



E NEWS

Issue 6

**PO Box
Dungog 2420**

Campaign Office

No Tillegra Dam Group will very shortly have their own campaign office, thanks to the generosity of members. The office will be located in Dowling Street, and will give NTDG a more professional face. Our information will be more accessible to the public & our members. We will also be able to sell our merchandise. Sally will be present at the office on most days and volunteers are welcome to assist with campaigns, office duties or just being present to keep the doors open. The very low rental cost is being covered by member's pledges so if you can assist in anyway either financially or with your time please do contact us.

Environmental Assessment Report

There may only be 30 days in which to submit a comment or critique on the Environmental Assessment Report (EAR) by Hunter Water (HW) on the Tillegra Dam proposal. (Note: NTDG's barrister has requested from the Department of Planning that the public exhibition period be extended to 120 days).

HW expects to submit the EAR to the Department of Planning for formal consideration around mid-2008 (late July-August?). The EAR will outline the findings of the environmental and social investigations, identifying impacts of the proposed dam and how HW proposes to manage those impacts. Matters to be considered include potential impacts on:

- * Water quality
- * Environmental water flows
- * Riparian vegetation
- * Cultural and heritage values
- * Terrestrial flora and fauna
- * Movement of fish and other aquatic species
- * Socio-economic impacts and opportunities.

Submissions need to be posted to: The Director, Major Infrastructure Assessments, Department of Planning, GPO Box 39, Sydney NSW 2001.

A full list of the relevant government policies can be found here.

The Department of Planning will place the EAR on public exhibition around mid-2008, providing the opportunity for all stakeholders, including interested members of the community, to comment formally on the proposal. All you have to do is write a letter—it does not have to be anything fancy, just your opinion on any issue relating to this proposal.

HW can be required to respond in writing to issues raised in submissions and provide a preferred project report, which outlines any proposed changes to the project to minimise its environmental impact. If it is determined that the proposed changes significantly alter the nature of the project, HW may be required to make the preferred project report available to the public.

The law requires that all key project documents, including project declarations, applications and environmental assessments be made publicly available and can be accessed at the Dept of Planning website. A copy of the environmental assessment part of the planning process can be downloaded here. And the major project assessments system can be accessed here.

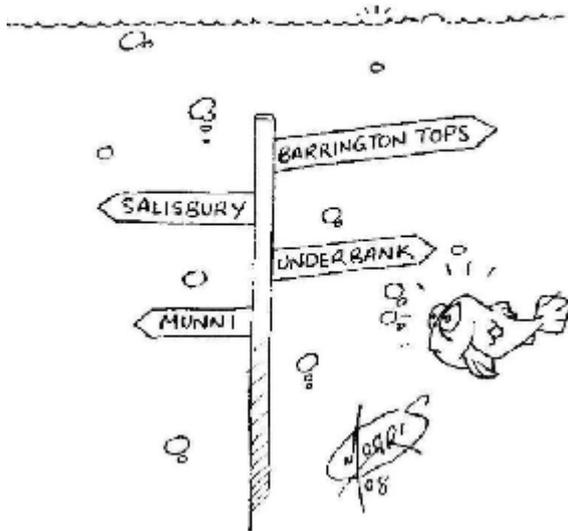
NTDG will advise when the EAR is out and how we can address it. The more people who address the EAR, the better.

Media

The NBN segment was run over 5 nights in July. For those who may have missed viewing it, it is available via our website.

The Australian Newspaper ran an article on the Moore family, who dairy farm in the inundation area & the effect the proposed dam is having on their family.

Lots of letters are being published in the local paper as well as the Newcastle Herald. Keep up the good work all you letter writers and those that haven't – give it a go. Get our message out there.



Membership

Once again it's time for 6 monthly memberships. Fees can be sent to:

NTDG

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Dungog 2420

or paid via our website.

Fees are \$ 30.00 Full membership ½ year

\$ 60.00 Full membership full year

\$ 15.00 Friend of NTDG ½ year

\$ 30.00 Friend of NTDG full year

Climate Change – Getup campaign

The Getup Organisation is currently addressing Climate Change & we have been

invited to be a part of their national campaign. A torch (similar to the Olympic Torch) will be This will assist our group to obtain media & national attention. This will occur on the 24th August. Following is information from the Getup organisation and their flyer to advertise the event.

This is an exciting time to be taking climate action; the next few months will determine Australia's response to climate change for years to come. Be part of Australian history. The Australian Government has invited community comment on its climate change policy, and we need to demonstrate that the community are mobilising for strong climate policy.

For six weeks during August and September, the GetUp Climate Torch Relay will tour right across Australia – through rural towns and capital cities in every state and territory – on its way to Parliament House, Canberra on September 21. Along the route local communities are hosting legs of the relay, which calls on our leaders to halve Australia's greenhouse pollution by 2020.

Should you require assistance with transport to the Tillegra Bridge at Dungog, please contact Vanessa to organize buses or car pooling from Newcastle.

For more details go to

<http://www.climatetorch.com/>

Or contact Vanessa Culliford on 02 4929 4395.

