

Dear Dr Hawke

I have recently made a submission to the EPBC Act 1999, in regards to a referral by Hunter Water for the proposed Tillegra Dam.

I believe that the timeframe for submissions is unreasonable. We were given ten days in which to respond to Hunter Water's referral. We had no prior knowledge as to when HWC would make the referral nor did we have information on the contents of the referral.

We asked for and received a three-day extension for submissions but this is still very limited time to carry out thorough research on the referral.

I knew to make a submission only because the chair of the No Tillegra Dam Group had written to the Department of Water, Heritage, Environment and the Arts seeking notification of the referral. The group received email notification from the department.

Other organisations, including Dungog Shire Council, did not receive such notification

I urge this review panel to consider an increase in time for submissions to be made, and to review the process of notification to stakeholders.

Yours Sincerely

Tracy Norman