

APPENDIX D

Stakeholder Engagement Technical Report



Community and Stakeholder Participation Report

Clarrie Hall Dam Raising



**Engagement prior to the submission of the
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**

PlanCom Consulting Pty Ltd

August 2024



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1 Overview of this report

This is a report of the engagement with the community that occurred in advance of the submission of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Clarrie Hall Dam Raising.

PlanCom Consulting (PlanCom) was contracted by Kellogg Brown and Root Pty Ltd (KBR) to assist in engaging the community alongside Tweed Shire Council (Council).

The proposal is to raise the dam wall by 8.5 metres increasing its capacity from 16,000 megalitres (ML) to approximately 42,300 ML. This will provide a secure water supply for the Tweed until at least 2065.

The EIS is being prepared for a State significant infrastructure planning approval application to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI). The engagement is to meet the requirements of Council and the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the proposal and respond to the State significant infrastructure consultation requirements which are outlined below.

This document details the activities that were part of the proactive community engagement that occurred from November 2023 to June 2024. The engagement at this stage sought to ensure wide understanding of the project and the current assessment process. The engagement activities and approach was guided by a Communication and Engagement Plan that was developed.

This report also provides an overview of the engagement since the project was first discussed with the community. Section 6 of this report outlines the previous engagement with details provided in Chapter 5 of the EIS.

Communication from the public is also recorded as part of this report through to June 2024. The consultation as part of this stage built on that which has occurred since 2009 around the need to find solutions to the forecast water shortages. Consultation around a proposal for augmentation of this particular site dates back to 2009 and 2010 during the water supply augmentation options assessments. The earlier consultation and outcomes from that period are summarised in Section 6 of this report and in Chapter 5 of the EIS.

2 Requirements for engagement

The SEARs issued by DPHI in May 2024 in relation to engagement is provided in the table below.

Table 2-1 SEARs relevant to engagement

Relevant Key Issue Requirement/s	Where addressed
During the preparation of the EIS, you must consult with the relevant local, State or Commonwealth Government authorities, service providers, community groups and affected landowners. Ensure that all consultation undertaken is documented in the EIS. In particular you must consult with: • Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water • NSW Department of Natural Resources Access Regulator • Department of Planning, Housing, and Infrastructure, specifically the: – Crown Lands as applicable for consideration of any use or occupation of a Crown Reserve, road or waterway • NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water – NSW Climate and Energy Action – Environment and Heritage – DCCEE Water – NPWS – NSW Environment Protection Authority – NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust – Adapt NSW • Department of Regional NSW, specifically – Department of Primary Industries – Fisheries – Regional NSW Group Local Lands Services	• Details of consultation with the agencies and the output is in Chapter 5 of the EIS.
The EIS must detail the engagement undertaken and demonstrate how it was consistent with the Undertaking Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects (DPE 2022). The EIS must detail how the issues raised and feedback provided have been considered and responded to in the project	• Details related to this requirement is the focus of this report. See sections 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Engagement has been conducted in accordance with the document *Undertaking Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects (DPE 2022)* which requires that engagement be undertaken as early as possible including as part of site selection and scoping.

The guideline suggests there is a need to:

- plan early
- engage as early as possible
- ensure engagement is effective
- ensure engagement is proportionate to the scale and impact of the project
- be innovative
- be open and transparent about what can be influenced
- implement the community participation objectives.

There has also been extensive consultation led by Council with those whose properties were directly affected through acquisition of property or affected due to inundation and resulting changes to essential infrastructure (i.e., McCabes Bridge). Council have engaged with these landholders over many years.

Council has worked to ensure early engagement as part of the EIS preparation to identify and address issues raised.

This consultation report will contribute to documentation of the engagement as part of the EIS. The EIS details how issues raised by stakeholders have been considered and responded to.

