

Hon Peter Garrett MP
Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts
PO Box 6022
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Sir,

Re: Controlled Action Tillegra Dam Ref: 2008/4551

Thank you for calling in the Tillegra Dam proposal on the William River in the Hunter region as a controlled action under the Federal EPBC Act.

The impact of this very large dam proposal on the Ramsar listed Hunter Estuary Wetlands needs to be considered very carefully. These internationally significant wetlands are a very important feature of the NSW coastline.

There is insufficient knowledge about the ecological needs of the Hunter estuary. Major studies are needed before an informed decision can be made on this issue.

The Tillegra Dam is not needed because the Hunter water supply is close to full with high rainfall occurring in the catchment on a regular basis.

Please reject the Tillegra Dam, which is proposed to capture a further 450,000 million litres of water out of the Hunter estuary system.

I call on you not to approve this project under your powers as the Minister administering the Federal EPBC Act.

Yours sincerely,