

**INQUIRY INTO RESPONSE TO MAJOR FLOODING  
ACROSS NEW SOUTH WALES IN 2022**

**Name:** J Hunt  
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Please consider an old recommendation to divert water to below Lismore on the western side of the city, using the natural curves of the water course.

Hindsight has unfortunately given us an opportunity to reflect on choices that were made regarding the control of water from the two flooding rivers in Lismore. Many years ago an old engineer (Mr Armstrong now deceased) who was employed in the Middle East to implement water system support for vast areas was always trying to advocate that the problem with flooding in Lismore was the very fact that two flooding rivers meet in the centre of Lismore, he was adamant that this is the problem and a levee could not fully address this. His suggestion was to divert the western creek (Leycester Creek) with either a canal or large pipeline/tunnel that diverted water past the airport to meet the Wilson's river downstream.

Such a diversion would naturally use the channel when water levels reached a medium threat level to the town centre, thereby the water course was not all diverted. The displaced earth could also benefit building a higher runway for the airport. He suggested using the natural turns of the river to divert from and to, and if he was here he would have to right to say "I told you so". Lismore needs a better water plan. With canals or tunnelling now a much simpler task, surely it's worth another look. The business's who survive flood water now will surely be challenged by increased insurance costs next year and we need to keep this city relevant.