3 Our communication about the project

The following key messages were part of the Community Engagement Plan that was developed by Council in 2023 and have been the focus of communication with the community and other stakeholders:

- Tweed Shire Council needs to take action to increase the quantity of water that is stored to ensure that the community across the Shire has safe and reliable water supply beyond 2028
- Following investigations of a range of options over several years the preferred option to increase water storage is raising the height of Clarrie Hall dam by 8.5 metres.
- Council has a range of water saving strategies that are occurring alongside the raising the Clarrie Hall Dam and all of these will contribute to securing a safe, sustainable and affordable water service to approximately 98,000 households through to at least 2065.
- The raising of Clarrie Hall Dam is not for the purpose of protecting properties in the case of flooding and will not create any greater flood risk for the community.
- The Proposal will be subject to the approval of the New South Wales government following the completion of the EIS to investigate the potential environmental and social impacts and propose suitable mitigations to those impacts.
- Tweed Shire Council is inviting input from the community on the impacts and opportunities of the dam raising during preparation of the EIS and to assist with planning for construction and operation.
- More information is available at yoursaytweed.com.au/raisingclarriehall-eis and the community will be invited to make submissions to the EIS via DPHI when it is on public exhibition in October 2024.

4 Objectives of the engagement

The objectives of the engagement as outlined in the most recent Community Engagement Plan prepared by Council in 2023 include those below. Associated with these objectives are the actions that might meet the objectives. These are in keeping with the NSW government Guidelines for State Significant Projects (DPE 2022) referenced in the SEARs and consistent with Council's Community Engagement Plans and strategies.

Table 4-1 Objectives for the engagement and the resulting actions

Objective	Actions might include
Increase understanding of the reason the project is required in the context of water security	• Give details of the water consumption and calculations for the future water supply • Outline other ongoing actions to reduce water consumption in conjunction with this proposed dam raising
That the community understand planning approval processes - when and how they can influence decisions.	• Step out the plans for engagement through the various planning assessment stages • Ask for input to aspects of the Proposal
Take account of the community values, concerns, aspirations and expectations	• Articulate how Council aligns with the values and culture of the community • Work with and meet with interested individuals to understand their values and what they want to see as part of this dam raising
Build and maintain the trust of the community	• Continue to engage, acknowledge dissenting views and do not marginalise these stakeholders • Seek consent and agreement from stakeholders when we are impacting them directly
Pre-empt potential concerns/issues and address these before they are raised by stakeholders	• Provide information which highlights the potential risks, issues and impacts of the proposal • Anticipate and understand community issues and communicate these
Be responsive and open to changes	• Look for ways that the project might be able to mitigate or address the concerns of stakeholders and/or articulate what can't be changed/is non- negotiable
Give the community confidence in the decision-making process.	• Outline the role of the various authorities that will include DPHI, Council and other expertise that will contribute to the studies of the EIS
Show respect to the community and their perspectives	• Acknowledge their valid concerns • Continue dialogue with all

5 Stakeholders

The list of stakeholders include those who might be either interested in and/or impacted by this project. The focus of the consultation was to ensure those most directly impacted are aware of the proposal and had the opportunity to identify issues for consideration in the EIS. Care was taken to ensure stakeholders knew there was further opportunity to make a formal submission in response to the EIS but that the Council was currently considering the project impacts.

The consultation by the impact assessment team aimed to encompass:

- Surrounding landowners/neighbours including those impacted by the reconstruction of McCabes bridge and residing in Uki
- Recreation users of Crams Farm
- Those within a larger radius of the dam site
- Those who had engaged through previous project stages
- Community organisations and groups.

A detailed list, encompassing these groups, was developed over the duration of the project. This included over 500 stakeholders/stakeholder organisations and 250 of these had email contact details. Those identified stakeholders with email addresses were contacted directly by Council prior to the information sessions. Others were contacted through other means outlined in section 7 of this report below.

The consultation with government stakeholders and the outcomes of that consultation are reported in Chapter 5 of the EIS.

Consultation with Registered Aboriginal Parties was conducted as part of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment that is summarised in section 6.5 of the EIS.

