping to reduce local flooding and scouring of creeks.
- * Water re-use in various ways, including Purified Recycled Potable water. A wealth of global research and experience exists regarding potable reuse of water.
- * An investment in system-wide water efficiency. Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs.

To finish I would like to stress that WATER IS OUR MOST VALUABLE RESOURCE. We must manage it to compensate for all times of stress on water supply, i.e. extended droughts. NO WATER - NO LIFE

Regards

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