

From: regionalwater.strategies@dpi.e.nsw.gov.au
Sent: [REDACTED]
To: DPIE W Regional Water Strategies Mailbox
Subject: Your submission for Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy

1. Information on confidentiality and privacy

I give my permission for my submission to be publicly available on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website.:

Yes

I would like my personal details to be kept confidential.:

Yes

2. Your details

Email address: [REDACTED]

Name: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Contact phone number: [REDACTED]

Do you identify as an Aboriginal person?:

No

Are you an individual or representing an organisation?:

Individual

3. Organisation or business details

Who do you represent?:

If you selected Government, please clarify.:

If you selected Peak representative organisation, please clarify.:

4. Draft Regional Water Strategy objectives and vision

Do you support this vision for the Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy? :

No

If no, please outline your vision for the long term management of water resources in this region?: I agree with most of the statements above, however "enable economic prosperity" is a little too broad of a statement. That all depends on how regional industries are regulated when it comes to water usage and water waste and water exportation and how these "industries" interact with the local environment. We also need to remember that it is not only humans who have a dependency on water but all other living organisms on the planet so flora and fauna's clean and safe access to water must be included. The environment is a bit too broad of a statement. It's not just about affordability but also longevity a solution suitable for the anticipated harsh climates of the future. Water education should be a major vision. It is a precious resource and a lot of people take it for granted and have little respect for it and waste and or contaminate so much for it.

5. Information and modelling used to develop the Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy

Do you have any comments about the information used to develop this strategy?: Local council and joint council engagement does not equal community engagement. True community engagement is actually engaging with the public directly. It is very disappointing that the only time slots made available to the public to speak to someone in government about this strategy is during typical working hours mon - fri 9am - 5pm. Where were the evening and weekend slots to allow people who work normal business hours to be able to speak with someone or join the webinar? Are the current policies and regulations that govern water actually fit for purpose? Or are they out dated and in need of review in themselves.

Please provide details if there is additional information you think we should consider?: What about community psychology. In rural villages of the far north coast community is very important. The water strategy proposed by council is fragmenting our community. Frictions are occurring between those who think the dam is a good idea and those who don't. Many people in rural communities who are water independent (collect and treat their own water) only see the negative impacts the proposed dam will cause to their environment, whilst those in the towns/coastal areas who are dependant on council to provide water are more likely to be pro-dam. How communities can become fractured by such major developments should also be taken into consideration.

6. Stochastic modelling method

Do you have any comments about the modelling method used to develop this strategy?:

No.

Is there any additional information that you believe could help us assess the benefits and disadvantages of draft options?: Climate behaviour is one consideration. Human behaviour/response should be factored in. Possible future governmental systems, availability of raw materials, changes to the way the economy may function. Pollution of the planet and how this affects the quality of the water.

7. Opportunities and challenges for water management in the Far North Coast region

Do you have any comments on the opportunities, risks and challenges identified?: Education on water waste and how we shouldn't take water for granted. Do we really need flush toilets? Should we be using our grey water? Should bottled water even be legal? Should local industries who are using local water be allowed to export their products outside of our local ecosystem?

Are there any

additional opportunities, risks and challenges that we should consider and what options could address these?:

8. Draft Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy options

Which five (5) options do you think are most important?:
Remove impediments of water use reuse projects. Direct potable reuse of purified recycle water Indirect potable reuse of purified recycled water Bringing back riverine and estuarine habitat and threatened species Addressing cold water pollution

Please comment on why you think these options are most important? :
Beucase these are sustainable and sensible water practices. Water pollution is an absolute crime against all species on this planet. Bringing back riverine and estuarine habitat and threatened species is the just thing to do given the total ignorance and actions of the past 200 years. The economy will no longer be important when their is no clean water to drink.

Which five (5) options do you think are least important? (If any):
14. New Dunoon Dam on Rocky Creek increased harvestable rights

Please comment on why you think these options are least important? :
I totally oppose the dunoon dam proposal. I find it criminal that in an area where rural landholders are trying to regenrate their land and restore what little is left of the big scrub (at their own cost and with no personal "economic gain") that the council can even contemplate flooding land that resides close to HVC areas and contains threatened species. Furthermore, spending millions on a new dam when there are so many other more viable and cost effective ways of water security is simply unjustifiable. That is even before we mention the fact that land within the proposed dam site contains sacred aboriginal sites. The sheer fact that Rous Council continues to pursue and spend tax payers money on this proposal brings to question the position of those who are driving such an agenda. Land is being held under an "operational" status yet hasn't been put to any use for years. The dunoon dam would be a burden from a financial and environmental persepective for generations to come, a total contervanetion of the local government act. I also believe that in the "Rous Council Have your Say". The public option was very much in opposition of the Dam, so one has to question why is the proposal still even of the list, surely it is illegal to still have it as a porposed option in accordance to several different legal ACTS.

Do you have any comments on the draft options?:
Why isn't educating people about water usage and water waste on their. Too many people take water for granted and waste so much water. We need to be taught more how to value and not waste or pollue water. We should be incentivised to collect and treat out own water and be water efficient. More pressures on business and industry who waste/pollute water.

9. Option combinations

Do you have any thoughts on how the options could be combined with other options?:
The whole system should be looked at from a holistic manner, so by default nothing should be in isolation.

Are there additional options that we should consider?:
Compost toilets should be the norm. It is insane that we use water to move human waste down a pipe. Human waste is also a resource that can be used if we switched to compost toilets. Fracking should be banned. How much water is wasted there?

10. Other comments

Do you have any other comments about the Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy?:
Sustainable solutions for a region that is well renowned for being sustainable.

11. Referral

How did you hear about the public exhibition of this strategy?:
Social media