

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From:

JEFFREY ROSS

Address:

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
- **The dam would encourage continued inefficient and wasteful water management by local governments.** They would have no incentive to do things differently.
- **Destruction of important Indigenous cultural heritage,** including burial sites.<sup>(2)</sup>
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its endangered ecological community of lowland rainforest,** threatened flora and fauna species.<sup>(3)</sup> Rous's plan to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone is problematic as the type of vegetation offered as recompense is not equivalent. (Nan Nicholson, botanist) Councils are required under State planning regulations to: "Focus development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity in the region and implement the 'avoid, minimise, offset' hierarchy to biodiversity, including areas of high environmental value."<sup>(4)</sup> Rous is required to **avoid** this destruction because there are economically viable and more effective solutions.
- **Industrial/construction zone** for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise, machinery, trucks, visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Higher prices for consumers due to a 4x increase in the cost of water.** Rous general manager, in response to a question from councillor Vanessa Ekins, said he expected a fourfold increase in the cost of supplying water if the dam is built.
- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>

- **Water re-use in various ways, including Purified Recycled Potable water.** A wealth of global research and experience exists regarding potable reuse of water.<sup>(8)</sup> Eg: The city of Windhoek in Namibia has been using purified recycled water for 30 years using advanced technology.<sup>(9)</sup>
- **Water harvesting** (urban runoff; rain tanks):  
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."<sup>(10)</sup> Rainwater harvesting also decreases stormwater runoff, thereby helping to reduce local flooding and scouring of creeks.<sup>(11)</sup>
- **Contingency planning** would enable Rous to be ready to rapidly implement supply measures if it becomes necessary in times of drought.
- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an oversized and unnecessary dam.

## References and Notes

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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 6/9/2020




8 SEP 2020

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To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: JIM & JOY ACEX

Address: 

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: 6/9/20



8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From:

Amy McDavell

Address:

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

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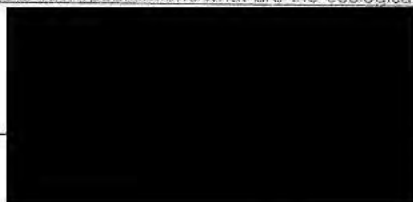
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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

6/9/20



Received over the counter

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: **ALEX McLEOD**

Address: [REDACTED]

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Kind regards, Signature:



Date:

6/09/20




8 SEP 2020

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To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: *Cassie Bennett*

Address: 

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With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an oversized and unnecessary dam.

## References and Notes

- (1) Metropolitan Water Plan 2006, NSW Government. Exec Summary section of the doc <https://www.dropbox.com/s/pu9698oq6kocrph/NSW%20Govt%202006%20MWP%20summary.pdf?dl=0>
- (2) Ainsworth Heritage, Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment, 2011
- (3) SMEC Australia, Terrestrial Ecology Impact Assessment, 2011
- (4) NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment 2019, 'Delivering the plan', Sydney, viewed 03 August 2020 < <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for-your-area/Regional-Plans/North-Coast/Delivering-the-plan> > , Direction 2: Enhance biodiversity coastal and aquatic habitats and water catchments.
- (5) NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment 2019, 'NSW population projections', Sydney, viewed 03 August 2020, <<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Research-and-Demography/Population-projections/Projections>> Scroll down to "Local Government Factsheets".
- (6) The Rous Regional Water Efficiency Program 1997, *Final report of the Rous Regional Demand Management Strategy : preferred options*, Rous County Council, Lismore.
- (7) Watson R., Turner A and Fane S 2018, *Water Efficiency and Demand Management Opportunities for Hunter Water*, Institute for Sustainable Futures, Sydney.
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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: 6/9/20




8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: Jacob Cornwell

Address: 

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
- **The dam would encourage continued inefficient and wasteful water management by local governments.** They would have no incentive to do things differently.
- **Destruction of important Indigenous cultural heritage,** including burial sites.<sup>(2)</sup>
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its endangered ecological community of lowland rainforest,** threatened flora and fauna species.<sup>(3)</sup> Rous's plan to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone is problematic as the type of vegetation offered as recompense is not equivalent. (Nan Nicholson, botanist) Councils are required under State planning regulations to: "Focus development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity in the region and implement the 'avoid, minimise, offset' hierarchy to biodiversity, including areas of high environmental value."<sup>(4)</sup> Rous is required to **avoid** this destruction because there are economically viable and more effective solutions.
- **Industrial/construction zone** for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise, machinery, trucks, visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Higher prices for consumers due to a 4x increase in the cost of water.** Rous general manager, in response to a question from councillor Vanessa Ekins, said he expected a fourfold increase in the cost of supplying water if the dam is built.
- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>

- **Water re-use in various ways, including Purified Recycled Potable water.** A wealth of global research and experience exists regarding potable reuse of water.<sup>(8)</sup> Eg: The city of Windhoek in Namibia has been using purified recycled water for 30 years using advanced technology.<sup>(9)</sup>
- **Water harvesting** (urban runoff; rain tanks):  
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."<sup>(10)</sup> Rainwater harvesting also decreases stormwater runoff, thereby helping to reduce local flooding and scouring of creeks.<sup>(11)</sup>
- **Contingency planning** would enable Rous to be ready to rapidly implement supply measures if it becomes necessary in times of drought.
- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an oversized and unnecessary dam.

## References and Notes

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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: 6/9/20



Received over the counter

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: *Kitana Saunders-Finnis*

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
- **The dam would encourage continued inefficient and wasteful water management by local governments.** They would have no incentive to do things differently.
- **Destruction of important Indigenous cultural heritage,** including burial sites.<sup>(2)</sup>
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its endangered ecological community of lowland rainforest,** threatened flora and fauna species.<sup>(3)</sup> Rous's plan to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone is problematic as the type of vegetation offered as recompense is not equivalent. (Nan Nicholson, botanist) Councils are required under State planning regulations to: "Focus development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity in the region and implement the 'avoid, minimise, offset' hierarchy to biodiversity, including areas of high environmental value."<sup>(4)</sup> Rous is required to **avoid** this destruction because there are economically viable and more effective solutions.
- **Industrial/construction zone** for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise, machinery, trucks, visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Higher prices for consumers due to a 4x increase in the cost of water.** Rous general manager, in response to a question from councillor Vanessa Ekins, said he expected a fourfold increase in the cost of supplying water if the dam is built.
- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>

- **Water re-use in various ways, including Purified Recycled Potable water.** A wealth of global research and experience exists regarding potable reuse of water.<sup>(9)</sup> Eg: The city of Windhoek in Namibia has been using purified recycled water for 30 years using advanced technology.<sup>(9)</sup>
- **Water harvesting** (urban runoff; rain tanks):  
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."<sup>(10)</sup> Rainwater harvesting also decreases stormwater runoff, thereby helping to reduce local flooding and scouring of creeks.<sup>(11)</sup>
- **Contingency planning** would enable Rous to be ready to rapidly implement supply measures if it becomes necessary in times of drought.
- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an oversized and unnecessary dam.