Table 5-1 below provides a list of stakeholders and their potential interest. This list was developed as part of the planning for the consultation. Some of these were engaged through the earlier consultation and others were contacted as part of the more recent consultation leading up to exhibition of the EIS.

Table 5-1 Stakeholder groups and their potential interests in the proposal

Category	Stakeholder groups	Interest in the Proposal
Approvers/ key decision makers	• Department of Planning, Housing, and Infrastructure (DPHI) • Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) • Tweed Shire Council • Transport for NSW (roads) • Councillors	• Ensuring that all impacts are considered and mitigated in the public interest • Responsibly meet the requirements for water supply to the community • Protection of the environment • Ensure that there is adequate infrastructure to support the project • That the project is delivered on time and budget

Category	Stakeholder groups	Interest in the Proposal
Other government	- Agencies requiring consultation as part of the EIS - State local members of Parliament - Lismore - Federal local member of Parliament - Richmond - NSW Rural Fire Service - Energy distributors/ utilities – Essential Energy	- Ensuring that the actions of decision makers are in the interest of the public - Protection of the environment, Aboriginal heritage and other matters - Construction and operation of the dam considers the need for continuation of the services to the community and in particular continuity of emergency services
Local affected residents	- Local residents (owners and occupiers) - Businesses (owners and operators) - Residents of Commissioners Creek and Doon Doon areas - Residents of Uki	- Uki and surrounds as the community closest to the site - Landowners whose properties would have water inundation at the full level of a raised dam or in Probable Maximum Flood - Residents of Commissioners Creek whose road access would be cut at McCabes Bridge at the full water level after the dam is raised - Landowners affected by the location of ancillary construction activities
Wider community interests	- Users of the Crams Farm Reserve - Special interest group and in particular environment groups i.e., Landcare and Team Koala - Community Reference Group (former members) - Resident, Environment, and Industry Group Roundtable (REIGR) - Tweed Shire residents and ratepayers - Tweed Shire Council water customers - Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Tweed River Committee - Council staff - Youth Council - Construction and other industry in Uki and Murwillumbah	- Need to plan and provide for future generations - Leaders of community group able to identify vulnerable and hard to reach people who need to be engaged - Protection of the environment and the wellbeing and amenity of the community - Communication about the proposal and impacts - Impact for the Shire on future water supply and potential impact on water rates - Protection of the environment and the current recreation resource - Additional interpretive and recreation activities in association with the Dam
Other organisations	- Industry and farming associations - Growers/agriculturalists and other businesses using water - Land management groups i.e., local land care groups - Chamber of Commerce	- Maintaining or enhancing business interests - Protecting the land and current uses

Category	Stakeholder groups	Interest in the Proposal
	• Tweed Tourism Company • Real estate agencies in Uki and Murwillumbah • Rotary • Schools • Tweed Shire Parks and Active Communities • Sporting groups	• Protection of the environment and the current recreation resource • Additional interpretive and recreation activities in association with the Dam
Aboriginal Organisations	• Traditional owners and custodians	• Aboriginal land or heritage interests • Protection of heritage items and locations
Media	• Local press – online and print • Local and community radio and television • Council media department • Local social media groups	• Dissemination of accurate information about the proposal • Interaction with the community about questions and concerns that they may have.

6 Summary of engagement prior to late 2023

During 2009 and 2010, Council consulted with the local community and key stakeholders to obtain input on the development of water security options.

In determining a preferred water augmentation option, input from the community was considered in a year-long community engagement process. The engagement also included the formation of a Community Working Group (CWG), which held five meetings from December 2009 to March 2010. The CWG was tasked with reviewing and commenting on the various options.

Earlier options, including for constructing a new dam at Byrrill Creek, was often raised by residents as an alternative during the consultation conducted in February 2024 (see Section 7). This option was, however not favoured by many during the option selection process. The CWG proposed Clarrie Hall Dam raising as its recommendation.

