



Tillegra Land Use and Management Plan

Hunter Water is inviting Dungog residents to have their say about plans for land previously purchased for the rejected Tillegra Dam project.



Hunter Water has appointed AECOM Australia to undertake the development of a land use and management plan, which will focus on Hunter Water's landholdings in the Tillegra area. The plan is expected to be completed by October 2013 and will be considered by the NSW Government.

Local stakeholders, including Dungog Shire Council, the community and government authorities, are being consulted to ensure a comprehensive approach is taken.

Hunter Water is inviting the community to have its say in the development of the plan. There are a number of ways that you can have your say:

- Fill in the questionnaire available on Hunter Water's website at: www.hunterwater.com.au/questionnaire prior to August 2013.
- Provide written feedback on the draft plan, to be publicly exhibited in August 2013.
- Attend the community information session to be held during the exhibition of the draft plan.

Background

Since the 1980s, Hunter Water had been acquiring land in the Tillegra Catchment area to construct a dam for water supply purposes. In September 2009, the Environmental Assessment Report for the proposed dam was placed on public exhibition.

In 2010, after reviewing the report, the New South Wales Government decided not to proceed with the project. Hunter Water is now developing a long term plan for its Tillegra landholdings.

What are the Objectives of the Plan?

- Identify existing and future landuses for the Tillegra landholdings, taking into consideration the Dungog Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2006, draft Dungog LEP 2011, and the Hunter Water Special Areas Act.
- Identify cost effective opportunities to add value to the Tillegra landholdings, for the benefit of the local and regional community.
- Identify appropriate land management practices for the land.

What is Being Considered?

In the development of the plan for the Tillegra landholdings, Hunter Water will take into account a range of issues, including:

- Government policies and planning instruments.
- Existing land zonings, approvals and strategies.
- Landuse capability and suitability.
- Easements and reserves.
- Ecology and biodiversity.
- Topography and visual and scenic values.

- Heritage and cultural items, including Munn House, Quart Pot Cemetery.
- Wastewater management.
- Access.
- Infrastructure and servicing.
- Flooding.
- Existing land uses, including immediately adjoining the landholdings.

Stakeholder and Community Feedback

Hunter Water is seeking input into the development of the plan from stakeholders and the community. A number of meetings are being held, with key government agencies and Dungog Shire Council. Input is also being sought from the community, via a questionnaire. Once developed, Hunter Water will place the draft plan on public exhibition, giving stakeholders and the local community further opportunity to provide feedback.

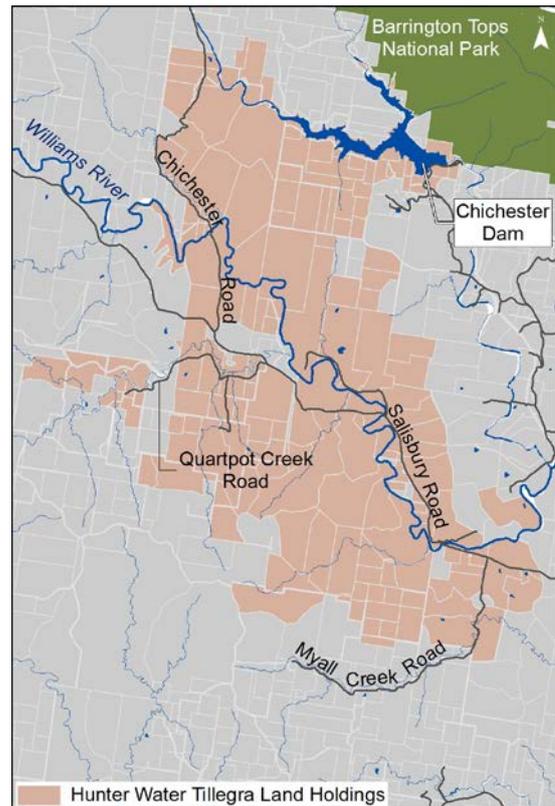
Hunter Water will also hold a community information session, to provide details about the draft plan, answer questions, and collect feedback. Residents of Dungog Shire and other community members are invited to attend.

Details on the date and location of the community information session and public exhibition will be advertised in local newspapers, and posted on the Hunter Water website, closer to the date.

Tillegra Landholdings

Hunter Water's Tillegra landholdings are located in the Williams River Valley, within Dungog local government area. The holdings cover an area of around 6,000 hectares (excluding land within the Chichester Water Catchment Area – see map). Hunter Water currently owns 46 properties in the area, including 26 rural dwellings. The properties are situated within the three localities of Chichester, Munn and Underbank.

Map of Tillegra Landholdings



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