

**Submission
No 7**

**JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON PROTECTING LOCAL WATER UTILITIES
FROM PRIVATISATION**

Organisation: Clarence Valley Council

Date Received: 18 October 2023

12 October 2023

Joint Select Committee on Protecting Local Water Utilities from Privatisation

By Email: waterutilities@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir

Re: Submission to Joint Select Committee on Protecting Local Water Utilities from Privatisation

Thank you for the opportunity for Council to make a submission to this Inquiry.

In an on-line meeting hosted by the Country Mayors Association (CMA) on 20 July 2023, which was attended by the NSW Water Minister Hon Rose Jackson, concern was expressed by regional Councils that the *Constitution Amendment (Sydney Water and Hunter Water) Act, 2023* omitted regional water utilities, particularly given that unsuccessful amendments were put to both houses of NSW Parliament to include regional utilities. Clarence Valley (and all regional NSW Councils) are therefore currently without the same protection as Sydney Water and Hunter Water under the *NSW Constitution Act 1902*.

Council considered the issue of water utility privatisation at its meeting of 22 August 2023 and resolved (Resolution 05.23.011, point 1):

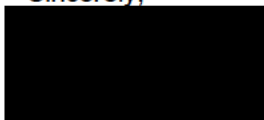
That Council support CMA representations to the NSW State Government to ensure that Regional Water Utilities are retained in public ownership and included in the Constitution Amendment Bill

Council further resolved (Resolution 05.23.011, point 3) to:

submit a motion to the 2023 LGNSW Annual Conference to support retention of regional water facilities in public ownership

If you have any questions regarding this submission, please contact Council's Manager Technical Services, Mr Greg Mashiah, on 0266430200 or [REDACTED]

Sincerely,



Cr. Peter Johnstone

Mayor