INQUIRY INTO ADEQUACY OF WATER STORAGES IN NSW

Name: Mr Harold Johnston

Date received: 30/07/2012

State Development - NSW Legislative Council Adequacy of Water Storages in NSW

To:

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Date:

7/30/2012 5:57 PM

Subject: NSW Legislative Council Adequacy of Water Storages in NSW

The Director
Standing Committee on State Development

Adequacy of Water Storages in NSW

Dear Sir

I make this very brief submission referring to item d only in the terms of reference.

'd) proposals for the construction and/or augmentation of water storages in NSW with regard to storage efficiency, engineering feasibility, safety, community support and cost benefit'

I refer particularly to the now defunct Tillegra Dam proposal near Dungog in the Hunter Valley

For almost sixty years land was acquired in the area of the dam and until the dam was suddenly proposed some six years ago there was no community consultation with little engineering feasibility undertaken. The proposal continued with clear demonstration that there was little community support and of course the concerns expressed, particularly environmental were borne out with the eventual rejection of the proposal.

The way the land was acquired, the way consultation occurred after the decision to proceed was made, has caused substantial division in this community.

My submission is simply this. The Tillegra Dam is now off the agenda and the reasons are many and well documented. Tillegra therefore should not be part of these considerations and that any proposal anywhere else in the state needs to be given full consideration of community impacts well before land acquisition, engineering feasibility etc etc so that no other community has to endure that which Dungog has been forced to endure by a state owned corporation

Harold Johnston