#### References and Notes

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- (12) Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment 2018, *What are the ecological impacts of groundwater drawdown? | Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment*, Canberra, viewed 6 August 2020, <<https://www.environment.gov.au/water/publications/what-are-the-ecological-impacts-of-groundwater-drawdown>>

Kind regards, Signature:



Date: 20/8/20



Received over the counter

8 SEP 2020

To: General Manager  
Rous County Council  
PO Box 230  
Lismore NSW 2480

From: Patrick Carter

Address:



Date: 09/08/20

Re: the proposed Channon/Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Destruction of important Indigenous Cultural Heritage**, including burial sites (Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment, 2011). Ongoing disregard for First Nations sacred sites and culture.
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its Endangered Ecological Community of Lowland Rainforest** (including the regionally rare warm temperate rainforest on sandstone), and its threatened species of flora and fauna. (Terrestrial Ecology Impact Assessment, 2011).  
Rous is planning to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone. Offsetting is a worthless exercise because the type of vegetation offered as recompense is never equivalent. This is worse than most. (Nan Nicholson, botanist)
- **Industrial/construction zone** for years for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise pollution; large trucks/machinery on our roads; visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Water prices will increase by 4x** current cost (or higher if dam budget blows out) (Rous)
- **Promotes accelerated population growth** in the Northern Rivers. I'm concerned the Dam is being framed as 'water security' to the local population, yet to further afield it is being framed as a development plan for acceleration of growth. I'm concerned the model that predicted the population did not take into account the actual dam's effect on growth. This framing is concerning to me: "Everyone needs to understand this Regional development plan which is "focused on *unlocking the potential* of one of Australia's most beautiful places. The North Coast will become the best region in Australia to live, work and play". From planning document:  
<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for-your-area/Regional-Plans/North-Coast/Delivering-the-plan> <sup>(1)</sup>
- **Continued focus on old strategies** to solve water security & economic needs.

- **The entire modelling and the strategy recommendations were made pre-COVID19**, and are no longer economically or demographically valid. COVID has also shown us we need to be able to pivot quickly and flexibly - something this massive 'single solution' won't do.
- **The tiny population increase** for the four Rous supplied councils of only 12,720<sup>(2)</sup> people between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. It risks being an **expensive white elephant**, diverting money away from more needed and effective solutions.
- **It is likely to create division and conflict** within our communities after suffering flood, drought and an extreme fire season. What we need are resilience and community building solutions.

### I SUPPORT these alternatives:

I believe we need to take action on a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives.

The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too. This is 21st century thinking.

- **Strong Demand Management**

Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(3) (4)</sup>

- **Purified Recycled Water**

A wealth of global research and experience already exists regarding potable reuse of water as set out in the Australian report, *Potable Water Reuse: What can Australia learn from global experience?*

<https://www.waterra.com.au/publications/document-search/?download=1806><sup>(5)</sup>

Example: The city of Windhoek has been using Purified Recycled Water for 30yrs using advanced technology.

<https://www.wingoc.com.na/our-history><sup>(6)</sup>

- **Water tanks on all new (and existing) developments<sup>(7)</sup>** *This builds community resilience - much needed as the example of the extreme bushfire season has shown up.*

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.<sup>(8)</sup> <https://www.yourhome.gov.au/water/rainwater>

- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe**



The Australian government provides a lot of information on ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(9)</sup>

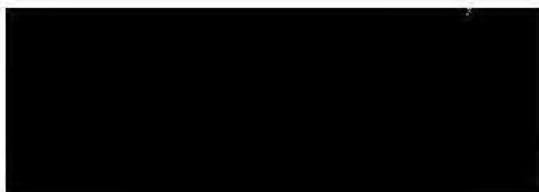
<https://www.environment.gov.au/water/publications/what-are-the-ecological-impacts-of-groundwater-drawdown>

With scalable alternatives in place for supply, the existing Rocky Ck Dam supply component will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an outsized dam.

## References and Notes

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Kind Regards,



8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: Ruby Osborne

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
- **The dam would encourage continued inefficient and wasteful water management by local governments.** They would have no incentive to do things differently.
- **Destruction of important Indigenous cultural heritage,** including burial sites.<sup>(2)</sup>
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its endangered ecological community of lowland rainforest,** threatened flora and fauna species.<sup>(3)</sup> Rous's plan to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone is problematic as the type of vegetation offered as recompense is not equivalent. (Nan Nicholson, botanist) Councils are required under State planning regulations to: "Focus development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity in the region and implement the 'avoid, minimise, offset' hierarchy to biodiversity, including areas of high environmental value."<sup>(4)</sup> Rous is required to **avoid** this destruction because there are economically viable and more effective solutions.
- **Industrial/construction zone** for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise, machinery, trucks, visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Higher prices for consumers due to a 4x increase in the cost of water.** Rous general manager, in response to a question from councillor Vanessa Ekins, said he expected a fourfold increase in the cost of supplying water if the dam is built.
- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>



- **Water re-use in various ways, including Purified Recycled Potable water.** A wealth of global research and experience exists regarding potable reuse of water.<sup>(8)</sup> Eg: The city of Windhoek in Namibia has been using purified recycled water for 30 years using advanced technology.<sup>(9)</sup>
- **Water harvesting** (urban runoff; rain tanks):  
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."<sup>(10)</sup> Rainwater harvesting also decreases stormwater runoff, thereby helping to reduce local flooding and scouring of creeks.<sup>(11)</sup>
- **Contingency planning** would enable Rous to be ready to rapidly implement supply measures if it becomes necessary in times of drought.
- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an outsized and unnecessary dam.

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Kind regards, Signature:



Date: 28/08/20

8 SEP 2026

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: Dot MOLLER

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
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**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>



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With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an oversized and unnecessary dam.

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Kind regards, Signature:



Date:

6/9/2020

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From:

GLEN MOLLIER

Address:



Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

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Kind regards, Signature:



Date:


6-9-20

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: KEMAL OSMANHOVIC

Address: 

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: 6/8/20

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

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**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

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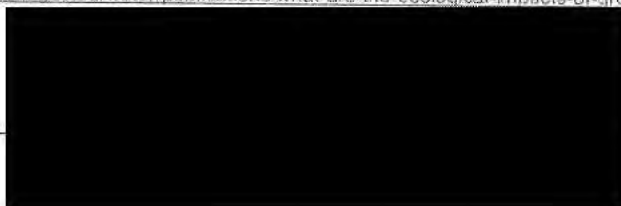
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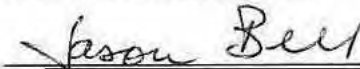



Date: 5-09-20

8 SEP 2020

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PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: 

Address: 

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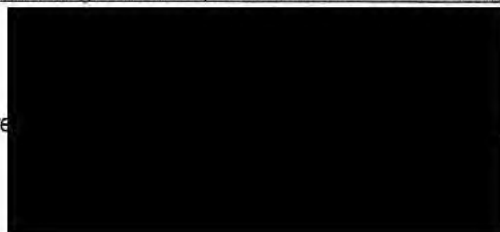
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- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an oversized and unnecessary dam.

## References and Notes

- (1) Metropolitan Water Plan 2006, NSW Government. Exec Summary section of the doc <https://www.dropbox.com/s/pu9898oq6kocrph/NSW%20Govt%202006%20MWP%20summary.pdf?dl=0>
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Kind regards, Signature



Date: 16.8.20

To: General Manager  
Rous County Council  
PO Box 230  
Lismore NSW 2480

Received over the counter

8 SEP 2020

From: Hannah Paine

Address:

Date:

Re: the proposed Channon/Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Destruction of important Indigenous Cultural Heritage**, including burial sites (Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment, 2011). Ongoing disregard for First Nations sacred sites and culture.
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its Endangered Ecological Community of Lowland Rainforest** (including the regionally rare warm temperate rainforest on sandstone), and its threatened species of flora and fauna. (Terrestrial Ecology Impact Assessment, 2011).  
Rous is planning to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone. Offsetting is a worthless exercise because the type of vegetation offered as recompense is never equivalent. This is worse than most. (Nan Nicholson, botanist)
- **Industrial/construction zone** for years for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise pollution; large trucks/machinery on our roads; visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Water prices will increase by 4x** current cost (or higher if dam budget blows out) (Rous)
- **Promotes accelerated population growth** in the Northern Rivers. I'm concerned the Dam is being framed as 'water security' to the local population, yet to further afield it is being framed as a development plan for acceleration of growth. I'm concerned the model that predicted the population did not take into account the actual dam's effect on growth. This framing is concerning to me: "Everyone needs to understand this Regional development plan which is "focused on *unlocking the potential* of one of Australia's most beautiful places. The North Coast will become the best region in Australia to live, work and play". From planning document:  
<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for-your-area/Regional-Plans/North-Coast/Delivering-the-plan> <sup>(1)</sup>
- **Continued focus on old strategies** to solve water security & economic needs.



