

# Tillegra Dam Myths True or False?



## 1. The State Government is paying for Tillegra Dam

**False** -NSW Water minister, Phillip Costa has said that Hunter Water users will pay for it exclusively. Your water bill will increase by 57% over the next four years

For example:

An average annual bill of \$718 would go up;

2009 -2010	\$925
2010 -2011	\$992
2011 -2012	\$1057
2012 -2013	\$1107

## 2. Tillegra Dam is for the Central Coast

**False** -The Central Coast has Federal Government funding to secure its own water supply through the construction of a pipe to join the Mardi and Mangrove creek dams. Central Coast residents will not be paying for Tillegra Dam

## 3. Developers will pay some of the cost

**False** -The State Government cancelled the developer contribution for the dam. Hunter water users will pay for the dam. This means you

## 4. Tillegra Dam is needed for population growth of 160,000

**False** -Population growth for the Hunter has been exaggerated. The Urban Taskforce, an independent review team, recognised there are easier and more cost effective ways of supplying water to any increased population in the Lower Hunter

## 5. Tillegra Dam will not affect the Williams River

**False** -Massive dams kill rivers by preventing natural flows and destroying the natural ecosystems that are home to a variety of precious native species, including our iconic platypus. The river system will be changed forever

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**6. New South Wales can afford to lose 2500 hectares of prime agricultural land.**

**False** - In this time of uncertain climate with many other parts of Australia in severe drought, we need to start looking after agricultural land which is healthy and productive

**7. The Hunter needs more drought security**

**False** -The Lower Hunter is the only urban region in Australia without water restrictions. Current water storages are over 93%. The volume of water that would be stored in Tillegra Dam would give us absurd and unnecessary levels of water supply

**8. With climate change it will be dryer here**

**False** -The Department of Environment and Climate Change detailed regional analysis shows that Hunter Water's catchment will "more likely than not have a slight increase in annual runoff"

**9. There are no alternatives**

**False** -Everywhere else in the world has brought in new technologies and water saving regulations instead of building massive dams. We can do it too. And it will cost less

**10. "Building a new dam at Tillegra would be far less cost effective than many demand management and water conservation initiatives"**

**True** - Hunter Water Quote from their Integrated Water Resource Plan printed in 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006

To find out more go to  
[www.wilderness.org.au](http://www.wilderness.org.au)  
[www.notillegradam.com](http://www.notillegradam.com)  
or call (02) 4929 4395  
email: [newcastle@wilderness.org.au](mailto:newcastle@wilderness.org.au)



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