In December 2015, Council resolved to adopt the raising of Clarrie Hall Dam as the preferred option for future water security and proceed with the planning approval and land acquisitions.

Since 2015, consultation has included group stakeholder meetings, Clarrie Hall Dam Open Days, one-on-one meetings with landowners whose access may be impacted, a 3 week engagement period in March 2021 on Your Say Tweed and presentations to service clubs and other interested parties.

A number of issues have been raised to date and these have been considered as part of the preparation of the EIS, this report and the proposed mitigation measures.

A timeline of the primary consultation actions to date is as follows:

Date	Activity
15 December 2015	Council recommended commencement of planning and acquisition phase to raise the wall of the dam
April 2016	Face-to-face meetings commenced with all affected landowners
September 2016	Letters were sent to all properties affected by access associated with the proposed inundation of McCabes Bridge, a two-lane bridge located on Commissioners Creek Road, approximately 6 km from the intersection of Kyogle and Doon Doon Roads, directly south of the entrance to Crams Farm
11 October 2016	A public meeting was held at Crams Farm with landowners directly affected by the proposal and other interested members of the public from the area. At this meeting, 24 property owners were engaged and provided permission for flora and fauna surveys, with one property owner assisting by providing boat storage and access and another was the point of contact for emergencies.
April 2017	The McCabes Bridge Replacement Options Report was sent to all stakeholders. As a result of further feedback, a revised options report was prepared and sent to all stakeholders prior to a second meeting held at Crams Farm in March 2018. In April 2018, the community nominated its preferred access option for recommendation of Council. Council subsequently accepted the recommendation.
August 2017	An Open Day was held at Clarrie Hall Dam to inform interested members of the community on the Proposal and to provide further information on various studies and assessments including cultural heritage, flora and fauna, and engineering concept design elements through the use of pop-up stands and displays.
December 2017	Council resolves to establish the Project Reference Group (PRG).

Date	Activity
January 2018	Article about the project in Tweed Link issue 1039 and requesting nominations for the PRG.
December 2017	Council resolves to establish the Water Strategies Review Project Reference Group (PRG). The ToR of this PRG was to review Council's water supply, demand management and drought management strategies.
January 2018	Article about the project in Tweed Link issue 1039 and requesting nominations for the PRG.
February 2018	Revised "Options Report Replacement of McCabe's Bridge, Doon Doon" (TSC, 2018) prepared and sent to all interested stakeholders – those directly impacted by the inundation of the bridge and those who previously expressed an interest at open days.
February to March 2018	Presentations at Chambers of Commerce for Murwillumbah, Tweed Heads and Kingscliff.
20 March 2018	Meeting held at Doon Doon Hall to discuss bridge replacement options. Local community selected preferred access option for bridge replacement.
1 May 2018	Tweed Link issue 1052 article "New Doon Doon bridge for dam raising"
12 June 2018	Tweed Link issue 1058 article "Protecting aquatic life" included a request for information, contact phone number and 'Your Say Tweed' website address. Also The Echo article "Understanding the impact of raising Clarrie Hall Dam". Understanding the impact of raising Clarrie Hall Dam – The Echo. Included invitation to provide information via website or phone.
July & August 2018	Further articles in Tweed Link
24 October 2018	Uki Public Meeting discussing TSC Open Space Strategy and update on the Proposal. Attended by 24 local residents. Attendees at this information session explained they heard about the session through various means, including newspaper advertisements, posters (local post office), social media – Facebook, word of mouth and promotion by another group (Rail Trail).
7 March 2019	Council endorses the proposed methodology and PRG membership.
19 March 2019	Water Strategies Review Project Reference Group formed. This group consists of the members from the 2009-2010 Community Working Group, representatives of key interest groups including Landcare, the farming community, service clubs, ratepayer and resident groups and the Caldera Environment Centre. It included one former councillor and two current councillors. This group considers the Proposal in context of overall Water Strategies for the Tweed Shire.
May to July 2019	Further articles in Tweed Link.
12 November 2019	Clarrie Hall Dam Raising project team address REIGR Forum.
September 2020	Clarrie Hall Dam Raising Stand at Sustainable Living Expo 2020.
8 September 2020	The Echo article "19 archaeological sites to be inundated by dam" 19 archaeological sites to be inundated by dam – The Echo. Includes invitation to make a submission via the 'Your Say Tweed' website.
December 2020	Delivery of Tweed District Water Supply Augmentation Project Report Summary (Water Strategies Review Project Reference Group, 2020) to Tweed Shire Council.
February to March 2021	A summary of the draft EIS was published on Council's 'Your Say Tweed' website with community engagement conducted online due to COVID-19. There was an online survey on the 'Your Say Tweed' page that attracted 66 responses and there were about 900 website visits. Participants provided responses to a range of questions, including questions about their understanding of the importance

