

**Submission  
No 70**

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

**Name:** Ms Wendy White

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## **SUBMISSION for Inquiry Into Adequacy of Water Storages in NSW**

**I wish to state that in my opinion new dams in the Hunter region are definitely not necessary for reasons given below:**

**\*Dams alter the natural flow of rivers and this adversely affects ecosystems, leading to the extinction of fish and other aquatic species which in turn contributes to the disappearance of birds in the floodplains.**

**\* Forest, wetlands and farmlands can be lost when the river's natural flow is altered**

**\* High levels of community support for low level water restrictions render the creation of dams unnecessary**

**\* The high cost of building dams inflicts financial hardship on many consumers as water rates rise to pay for this infrastructure.**

**\* Modelling of the Hunter area has shown the likelihood of rainfall increasing rather than decreasing as a result of climate change**

**\* There has not been nearly enough emphasis on water saving methods eg recycling, water tanks etc which, if made mandatory, would obviate the need for dams.**

**Any agency which allows the flushing of its drinking water down the toilet, yet contemplates a costly and destructive dam is not acting for the interests of the community or the environment!**

**Wendy White**