- **The entire modelling and the strategy recommendations were made pre-COVID19**, and are no longer economically or demographically valid. COVID has also shown us we need to be able to pivot quickly and flexibly - something this massive 'single solution' won't do.
- **The tiny population increase** for the four Rous supplied councils of only 12,720<sup>(2)</sup> people between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. It risks being an **expensive white elephant**, diverting money away from more needed and effective solutions.
- **It is likely to create division and conflict** within our communities after suffering flood, drought and an extreme fire season. What we need are resilience and community building solutions.

### I SUPPORT these alternatives:

I believe we need to take action on a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives.

The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too. This is 21st century thinking.

- **Strong Demand Management**

Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(3) (4)</sup>

- **Purified Recycled Water**

A wealth of global research and experience already exists regarding potable reuse of water as set out in the Australian report, *Potable Water Reuse: What can Australia learn from global experience?*

<https://www.waterra.com.au/publications/document-search/?download=1806> <sup>(5)</sup>

Example: The city of Windhoek has been using Purified Recycled Water for 30yrs using advanced technology.

<https://www.wingoc.com.na/our-history> <sup>(6)</sup>

- **Water tanks on all new (and existing) developments<sup>(7)</sup>** *This builds community resilience - much needed as the example of the extreme bushfire season has shown up.*

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.<sup>(8)</sup> <https://www.yourhome.gov.au/water/rainwater>

- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe**

The Australian government provides a lot of information on ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(9)</sup>

<https://www.environment.gov.au/water/publications/what-are-the-ecological-impacts-of-groundwater-drawdown>

With scalable alternatives in place for supply, the existing Rocky Ck Dam supply component will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an outsized dam.

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Kind Regards,





8 SEP 2020

To: General Manager  
Rous County Council  
PO Box 230  
Lismore NSW 2480

From: Monica Lamotte

Address: 

Date: 09/08/20

Re: the proposed Channon/Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Destruction of important Indigenous Cultural Heritage**, including burial sites (Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment, 2011). Ongoing disregard for First Nations sacred sites and culture.
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its Endangered Ecological Community of Lowland Rainforest** (including the regionally rare warm temperate rainforest on sandstone), and its threatened species of flora and fauna. (Terrestrial Ecology Impact Assessment, 2011).  
Rous is planning to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone. Offsetting is a worthless exercise because the type of vegetation offered as recompense is never equivalent. This is worse than most. (Nan Nicholson, botanist)
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<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for-your-area/Regional-Plans/North-Coast/Delivering-the-plan> <sup>(1)</sup>
- **Continued focus on old strategies** to solve water security & economic needs.

- **The entire modelling and the strategy recommendations were made pre-COVID19**, and are no longer economically or demographically valid. COVID has also shown us we need to be able to pivot quickly and flexibly - something this massive 'single solution' won't do.
- **The tiny population increase** for the four Rous supplied councils of only 12,720<sup>(2)</sup> people between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. It risks being **an expensive white elephant**, diverting money away from more needed and effective solutions.
- **It is likely to create division and conflict** within our communities after suffering flood, drought and an extreme fire season. What we need are resilience and community building solutions.

### I SUPPORT these alternatives:

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Kind Regards,

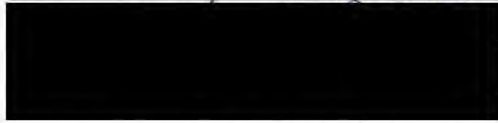


8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: Timothy Mitchell

Address: 

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
- **The dam would encourage continued inefficient and wasteful water management by local governments.** They would have no incentive to do things differently.
- **Destruction of important Indigenous cultural heritage,** including burial sites.<sup>(2)</sup>
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its endangered ecological community of lowland rainforest,** threatened flora and fauna species.<sup>(3)</sup> Rous's plan to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone is problematic as the type of vegetation offered as recompense is not equivalent. (Nan Nicholson, botanist) Councils are required under State planning regulations to: "Focus development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity in the region and implement the 'avoid, minimise, offset' hierarchy to biodiversity, including areas of high environmental value."<sup>(4)</sup> Rous is required to **avoid** this destruction because there are economically viable and more effective solutions.
- **Industrial/construction zone** for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise, machinery, trucks, visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Higher prices for consumers due to a 4x increase in the cost of water.** Rous general manager, in response to a question from councillor Vanessa Ekins, said he expected a fourfold increase in the cost of supplying water if the dam is built.
- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>



- **Water re-use in various ways, including Purified Recycled Potable water.** A wealth of global research and experience exists regarding potable reuse of water.<sup>(9)</sup> Eg: The city of Windhoek in Namibia has been using purified recycled water for 30 years using advanced technology.<sup>(9)</sup>
- **Water harvesting** (urban runoff; rain tanks):  
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."<sup>(10)</sup> Rainwater harvesting also decreases stormwater runoff, thereby helping to reduce local flooding and scouring of creeks.<sup>(11)</sup>
- **Contingency planning** would enable Rous to be ready to rapidly implement supply measures if it becomes necessary in times of drought.
- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an oversized and unnecessary dam.

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Kind regards, Signature:

Date:

6/8/20

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: Melinda Turnbull

Address:

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
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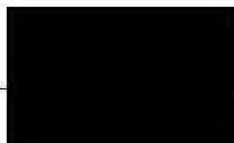
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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: 6/9/20

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: Jeanti StClair

Address: [REDACTED]

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
- **The dam would encourage continued inefficient and wasteful water management by local governments.** They would have no incentive to do things differently.
- **Destruction of important Indigenous cultural heritage,** including burial sites.<sup>(2)</sup>
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its endangered ecological community of lowland rainforest,** threatened flora and fauna species.<sup>(3)</sup> Rous's plan to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone is problematic as the type of vegetation offered as recompense is not equivalent. (Nan Nicholson, botanist) Councils are required under State planning regulations to: "Focus development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity in the region and implement the 'avoid, minimise, offset' hierarchy to biodiversity, including areas of high environmental value."<sup>(4)</sup> Rous is required to **avoid** this destruction because there are economically viable and more effective solutions.
- **Industrial/construction zone** for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise, machinery, trucks, visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Higher prices for consumers due to a 4x increase in the cost of water.** Rous general manager, in response to a question from councillor Vanessa Ekins, said he expected a fourfold increase in the cost of supplying water if the dam is built.
- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>



- **Water re-use in various ways, including Purified Recycled Potable water.** A wealth of global research and experience exists regarding potable reuse of water.<sup>(6)</sup> Eg: The city of Windhoek in Namibia has been using purified recycled water for 30 years using advanced technology.<sup>(9)</sup>
- **Water harvesting** (urban runoff; rain tanks):  
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."<sup>(10)</sup> Rainwater harvesting also decreases stormwater runoff, thereby helping to reduce local flooding and scouring of creeks.<sup>(11)</sup>
- **Contingency planning** would enable Rous to be ready to rapidly implement supply measures if it becomes necessary in times of drought.
- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an oversized and unnecessary dam.