Date	Activity
	of water security for the Shire, and the raising of Clarrie Hall Dam as a preferred option as well as the alternatives. Some of the responses to questions are summarised in Chapter 5 of the EIS.
16 March 2021	REIGR forum held and update on EIS preparation for the Proposal and the Proposal timelines provided and consultation through 'Your Say Tweed' website.
26 March 2021	Survey on Council 'Your Say Tweed' engagement portal for the Proposal closed and responses collated.
February 2023	Update to the 'Environmental Impact Statement for raising Clarrie Hall Dam' page on the 'Your Say Tweed Website' to inform the community of the work KBR was to conduct for the first phase of the EIS.
Since 2018	Council has provided a web page to offer information to the public titled Raising Clarrie Hall Dam, at https://www.yoursaytweed.com.au/RaisingClarrieHall

7 Engagement from November 2023 – June 2024

The consultation during the period November 2023 to March 2024 is discussed below.

The first section below describes methods used to engage the community and the second section documents the resulting input from the public and other stakeholders.

7.1 METHODS TO COMMUNICATE AND ENGAGE WITH THE PUBLIC

A variety of methods were used to communicate and engage with the public as shown in Table 7-1 below.

Table 7-1 Methods used to communicate and engage with the public

Method	Description of activity
yoursay@tweed.nsw.gov.au	Email to Council for people to express concerns and get responses to questions from Council staff.
Your Say Tweed - Webpage for Raising Clarrie Hall Dam – Environmental Impact Assessment http://www.yoursaytweed.com.au/clarriehalldameis	Council continued to provide information via a Your Say Tweed web page “Raising Clarrie Hall Dam – Environmental Impact Statement”. People are able to register their interest in the project and will be sent future information about the EIS or can have their questions answered through the platform. This page was updated with information in December 2023. Additions at this time were: • Updated project timeline • Information about the public information sessions held in Uki and Murwillumbah in February 2024 • Updated information about the progress of the EIS • Frequently asked Questions and Answers This site continues to be visible to all, describes the proposal, provides updates and invites input to the EIS preparation stage.
Tweed Link	Advertisements about the project and the 2024 information sessions were placed in the Council publication Tweed Link – this was the following dates with the topics listed: • 10/5/2023 - Work resumes on Environmental Impact Statement for raising Clarrie Hall Dam • 17/01/2024 - Keep up with Clarrie Hall Dam raising EIS - information sessions. • 29/01/2024 and 31/01/2024 – Editorial and Advertisement promotion for information sessions • 28/02/2024 - The latest on raising Clarrie Hall Dam. Post information session and inviting further input
Two-page hard copy Project Update – January 2024 A copy of the newsletter is in Appendix A and in Appendix B is a map of the area that received the newsletter.	A Project Update or newsletter was distributed via Australia Post to 11,364 households and businesses. The distribution was via letterboxes or PO boxes using the Australia Post rounds identified as closest to the dam site. Every effort was made to ensure that the properties closest to the site were covered. The distribution occurred mostly 15- 19 January. There were a few notifications that may have arrived in the week to follow 19 January due to Australia Post misplacement.

