

**Submission
No 25**

**INQUIRY INTO RATIONALE FOR, AND IMPACTS OF,
NEW DAMS AND OTHER WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IN
NSW**

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The Murray Darling River system has been grossly mismanaged, building new dams will not create more water and could well exacerbate the problem. Without feasibility studies the downstream effects are unknown and could be seen as a reckless reaction to mismanagement and water theft. The cost of water to pay for the proposed dams does not seem to be affordable.

A far better plan would be to stop the flood plain harvesting, the water theft and use the water available responsibly. Ensuring there are adequate flows to keep the river system healthy. Reforesting in appropriate areas to slow the movement of water and provide consistent flow is something that would provide greater benefit than a dam.

An empty dam is no use to anyone and that's what the result will be if problems are not addressed before hand.