## References and Notes

- (1) Metropolitan Water Plan 2006, NSW Government. Exec Summary section of the doc <https://www.dropbox.com/s/psu9898cq6kocrph/NSW%20Gov%202006%20MWP%20summary.pdf?dl=0>
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- (6) The Rous Regional Water Efficiency Program 1997, *Final report of the Rous Regional Demand Management Strategy : preferred options*, Rous County Council, Lismore.
- (7) Watson R., Turner A and Fane S 2018, *Water Efficiency and Demand Management Opportunities for Hunter Water*, Institute for Sustainable Futures, Sydney.
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- (12) Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment 2018, *What are the ecological impacts of groundwater drawdown?* | *Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment*, Canberra, viewed 6 August 2020, <<https://www.environment.gov.au/water/publications/what-are-the-ecological-impacts-of-groundwater-drawdown>>

Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

6/9/20



Received over the counter

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: Lachlan Cooper

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
- **The dam would encourage continued inefficient and wasteful water management by local governments.** They would have no incentive to do things differently.
- **Destruction of important Indigenous cultural heritage,** including burial sites.<sup>(2)</sup>
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its endangered ecological community of lowland rainforest,** threatened flora and fauna species.<sup>(3)</sup> Rous's plan to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone is problematic as the type of vegetation offered as recompense is not equivalent. (Nan Nicholson, botanist) Councils are required under State planning regulations to: "Focus development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity in the region and implement the 'avoid, minimise, offset' hierarchy to biodiversity, including areas of high environmental value."<sup>(4)</sup> Rous is required to **avoid** this destruction because there are economically viable and more effective solutions.
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- **Higher prices for consumers due to a 4x increase in the cost of water.** Rous general manager, in response to a question from councillor Vanessa Ekins, said he expected a fourfold increase in the cost of supplying water if the dam is built.
- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>



- **Water re-use in various ways, including Purified Recycled Potable water.** A wealth of global research and experience exists regarding potable reuse of water.<sup>(8)</sup> Eg; The city of Windhoek in Namibia has been using purified recycled water for 30 years using advanced technology.<sup>(9)</sup>
- **Water harvesting** (urban runoff; rain tanks):  
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."<sup>(10)</sup> Rainwater harvesting also decreases stormwater runoff, thereby helping to reduce local flooding and scouring of creeks.<sup>(11)</sup>
- **Contingency planning** would enable Rous to be ready to rapidly implement supply measures if it becomes necessary in times of drought.
- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an oversized and unnecessary dam.

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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_




Date: 16/08/20

Received over the counter

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: Doug Foskey  
Address: 

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
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- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its endangered ecological community of lowland rainforest,** threatened flora and fauna species.<sup>(3)</sup> Rous's plan to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone is problematic as the type of vegetation offered as recompense is not equivalent. (Nan Nicholson, botanist) Councils are required under State planning regulations to: "Focus development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity in the region and implement the 'avoid, minimise, offset' hierarchy to biodiversity, including areas of high environmental value."<sup>(4)</sup> Rous is required to **avoid** this destruction because there are economically viable and more effective solutions.
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- **Higher prices for consumers due to a 4x increase in the cost of water.** Rous general manager, in response to a question from councillor Vanessa Ekins, said he expected a fourfold increase in the cost of supplying water if the dam is built.
- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>



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With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an outsized and unnecessary dam.

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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: 15-8-20



Received over the counter

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: B. ROUESNER

Address: [REDACTED]

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
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**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>



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Kind regards, Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

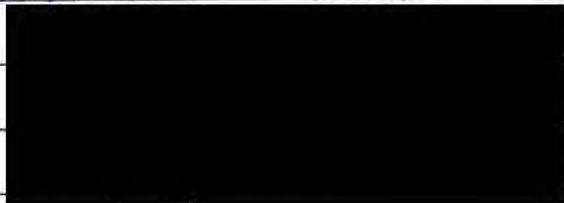
15/8/2020

Received over the counter

8 SEP 2020

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: LANSHAM / KEAR

Address: 

Date: 16/8/2020

Re: the proposed Channon/Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Destruction of important Indigenous Cultural Heritage**, including burial sites (Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment, 2011). Ongoing disregard for First Nations sacred sites and culture.
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its Endangered Ecological Community of Lowland Rainforest** (including the regionally rare warm temperate rainforest on sandstone), and its threatened species of flora and fauna. (Terrestrial Ecology Impact Assessment, 2011).  
Rous is planning to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone. Offsetting is a worthless exercise because the type of vegetation offered as recompense is never equivalent. This is worse than most. (Nan Nicholson, botanist)
- **Industrial/construction zone** for years for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise pollution; large trucks/machinery on our roads; visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Water prices will increase by 4x** current cost (or higher if dam budget blows out) (Rous)
- **Promotes accelerated population growth** in the Northern Rivers. I'm concerned the Dam is being framed as 'water security' to the local population, yet to further afield it is being framed as a development plan for acceleration of growth. I'm concerned the model that predicted the population did not take into account the actual dam's effect on growth.  
This framing is concerning to me: "Everyone needs to understand this Regional development plan which is "focused on *unlocking the potential* of one of Australia's most beautiful places. The North Coast will become the best region in Australia to live, work and play". From planning document: <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for-your-area/Regional-Plans/North-Coast/Delivering-the-plan> <sup>(1)</sup>
- **Continued focus on old strategies** to solve water security & economic needs.
- **The entire modelling and the strategy recommendations were made pre-COVID19**, and are no longer economically or demographically valid. COVID has also shown us we need to be able to pivot quickly and flexibly - something this massive 'single solution' won't do.
- **The tiny population increase** for the four Rous supplied councils of only 12,720<sup>(2)</sup> people between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. It risks being an **expensive white elephant**, diverting money away from more needed and effective solutions.
- **It is likely to create division and conflict** within our communities after suffering flood, drought and an extreme fire season. What we need are resilience and community building solutions.

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

I believe we need to take action on a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives.

The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too. This is 21st century thinking.

- **Strong Demand Management**



Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(3)</sup>  
(4)

- **Purified Recycled Water**

A wealth of global research and experience already exists regarding potable reuse of water as set out in the Australian report, *Potable Water Reuse: What can Australia learn from global experience?* <https://www.waterra.com.au/publications/document-search/?download=1806> (5)

Example: The city of Windhoek has been using Purified Recycled Water for 30yrs using advanced technology. <https://www.wingoc.com.na/our-history> (6)

- **Water Tanks on all new (and existing) developments<sup>(7)</sup>** *This builds community resilience - much needed as the example of the extreme bushfire season has shown up.*

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.<sup>(9)</sup> <https://www.yourhome.gov.au/water/rainwater>

- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe**

The Australian government provides a lot of information on ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(9)</sup>

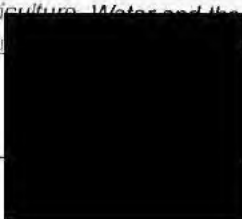
<https://www.environment.gov.au/water/publications/what-are-the-ecological-impacts-of-groundwater-drawdown>

With scalable alternatives in place for supply, the existing Rocky Ck Dam supply component will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an outsized dam.

#### References and Notes

1. NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment 2019, '*Delivering the plan*', Sydney, viewed 03 August 2020, <<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for-your-area/Regional-Plans/North-Coast/Delivering-the-plan>>
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Kind Regards,





Received over the counter

8 SEP 2020

## Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From:

SANDY THOMPSON

Address:

[REDACTED]

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

### I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
- **The dam would encourage continued inefficient and wasteful water management by local governments.** They would have no incentive to do things differently.
- **Destruction of important Indigenous cultural heritage,** including burial sites.<sup>(2)</sup>
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its endangered ecological community of lowland rainforest,** threatened flora and fauna species.<sup>(3)</sup> Rous's plan to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone is problematic as the type of vegetation offered as recompense is not equivalent. (Nan Nicholson, botanist) Councils are required under State planning regulations to: "Focus development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity in the region and implement the 'avoid, minimise, offset' hierarchy to biodiversity, including areas of high environmental value."<sup>(4)</sup> Rous is required to **avoid** this destruction because there are economically viable and more effective solutions.
- **Industrial/construction zone** for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise, machinery, trucks, visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Higher prices for consumers due to a 4x increase in the cost of water.** Rous general manager, in response to a question from councillor Vanessa Ekins, said he expected a fourfold increase in the cost of supplying water if the dam is built.
- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

### I SUPPORT these alternatives:

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>



- **Water re-use in various ways, including Purified Recycled Potable water.** A wealth of global research and experience exists regarding potable reuse of water.<sup>(8)</sup> Eg: The city of Windhoek in Namibia has been using purified recycled water for 30 years using advanced technology.<sup>(9)</sup>
- **Water harvesting** (urban runoff; rain tanks):  
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."<sup>(10)</sup> Rainwater harvesting also decreases stormwater runoff, thereby helping to reduce local flooding and scouring of creeks.<sup>(11)</sup>
- **Contingency planning** would enable Rous to be ready to rapidly implement supply measures if it becomes necessary in times of drought.
- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an oversized and unnecessary dam.

