

**Submission
No 30**

**INQUIRY INTO ADEQUACY OF WATER STORAGES IN
NSW**

Name: Mr George Paras

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State Development - Submission for Inquiry into adequacy of water storages in NSW

From: George Paras
To: "statedevelopment@parliament.nsw.gov.au" <statedevelopment@parliament.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 8/1/2012 1:54 PM
Subject: Submission for Inquiry into adequacy of water storages in NSW

Dear NSW Government State Development Minister,

I have become aware, and have been kept informed by my associates, that the NSW Government has launched an inquiry into the adequacy of water storages in NSW.

I felt compelled to take this opportunity lodge a short submission. I believe you are welcoming public comment before this Friday 3 August.

I am of the strong personal belief that new dams are not necessary in the Hunter Valley and its greater catchment area.

Some of the points I would wish to emphasise include:

- Dams have detrimental impact on rivers – both physical and biological, by altering the rivers natural flow thus effecting ecosystems, which can led to the extinction of many fish and other aquatic species, the disappearance of birds in floodplains and huge losses of forest, wetland and farmland.
- Permanent 'water wise' rules exist throughout most Australian cities (especially in Victoria and South Australia where I am presently based), and numerous surveys around the country have shown that low-level water restrictions have very high levels of community support, making dams unnecessary.
- Large infrastructure projects such as dams can inflict a large financial burden on water rates payers, and an even longer-term taxpayer burden when built via public-private commercial partnerships.

I urge you to resist all political temptation to embark on the environmentally-untenable course of further major dam construction.

Respectfully yours,

George Paras