From: regionalwater.strategies@dpie.nsw.gov.au
To: DPIE W Regional Water Strategies Mailbox
Subject: Your submission for North Coast Regional Water Strategy
Date: ██████████████

1. Information on confidentiality and privacy

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

I would like my personal details to be kept confidential.:   No

2. Your details

Email address:

Name:

Address:

Contact phone number:

Do you identify as an Aboriginal person?:   No

Are you an individual or representing an organisation?:   Individual

3. Organisation or business details

Who do you represent?:

If you selected Government, please

clarify.:

If you selected Peak representative organisation, please clarify.:

4. Draft Regional Water Strategy objectives and vision

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

If no, please outline your vision for the long term management of water resources in this region?:

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

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

I am very pleased with the long-term vision of the strategy in that it considers some of the adverse effects posed by mounting climate change. Namely that climate extremes are likely to become more frequent and severe. More severe and frequent flooding and coastal storm surges are expected to more adversely affect our coastal communities as our coastal community populations increase rapidly. An important aspect of climate change that is still rarely explained to the public is that fact that today the world has 1 degree of global warming. This has caused an increase in sea water temperature and an increase in evaporation so that that there is now 8% more moisture in the atmosphere than is normal. This can result in sudden periods of intense rainfall, to the detriment of coastal communities but it can be very beneficial to communities inland. More thought should be given to a greater use of products that can be REUSED again and again in preference to convenient single-use or even recyclable products. Water is embodied in the manufacture of every product we manufacture and use. Water is embodied in the entire life of a reusable, multi-use product. But water is embodied in the manufacture of every single-use product we choose to use. So if we want to conserve more water for our children and grandchildren still too young to vote for their futures, we should choose to more reusable products and less single-use items, as in the good old days.

As above in 5 . Also more support for householders and other local catchment to install large rainwater tanks to provide untreated water for outside uses and for clothes washing. 50% percent of household water use is used outside the home. You do not need expensive treated water, that has been transported a considerable distance, to water the garden, the lawn or wash the car or boat.

Please provide details if there is additional information you think we should consider?:	Water in a household rainwater tank has a very low rate of evaporation and is in effect like a mini dam that catches rain exactly where it falls. Manufacturing and installing large household dams on widespread basis will generate a considerable amount of lesser-skilled employment. A large increase in the number of household or local business rainwater tanks will help decrease the volume of storm water flooding urban streets in periods of very heavy rain. Australia has the highest wild mammal loss of any country. Householders could be encouraged to grow more local native plants which have a lesser demand for water than exotic plants and the native plants provide the best habitat for our native animals. Less lawn replaced by more vegetable growing is also beneficial. If we want more water, less hot days, shade for our stock, more scenic amenity, more habitat for our wildlife, a larger buffer zone between the wildlife that carry viruses that might harm us and we want more natural carbon sinks WE MUST PLANT MORE TREES. Trees are easy to plant, planting trees can be done by children up to elderly citizens and tree planting can be labour-intensive and we have have a huge over-supply of lesser-skilled labour. Why not use this labour, available allover Australia?

6. Stochastic modelling method

Do you have any comments about the modelling method used to develop this strategy?:	no

Is there any additional information that you believe could help us assess the benefits and disadvantages of draft options?:	

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

Do you have any comments on the opportunities, risks and challenges identified?:	If towns draw water from rivers and want to keep our river water in good condition, the inlet pipe to draw water from our rivers should be sited downstream from the town and the discharge pipe for the treated water back into the river should be sited upstream of the town. This simple method ensures that only very well treated water is discharged back into the river for the next town downstream.

Are there any additional opportunities,	

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

8. Draft North Coast Regional Water Strategy options

Which five (5) options do you think are most important?:

Please comment on why you think these options are most important? :

10. Remove impediments to water REUSE projects. The world's drinking water is finite and our global population continues to grow and desalinating water is very costly in energy terms. Sooner or later we will have to REUSE water. Why not start sooner than later and join the rest of the world that really values fresh water? 11. Increase use of recycled waste water for intensive agriculture. Most important while the world continues not to adopt humane methods of slowing global population growth. Much of Australia is hot and dry with a limited amount of very fertile soil. In future much of Australia will become hotter and drier unless we decide to adequately address global warming. Therefore we must seriously question the wisdom of growing almonds and cotton in Australia as they have a high water demand. 12. Indirect potable REUSE of purified recycled water. It is pleasing to see a greater acceptance by the Australian public of this essential water-saving measure. 13. Direct potable REUSE of purified recycled water. This is the optimum goal for our use of fresh water whilst our population continues to grow. I commend you greatly for listing items 10, 11, 12 and 13 as options for consideration.

Which five (5) options do you think are least important? (If any):

Please comment on why you think these options are least important? :

Increase on-farm water storage. I am totally against large on- farm water storage such as is employed on Cubby Station. The capture of flood rain storage is an extremely stupid option if we want our rivers to have an adequate natural flow in our rapidly changing climate. Our outback regions are crying out for tourists. Until Covid-19 is under some sort of reasonable control and the world's most impoverished people have access to the vaccine, Australian tourists won't be travelling overseas. But who wants to holiday inland if our rivers are just a series of stagnant algae-choked ponds.

Do you have any comments on the draft options?:

Very pleased with the comprehensive nature of the draft options.

9. Option combinations

Do you have any thoughts on how the options could be combined with other options?:

Are there additional options that we should consider?: not for now.

10. Other comments

Do you have any other comments about the North Coast Regional Water Strategy?: Most important while we continue to grow our population and still pay scant attention in Australia to trying to adequately global warming.

11. Referral

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

12. Additional information

Upload supporting documents: No file uploaded