## References and Notes

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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 16-08-2020



Received over the counter

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: TULLY-MORGAN MCNEIL

Address: [REDACTED]

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
- **The dam would encourage continued inefficient and wasteful water management by local governments.** They would have no incentive to do things differently.
- **Destruction of important Indigenous cultural heritage,** including burial sites.<sup>(2)</sup>
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its endangered ecological community of lowland rainforest,** threatened flora and fauna species.<sup>(3)</sup> Rous's plan to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone is problematic as the type of vegetation offered as recompense is not equivalent. (Nan Nicholson, botanist) Councils are required under State planning regulations to: "Focus development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity in the region and implement the 'avoid, minimise, offset' hierarchy to biodiversity, including areas of high environmental value."<sup>(4)</sup> Rous is required to **avoid** this destruction because there are economically viable and more effective solutions.
- **Industrial/construction zone** for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise, machinery, trucks, visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Higher prices for consumers due to a 4x increase in the cost of water.** Rous general manager, in response to a question from councillor Vanessa Ekins, said he expected a fourfold increase in the cost of supplying water if the dam is built.
- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>



- **Water re-use in various ways, including Purified Recycled Potable water.** A wealth of global research and experience exists regarding potable reuse of water.<sup>(6)</sup> Eg: The city of Windhoek in Namibia has been using purified recycled water for 30 years using advanced technology.<sup>(9)</sup>
- **Water harvesting** (urban runoff; rain tanks):  
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."<sup>(10)</sup> Rainwater harvesting also decreases stormwater runoff, thereby helping to reduce local flooding and scouring of creeks.<sup>(11)</sup>
- **Contingency planning** would enable Rous to be ready to rapidly implement supply measures if it becomes necessary in times of drought.
- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an oversized and unnecessary dam.

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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: 16/8/20

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

**To:** General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

**From:**

Meg Nielson

**Address:**

[Redacted address information]

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
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- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: 16/8/20

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From:

Saxon Van Bentley

Address:



Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: 16.8.20

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

**To:** General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

**From:**

SANDRA BURTON

**Address:**

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
- **The dam would encourage continued inefficient and wasteful water management by local governments.** They would have no incentive to do things differently.
- **Destruction of important Indigenous cultural heritage,** including burial sites.<sup>(2)</sup>
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- **Industrial/construction zone** for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise, machinery, trucks, visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Higher prices for consumers due to a 4x increase in the cost of water.** Rous general manager, in response to a question from councillor Vanessa Ekins, said he expected a fourfold increase in the cost of supplying water if the dam is built.
- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>



- **Water re-use in various ways, including Purified Recycled Potable water.** A wealth of global research and experience exists regarding potable reuse of water.<sup>(6)</sup> Eg: The city of Windhoek in Namibia has been using purified recycled water for 30 years using advanced technology.<sup>(9)</sup>
- **Water harvesting** (urban runoff; rain tanks):  
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."<sup>(10)</sup> Rainwater harvesting also decreases stormwater runoff, thereby helping to reduce local flooding and scouring of creeks.<sup>(11)</sup>
- **Contingency planning** would enable Rous to be ready to rapidly implement supply measures if it becomes necessary in times of drought.
- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an oversized and unnecessary dam.

### References and Notes

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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: 3/9/20

8 SEP 2020

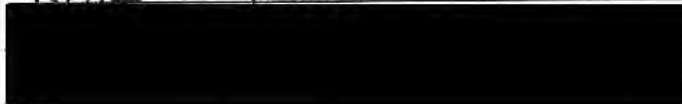
**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From:

Kate Green

Address:



Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
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**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

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With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an outsized and unnecessary dam.

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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: JULIE GERRISH

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
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- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>



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With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an outsized and unnecessary dam.

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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: 5/9/20



Received over the counter

8 SEP 2020

## Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: Linda Whitefeather

Address: 

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

### I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
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### I SUPPORT these alternatives:

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

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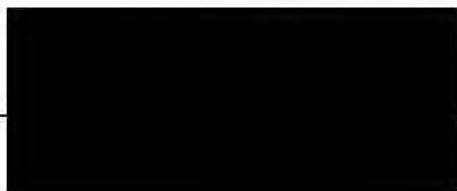
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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: 23/8/20

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: VANESSA TALLON

Address: [REDACTED]

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

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**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

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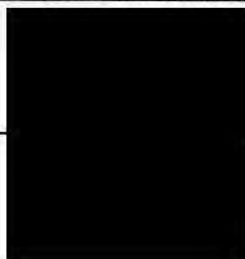
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- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an outsized and unnecessary dam.

## References and Notes

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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: 23/8/20

Received over the counter

B SED

## Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From:

Josephine O'Callaghan

Address:

[Redacted Address]

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

### I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
- **The dam would encourage continued inefficient and wasteful water management by local governments.** They would have no incentive to do things differently.
- **Destruction of important Indigenous cultural heritage,** including burial sites.<sup>(2)</sup>
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its endangered ecological community of lowland rainforest,** threatened flora and fauna species.<sup>(3)</sup> Rous's plan to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone is problematic as the type of vegetation offered as recompense is not equivalent. (Nan Nicholson, botanist) Councils are required under State planning regulations to: "Focus development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity in the region and implement the 'avoid, minimise, offset' hierarchy to biodiversity, including areas of high environmental value."<sup>(4)</sup> Rous is required to **avoid** this destruction because there are economically viable and more effective solutions.
- **Industrial/construction zone** for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise, machinery, trucks, visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Higher prices for consumers due to a 4x increase in the cost of water.** Rous general manager, in response to a question from councillor Vanessa Ekins, said he expected a fourfold increase in the cost of supplying water if the dam is built.
- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

### I SUPPORT these alternatives:

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>



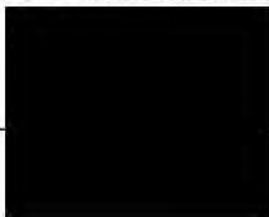
- **Water re-use in various ways, including Purified Recycled Potable water.** A wealth of global research and experience exists regarding potable reuse of water.<sup>(6)</sup> Eg: The city of Windhoek in Namibia has been using purified recycled water for 30 years using advanced technology.<sup>(9)</sup>
- **Water harvesting** (urban runoff; rain tanks):  
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."<sup>(10)</sup> Rainwater harvesting also decreases stormwater runoff, thereby helping to reduce local flooding and scouring of creeks.<sup>(11)</sup>
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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

23/8/20



Received over the counter

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From:

Mick Hammer

Address:



Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
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- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>



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- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an oversized and unnecessary dam.

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Kind regards, Signature:



Date:

6/9/20

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: Kim Hamilton

Address:

[Redacted address]

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
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Kind regards, Signature:



Date: 6/9/20



Received over the counter

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From:

Bernadene Sward

Address:

[Redacted address information]

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
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Kind regards, Si


Date: 16/8/20

Received over the counter

8 SEP 2020

To: General Manager  
Rous County Council  
PO Box 230  
Lismore NSW 2480

From: Natasha Livett

Address: 

Date: 9/8/20

Re: the proposed Channon/Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Destruction of important Indigenous Cultural Heritage**, including burial sites (Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment, 2011). Ongoing disregard for First Nations sacred sites and culture.
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its Endangered Ecological Community of Lowland Rainforest** (including the regionally rare warm temperate rainforest on sandstone), and its threatened species of flora and fauna. (Terrestrial Ecology Impact Assessment, 2011).  
Rous is planning to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone. Offsetting is a worthless exercise because the type of vegetation offered as recompense is never equivalent. This is worse than most. (Nan Nicholson, botanist)
- **Industrial/construction zone** for years for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise pollution; large trucks/machinery on our roads; visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Water prices will increase by 4x** current cost (or higher if dam budget blows out) (Rous)
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<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for-your-area/Regional-Plans/North-Coast/Delivering-the-plan> <sup>(1)</sup>
- **Continued focus on old strategies** to solve water security & economic needs.