Method	Description of activity
	The objectives were to make them aware of the proposal and invite them to discuss the proposal and/or meet with the team through the community information sessions.
Targeted Email notification	An email to notify about the information sessions, with a copy of the project update attached was distributed to 250 people/groups on the stakeholder data base list, that is all those on the list that had email addresses (this included those potentially affected and/or interested). Also sent to approximately 6,500 email addresses signed up to Your Say Tweed.
Public information sessions	There were two in person community information sessions: one at Uki, the closest town to the dam site and one at Murwillumbah which is the larger regional town. These were held as follows: - Tuesday 6 February 2024, 4-6.30 pm - Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 1473 Kyogle Road, Uki - Wednesday 7 February 2024, 12-2pm - CWA Hall, 20 Queen Street, Murwillumbah. Refer to Table 7.2 and section 8 for details. They were held on two different days and times of the day to maximise potential access by a range of participants. The format for both was a drop in session with CHDR EIS and project team members available to answer questions and to discuss issues, some matters were addressed subsequent to the session through follow up calls and emails, other matters to be addressed through the EIS. People could come and go within the advertised session time. Written information was available along with maps of the site.
Media - Newspaper articles/ ABC	The media releases from Council resulted in articles including in: The Northern Rivers Times, Daily Telegraph, Tweed Shire Council Environmental & Sustainability Newsletter, ABC North Coast Radio, Big Volcano Visitor Guide, ABC news. The dates and topics of these articles is detailed in Appendix C.
Meetings with individuals and interest groups	Meetings were offered for stakeholders. There were some meetings with interest groups held as part of preparation of the Social Impact Assessment. There were one-on-one meetings and calls with stakeholders who might be directly impacted with ancillary infrastructure on or near their property.
Media releases	Council regularly distributes media releases to a subscriber base of more than 2,450 people – made up of media, business and industry contacts and residents who have self-subscribed. Similar themes are the basis for social media such as Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn. A list of media releases prepared and the dates that they were distributed are listed in Appendix C
Tweed Shire Facebook	The following notifications were provided via the Tweed Shire Facebook page. 8/5/2023 - The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposal to raise Clarrie Hall Dam is progressing, with KBR recently appointed to complete the EIS preparations. 18/01/2024- Information sessions 31/01/2024 – Information sessions and EIS
Council Digital marketing screens	From 15/01/24 there was a promotion for Have Your Say in the form of a video on digital marketing screens in the customer service areas of Murwillumbah and Tweed Heads Council offices.

7.2 RESULTING STAKEHOLDER AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Feedback from the community received through the above consultation activities is provided in Table 7-2.

Table 7-2 Details of feedback received from the community

Feedback mechanism	Details
Questions through the Your Say Tweed, Facebook and to Council via Email	21 questions were responded to being: • 10 questions posted via the Your Say Tweed Page and answered individually or via the page. (a further email was not provided a direct response being a statement about the desire to see the project commence) • 7 face book posts were responded to. • 4 emails were received in response to the emails to those registered through Your Say or other information. Details of the responses to questions asked are outlined in Appendix D.
The online Your Say statistics	626 people engaged with the Your Say project page and of this 9 engaged by asking questions. There were 147 who are considered to be “informed visitors” including those asking questions and the following: • 88 who downloaded a document (40 accessed the Clarrie Hall Dam Raising Concept Design Report July 2018, 37 the Clarrie Hall Dam Raising EIS information sheet, 35 Community update 2024) • 41 who viewed the FAQs • 28 who viewed a video <i>Noting that figures do not add up to the total of those “informed” as people will have taken multiple actions.</i>
Information sessions	Attendance recorded via the sign in sheet for the information sessions were: • 28 people in Uki • 23 people in Murwillumbah Questions and issues raised is outlined below in Table 8-1.
Phone calls	One call was received asking about Clarrie Hall dam vs Byrrill Ck and requesting a copy of the 2009 SMEC report “Integrated Water Supply Options for North East New South Wales and South East Queensland”
Other communication	10 April 2024 - Council presented at their request to the Casuarina and Seaside Salt Residential Association (CASSRA) - 7 members attending. A PowerPoint presentation on the raising CHD project and EIS was followed by Q and A for about an hour. There was support for the CHDR project and no concerns raised. 7 May 2024 – Council responded to communication sent to Minister Rose Jacksons office from NSW Farmers Federation, Far North Coast Branch. This questioned the decision making process and wanted to revisit the Byrill Creek option. Information about the decision making process was provided by Council to the Ministers office. 28 May 2024 - Council met with a representative of the Uki Residents Association. The representative had attended the information session and wanted more people to know about the proposal. He was writing an article for the Association’s newsletter, the Uki News, about the proposal. (About 1000 copies of the Uki News are produced every 2-3 months and circulated to Uki and surrounds). An overview of the proposal and copies of maps to show the current and proposed inundation areas were provided. Questions included “why not Byrrill Creek Dam instead” and flood mitigation. Council provided information about the Byrrill Creek Dam option and why raising Clarrie Hall Dam is Council’s preferred option. A link to a Council video that explains that Clarrie Hall Dam is not a flood mitigation dam was also provided.

