



Have Your Say Submission: Water Reform Action Plan

1 message

Fri, Mar 16, 2018 at 11:56 AM

To: "water.reform@industry.nsw.gov.au" <water.reform@industry.nsw.gov.au>

Dear Sir / Madam,

Recently the Turnbull Liberal Federal Government announce millions in extra funding for the Snowy Hydro 2.0 project.

The Hydro 2.0 aim is to increase the amount of hydro-electricity available to supplement the electricity grid in times of peak power. Unfortunately I understand that all they do is pump water up to the high dam to store the water and then release it back down to the lower dam on the same side when generating hydro-electricity.

Why not instead have a series of projects mid to north NSW where the water is pumped up to a high dam and across to release the water down the other side of the Great Dividing Range, producing hydro-electricity and watering west of the Great Dividing Range at the same time.

They say renewable energy is not reliable, as wind turbines don't work when the wind is not suitable and solar cells are less effective when it's cloudy. However these renewable energy resources don't need to pump the water all the time, they only need to do it most of the time. Once the water is stored in the higher dams, from water pumped on prior good wind and sunny days, the electricity from the hydro dam can kick in to assist pump water on the less reliable days. When all forms of renewable energy are working all together, then significant surplus energy can be provided to the electricity grid.

The dams can also be used to mitigate flooding. The dams can hold the water for months when there's flooding west of the divide and pump more when there's flooding on the east side of the divide.

Enormous quantities of water are wasted flowing into the Pacific Ocean. River flow is important to the coastal environment so it is important not to take too much water, definitely not more than half probably somewhat less closer to a third of the east flowing water. Instead these projects should take a modest amount of water (third to less than half), but be duplicated on multiple mid to northern NSW rivers spreading the water harvested and spreading the water distributed west of the Great Dividing Range.

The double positive of watering west of the Great Dividing Range by using renewable energy, with surplus energy assisting the electricity grid, is a project which would significantly assist NSW for the rest of the century and beyond.

Water and Renewable Energy forming a beautiful double benefit.

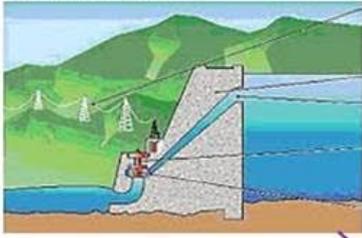
Thank you for considering this have your say submission.

Yours sincerely,

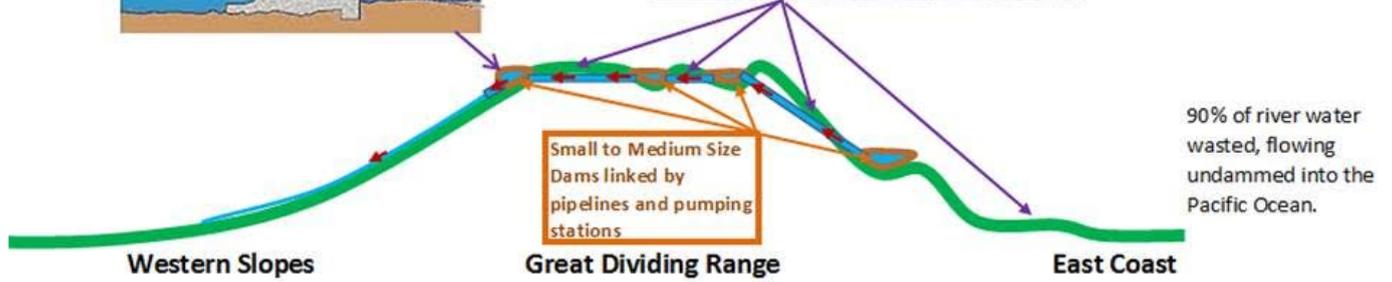
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Watering West of the Great Dividing Range by Renewable Energy

Hydroelectricity Dam producing electricity and releasing water west of the Great Dividing Range



Renewable Energy Farms to power pumps



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