- **The entire modelling and the strategy recommendations were made pre-COVID19**, and are no longer economically or demographically valid. COVID has also shown us we need to be able to pivot quickly and flexibly - something this massive 'single solution' won't do.
- **The tiny population increase** for the four Rous supplied councils of only 12,720<sup>(2)</sup> people between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. It risks being an **expensive white elephant**, diverting money away from more needed and effective solutions.
- **It is likely to create division and conflict** within our communities after suffering flood, drought and an extreme fire season. What we need are resilience and community building solutions.

### I SUPPORT these alternatives:

I believe we need to take action on a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives.

The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too. This is 21st century thinking.

- **Strong Demand Management**

Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(3) (4)</sup>

- **Purified Recycled Water**

A wealth of global research and experience already exists regarding potable reuse of water as set out in the Australian report, *Potable Water Reuse: What can Australia learn from global experience?*

<https://www.waterra.com.au/publications/document-search/?download=1806><sup>(5)</sup>

Example: The city of Windhoek has been using Purified Recycled Water for 30yrs using advanced technology.

<https://www.wingoc.com.na/our-history><sup>(6)</sup>

- **Water tanks on all new (and existing) developments<sup>(7)</sup>** *This builds community resilience - much needed as the example of the extreme bushfire season has shown up.*

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.<sup>(8)</sup> <https://www.yourhome.gov.au/water/rainwater>

- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe**

The Australian government provides a lot of information on ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(9)</sup>

<https://www.environment.gov.au/water/publications/what-are-the-ecological-impacts-of-groundwater-drawdown>

With scalable alternatives in place for supply, the existing Rocky Ck Dam supply component will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an outsized dam.

## References and Notes

1. NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment 2019, '*Delivering the plan*', Sydney, viewed 03 August 2020, <<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for-your-area/Regional-Plans/North-Coast/Delivering-the-plan>>
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Kind Regards,





Received over the counter

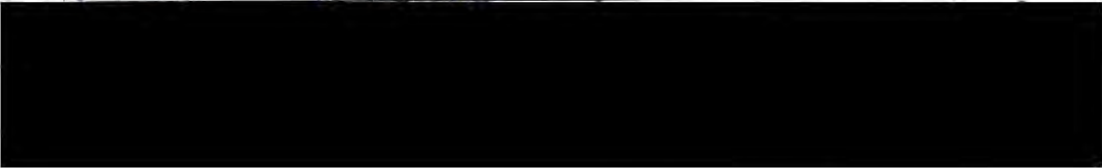
8 SEP 2020

To: General Manager  
Rous County Council  
PO Box 230  
Lismore NSW 2480

From:

Ricky Lewin

Address:



Date:

9/8/20

Re: the proposed Channon/Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Destruction of important Indigenous Cultural Heritage**, including burial sites (Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment, 2011). Ongoing disregard for First Nations sacred sites and culture.
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its Endangered Ecological Community of Lowland Rainforest** (including the regionally rare warm temperate rainforest on sandstone), and its threatened species of flora and fauna. (Terrestrial Ecology Impact Assessment, 2011).  
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- **Promotes accelerated population growth** in the Northern Rivers. I'm concerned the Dam is being framed as 'water security' to the local population, yet to further afield it is being framed as a development plan for acceleration of growth. I'm concerned the model that predicted the population did not take into account the actual dam's effect on growth. This framing is concerning to me: "Everyone needs to understand this Regional development plan which is "focused on *unlocking the potential* of one of Australia's most beautiful places. The North Coast will become the best region in Australia to live, work and play". From planning document:  
<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for-your-area/Regional-Plans/North-Coast/Delivering-the-plan> <sup>(1)</sup>
- **Continued focus on old strategies** to solve water security & economic needs.

- **The entire modelling and the strategy recommendations were made pre-COVID19**, and are no longer economically or demographically valid. COVID has also shown us we need to be able to pivot quickly and flexibly - something this massive 'single solution' won't do.
- **The tiny population increase** for the four Rous supplied councils of only 12,720<sup>(2)</sup> people between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. It risks being an **expensive white elephant**, diverting money away from more needed and effective solutions.
- **It is likely to create division and conflict** within our communities after suffering flood, drought and an extreme fire season. What we need are resilience and community building solutions.

### I SUPPORT these alternatives:

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The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too. This is 21st century thinking.

- **Strong Demand Management**

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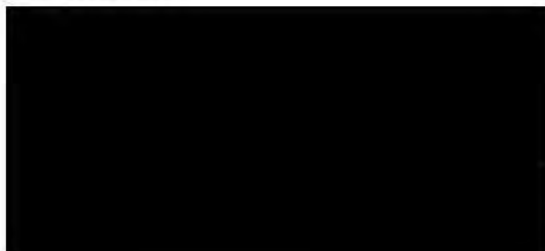
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With scalable alternatives in place for supply, the existing Rocky Ck Dam supply component will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an outsized dam.

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Kind Regards,




Received over the counter

8 SEP 2020

To: General Manager  
Rous County Council  
PO Box 230  
Lismore NSW 2480

From: DAVID SPEECHLEY

Address: 

Date: 9.8.20

Re: the proposed Channon/Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060.

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Kind Regards,





8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

**To:** General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

**From:**

Oliver Costello

**Address:**

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
- **The dam would encourage continued inefficient and wasteful water management by local governments.** They would have no incentive to do things differently.
- **Destruction of important Indigenous cultural heritage, including burial sites.**<sup>(2)</sup>
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its endangered ecological community of lowland rainforest,** threatened flora and fauna species.<sup>(3)</sup> Rous's plan to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone is problematic as the type of vegetation offered as recompense is not equivalent. (Nan Nicholson, botanist) Councils are required under State planning regulations to: "Focus development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity in the region and implement the 'avoid, minimise, offset' hierarchy to biodiversity, including areas of high environmental value."<sup>(4)</sup> Rous is required to **avoid** this destruction because there are economically viable and more effective solutions.
- **Industrial/construction zone** for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise, machinery, trucks, visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Higher prices for consumers due to a 4x increase in the cost of water.** Rous general manager, in response to a question from councillor Vanessa Ekins, said he expected a fourfold increase in the cost of supplying water if the dam is built.
- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>



- **Water re-use in various ways, including Purified Recycled Potable water.** A wealth of global research and experience exists regarding potable reuse of water.<sup>(6)</sup> Eg: The city of Windhoek in Namibia has been using purified recycled water for 30 years using advanced technology.<sup>(9)</sup>
- **Water harvesting (urban runoff; rain tanks):**  
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."<sup>(10)</sup> Rainwater harvesting also decreases stormwater runoff, thereby helping to reduce local flooding and scouring of creeks.<sup>(11)</sup>
- **Contingency planning** would enable Rous to be ready to rapidly implement supply measures if it becomes necessary in times of drought.
- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an oversized and unnecessary dam.

## References and Notes

- (1) Metropolitan Water Plan 2006, NSW Government. Exec Summary section of the doc <https://www.dropbox.com/s/pu9898cq6kocprh/NSW%20Govt%202006%20MWP%20summary.pdf?dl=0>
- (2) Ainsworth Heritage, Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment, 2011
- (3) SMEC Australia, Terrestrial Ecology Impact Assessment, 2011
- (4) NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment 2019, 'Delivering the plan', Sydney, viewed 03 August 2020 < <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for-your-area/Regional-Plans/North-Coast/Delivering-the-plan> > , Direction 2: Enhance biodiversity coastal and aquatic habitats and water catchments.
- (5) NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment 2019, 'NSW population projections', Sydney, viewed 03 August 2020, <<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Research-and-Demography/Population-projections/Projections>> Scroll down to "Local Government Factsheets".
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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 2/9/20




8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: LYN RIDDLE

Address: 

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

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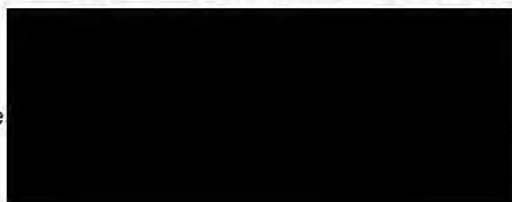
- **Water re-use in various ways, including Purified Recycled Potable water.** A wealth of global research and experience exists regarding potable reuse of water.<sup>(8)</sup> Eg: The city of Windhoek in Namibia has been using purified recycled water for 30 years using advanced technology.<sup>(9)</sup>
- **Water harvesting** (urban runoff; rain tanks):  
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."<sup>(10)</sup> Rainwater harvesting also decreases stormwater runoff, thereby helping to reduce local flooding and scouring of creeks.<sup>(11)</sup>
- **Contingency planning** would enable Rous to be ready to rapidly implement supply measures if it becomes necessary in times of drought.
- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an oversized and unnecessary dam.

## References and Notes

- (1) Metropolitan Water Plan 2006, NSW Government. Exec Summary section of the doc <https://www.dropbox.com/s/pu9898oq6kocrph/NSW%20Govt%202006%20MWP%20summary.pdf?dl=0>
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Kind regards, Signature



Date: 6-9-20



Received over the counter

8 SEP 2020

To: General Manager  
Rous County Council  
PO Box 230  
Lismore NSW 2480

Date:

8/8/20

From:

Annabelle Cron

Address:

**Re: The proposed Channon/Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Destruction of important Indigenous Cultural Heritage**, including burial sites (Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment, 2011). Ongoing disregard for First Nations sacred sites and culture.
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its Endangered Ecological Community of Lowland Rainforest** (including the regionally rare warm temperate rainforest on sandstone), and its threatened species of flora and fauna. (Terrestrial Ecology Impact Assessment, 2011). Rous is planning to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone. Offsetting is a worthless exercise because the type of vegetation offered as recompense is never equivalent. This is worse than most. (Nan Nicholson, botanist)
- **Industrial/construction zone** for years for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise pollution; large trucks/machinery on our roads; visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Water prices will increase by 4x** current cost (or higher) (Rous)
- **Promotes accelerated population growth** in the Northern Rivers. I'm concerned the Dam is being framed as 'water security' to the local population, yet to further afield it is being framed as a development plan for acceleration of growth. I'm concerned the model that predicted the population did not take into account the actual dam's effect on growth. This framing is concerning to me: "Everyone needs to understand this Regional development plan which is "focused on *unlocking the potential* of one of Australia's most beautiful places. The North Coast will become the best region in Australia to live, work and play". From planning document:  
<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for-your-area/Regional-Plans/North-Coast/Delivering-the-plan> <sup>(1)</sup>
- **The entire modelling and the strategy recommendations were made pre-COVID19**, and are no longer economically or demographically valid. COVID has also shown us we need to be able to pivot quickly and flexibly - something this massive 'single solution' won't do.
- **The tiny population increase** for the four Rous supplied councils of only 12,720<sup>(2)</sup> people between 2020-2060 *does not justify* such a large and destructive dam. It risks being an *expensive white elephant*, diverting money away from more needed and effective solutions. **It is likely to create division and conflict** within our communities after suffering flood, drought and an extreme fire season. What we need are resilience and community building solutions.

### **I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too. We need to take action on a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives. This is 21st century thinking.

- **Strong Demand Management**  
Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(2) (4)</sup>
- **Purified Recycled Water**  
A wealth of global research and experience already exists regarding potable reuse of water as set out in the Australian report, *Potable Water Reuse: What can Australia learn from global experience?* <https://www.waterra.com.au/publications/document-search/?download=1806><sup>(5)</sup>  
Example: The city of Windhoek has been using Purified Recycled Water for 30yrs using advanced technology. <https://www.wingoc.com.na/our-history><sup>(6)</sup>
- **Water tanks on all new (and existing) developments**<sup>(7)</sup> *This builds community resilience - much needed as the example of the extreme bushfire season has shown up.*  
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."<sup>(8)</sup> <https://www.yourhome.gov.au/water/rainwater>
- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe**  
The Australian government provides a lot of information on ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(9)</sup>  
<https://www.environment.gov.au/water/publications/what-are-the-ecological-impacts-of-groundwater-drawdown>

With scalable alternatives in place for supply, the existing Rocky Ck Dam supply component will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an outsized dam.



## References and Notes

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## Extra notes/Comments:

Kind regards,

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: Annie Leishman

Address: [Redacted]

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
- **The dam would encourage continued inefficient and wasteful water management by local governments.** They would have no incentive to do things differently.
- **Destruction of important Indigenous cultural heritage,** including burial sites.<sup>(2)</sup>
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its endangered ecological community of lowland rainforest,** threatened flora and fauna species.<sup>(3)</sup> Rous's plan to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone is problematic as the type of vegetation offered as recompense is not equivalent.<sup>(4)</sup> Councils are required under State planning regulations to: "Focus development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity in the region and implement the 'avoid, minimise, offset' hierarchy to biodiversity, including areas of high environmental value."<sup>(4)</sup> Rous is required to **avoid** this destruction because there are economically viable and more effective solutions.
- **Industrial/construction zone** for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise, machinery, trucks, visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Higher prices for consumers due to a 4x increase in the cost of water.** Rous general manager, in response to a question from councillor Vanessa Ekins, said he expected a fourfold increase in the cost of supplying water if the dam is built.
- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>



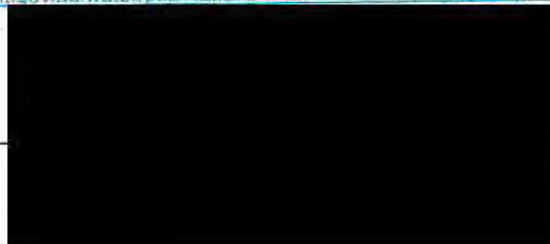
- **Water re-use in various ways, including Purified Recycled Potable water.** A wealth of global research and experience exists regarding potable reuse of water.<sup>(8)</sup> Eg: The city of Windhoek in Namibia has been using purified recycled water for 30 years using advanced technology.<sup>(9)</sup>
- **Water harvesting** (urban runoff; rain tanks):  
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."<sup>(10)</sup> Rainwater harvesting also decreases stormwater runoff, thereby helping to reduce local flooding and scouring of creeks.<sup>(11)</sup>
- **Contingency planning** would enable Rous to be ready to rapidly implement supply measures if it becomes necessary in times of drought.
- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an outsized and unnecessary dam.

## References and Notes

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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: 3/9/20



8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: Gabe Gregory

Address: [REDACTED]

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
- **The dam would encourage continued inefficient and wasteful water management by local governments.** They would have no incentive to do things differently.
- **Destruction of important Indigenous cultural heritage,** including burial sites.<sup>(2)</sup>
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its endangered ecological community of lowland rainforest,** threatened flora and fauna species.<sup>(3)</sup> Rous's plan to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone is problematic as the type of vegetation offered as recompense is not equivalent. (Nan Nicholson, botanist) Councils are required under State planning regulations to: "Focus development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity in the region and implement the 'avoid, minimise, offset' hierarchy to biodiversity, including areas of high environmental value."<sup>(4)</sup> Rous is required to **avoid** this destruction because there are economically viable and more effective solutions.
- **Industrial/construction zone** for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise, machinery, trucks, visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Higher prices for consumers due to a 4x increase in the cost of water.** Rous general manager, in response to a question from councillor Vanessa Ekins, said he expected a fourfold increase in the cost of supplying water if the dam is built.
- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6)(7)</sup>



- **Water re-use in various ways, including Purified Recycled Potable water.** A wealth of global research and experience exists regarding potable reuse of water.<sup>(9)</sup> Eg: The city of Windhoek in Namibia has been using purified recycled water for 30 years using advanced technology.<sup>(9)</sup>
- **Water harvesting** (urban runoff; rain tanks):  
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."<sup>(10)</sup> Rainwater harvesting also decreases stormwater runoff, thereby helping to reduce local flooding and scouring of creeks.<sup>(11)</sup>
- **Contingency planning** would enable Rous to be ready to rapidly implement supply measures if it becomes necessary in times of drought.
- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an oversized and unnecessary dam.

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Kind regards, Signature:



Date: 30-8-20

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

**To:** General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

**From:** Janie Harris

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
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**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>



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Kind regards, Signature:

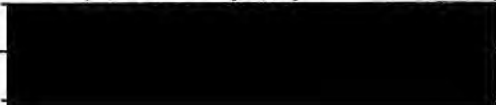


Date: 1, 9, 2020

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: Samantha Milley  
Address: 

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
- **The dam would encourage continued inefficient and wasteful water management by local governments.** They would have no incentive to do things differently.
- **Destruction of important Indigenous cultural heritage,** including burial sites.<sup>(2)</sup>
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its endangered ecological community of lowland rainforest,** threatened flora and fauna species.<sup>(3)</sup> Rous's plan to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone is problematic as the type of vegetation offered as recompense is not equivalent. (Nan Nicholson, botanist) Councils are required under State planning regulations to: "Focus development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity in the region and implement the 'avoid, minimise, offset' hierarchy to biodiversity, including areas of high environmental value."<sup>(4)</sup> Rous is required to **avoid** this destruction because there are economically viable and more effective solutions.
- **Industrial/construction zone** for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise, machinery, trucks, visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Higher prices for consumers due to a 4x increase in the cost of water.** Rous general manager, in response to a question from councillor Vanessa Ekins, said he expected a fourfold increase in the cost of supplying water if the dam is built.
- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>



- **Water re-use in various ways, including Purified Recycled Potable water.** A wealth of global research and experience exists regarding potable reuse of water.<sup>(9)</sup> Eg: The city of Windhoek in Namibia has been using purified recycled water for 30 years using advanced technology.<sup>(9)</sup>
- **Water harvesting (urban runoff; rain tanks):**  
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."<sup>(10)</sup> Rainwater harvesting also decreases stormwater runoff, thereby helping to reduce local flooding and scouring of creeks.<sup>(11)</sup>
- **Contingency planning** would enable Rous to be ready to rapidly implement supply measures if it becomes necessary in times of drought.
- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an oversized and unnecessary dam.

### References and Notes

- (1) Metropolitan Water Plan 2006, NSW Government. Exec Summary section of the doc <https://www.dropbox.com/s/pu9898oq6kocrph/NSW%20Govt%202006%20MWP%20summary.pdf?dl=0>
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Kind regards, Signature:



Date: 1-9-2020

Received over the counter

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

**To:** General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

**From:** Jonathan Altherton

**Address:**

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
- **The 21st century is about a suite of smart water options.** This dam would be a lost opportunity to make our system fit for the 21st century by swallowing all resources in one big expensive 'white dinosaur' project.
- **The dam would encourage continued inefficient and wasteful water management by local governments.** They would have no incentive to do things differently.
- **Destruction of important Indigenous cultural heritage,** including burial sites.<sup>(2)</sup>
- **Destruction of The Channon Gorge and its endangered ecological community of lowland rainforest,** threatened flora and fauna species.<sup>(3)</sup> Rous's plan to offset the loss of rainforest on sandstone with regeneration of degraded land in the buffer zone is problematic as the type of vegetation offered as recompense is not equivalent. (Nan Nicholson, botanist) Councils are required under State planning regulations to: "Focus development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity in the region and implement the 'avoid, minimise, offset' hierarchy to biodiversity, including areas of high environmental value."<sup>(4)</sup> Rous is required to **avoid** this destruction because there are economically viable and more effective solutions.
- **Industrial/construction zone** for The Channon/Dunoon community; noise, machinery, trucks, visual impact. Ongoing sound impact from pump house etc.
- **Higher prices for consumers due to a 4x increase in the cost of water.** Rous general manager, in response to a question from councillor Vanessa Ekins, said he expected a fourfold increase in the cost of supplying water if the dam is built.
- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

We need a suite of smart water options and proven alternatives, not a huge new dam. The tide is turning on renewable and sustainable power. It is time for the tide to turn on how we meet our water needs too.

- **An investment in system-wide water efficiency and strong demand management.** Analysed, costed and deployed, creating jobs. (*We understand Rous has not costed this in creating their future water plan*) Existing research over the past decade consistently finds that the best 'bang-for-buck' investment in water supply comes from demand management and identifying savings within the existing supply.<sup>(6) (7)</sup>



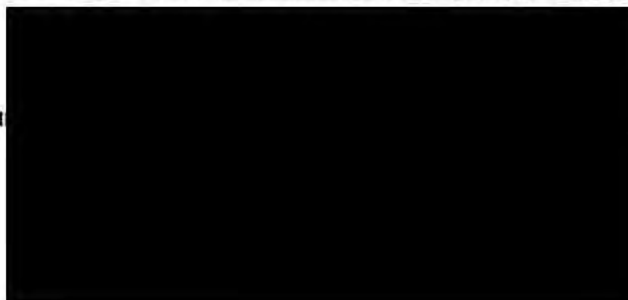
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- **Water harvesting (urban runoff; rain tanks):**  
Water tanks on all new (and existing) developments. The Australian government advises that: "Depending on tank size and climate, mains water use can be reduced by up to 100%. This in turn can help: reduce the need for new dams or desalination plants; protect remaining environmental flows in rivers; reduce infrastructure operating costs."<sup>(10)</sup> Rainwater harvesting also decreases stormwater runoff, thereby helping to reduce local flooding and scouring of creeks.<sup>(11)</sup>
- **Contingency planning** would enable Rous to be ready to rapidly implement supply measures if it becomes necessary in times of drought.
- **Groundwater, where this is environmentally safe.** The Australian government provides a lot of information on the ecological impacts and groundwater usage.<sup>(12)</sup>

With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an oversized and unnecessary dam.

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Kind regards, Signatu




Date: 1-09-2020

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

To: General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

From: Sonny Athman  
Address: 

Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

- **Lost opportunity to invest in system-wide water efficiency.** This is the cheapest & fastest way to ensure supply-demand balance. By focussing on system efficiency, Sydney added an additional 950,000 people without a rise in consumption.<sup>(1)</sup>
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- **The small population increase** predicted for the four Rous-supplied councils of 12,720<sup>(5)</sup> between 2020-2060 **does not justify** such a large and destructive dam. The dam risks diverting expenditure away from more sustainable, flexible and effective solutions.<sup>(5)</sup>

**I SUPPORT these alternatives:**

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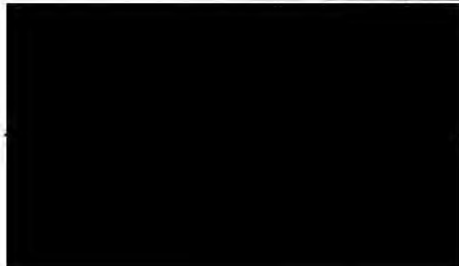
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With scalable supply alternatives in place, the existing supply from Rocky Ck Dam will be made resilient to anticipated times of drought and projected population growth, without the environmental destruction, social costs, and the over-capitalisation risk of an outsized and unnecessary dam.

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Kind regards, Signature:



Date:

4/9/20

8 SEP 2020

**Feedback Submission Re: Proposed Dunoon Dam within the Future Water Project 2060**

**To:** General Manager, Rous County Council  
PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

**From:**

KEN ROYCE

**Address:**



Firstly, the community appreciates the submission extension. We also acknowledge the complexity of the work Rous does to provide water for our region.

**I DO NOT support the proposed The Channon-Dunoon Dam for these reasons:**

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22

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Kind regards, Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

05/09/20