8 Community Issues raised - Community Information Sessions

The following table is a summary of the issues raised through the information sessions and responses from the EIS team where relevant and recorded. For some issues raised the response is provided via the EIS.

Table 8-1 Issued raised during the community information sessions and responses

Issue /Topic	Detail	Response - where provided during or after the information session (or recorded)
UKI		
Maps	Many wanted copies of the inundation area and ownership	Maps have now been posted on the Raising Clarrie Hall Dam – Environmental Impact Assessment Your Say page at https://www.yoursaytweed.com.au/clarriehalldameis and copies were provided to community members requesting them.
Recreation Facilities	• Desire for walking tracks, canoeing and cycling around the dam. • Is the toilet block at the dam wall moved or is it new? • More comfortable and attractive facilities and rain cover • Access to all public lands for cycling, walking swimming • Wants trail (cycling) beside the dam to be accessible – cycling loop. • Cross country mountain like connection to rail trail 5 to 10 kilometres connect to Gilwire Rd. • Recreation is good for local business. Council previously had a grant to build a local trail. • People come to Uki markets and ask where they can walk. Perhaps linked to other walks including new three day walk in the national park from Unicorn Falls • Crams Farm is underutilised and is the jewel in the crown of Tweed Shire. It's a shame to increase the water level here.	This is being considered by Council and will be addressed in the EIS Council will be developing a catchment management plan which will incorporate recreational activities. Specific community engagement will be part of the development of this catchment plan.

Issue /Topic	Detail	Response - where provided during or after the information session (or recorded)
Future water security	• Need for water efficiency measures • Concerns water security will be an ongoing issue, and the current solution does not address water needs.	Information was provided by Council staff about the current water security measures that were being undertaken by Council.
Traffic	• Excess traffic and Conditions	Traffic study is to be prepared in addition to a traffic management plan as part of the construction stage.
Funding	• Use of Council funds and Affordability • Where is the money coming from	Money from Council's Water Fund.
Alternative options	• Byrrill Creek - Preference that this is the future site • Dredging the dam as an option	Information provided about previous studies that determined this is the preferred option and why.
Quarry	• Lack of quarry material and not enough investigation into this • Fear of extension of existing quarry into private land	Concern of a particular land holder and information provided to this person.
Water Quality	• Concern about the project risk to water quality • Concern construction will impact access for monitoring • Option to stock the dam with bass or alternative opportunities to use other species • If a fire occurs in the catchment all of the water will be rank • Problems with siltation affecting water quality	Water will go to Bray Park Weir and the Bray Park Water Treatment Plant prior to distribution.
Safety and security of dam	• Concern about stability of the dam • Risk of dam failure • Seepage from the dam in the wider area • Concerns about the foundation • Construction impact on existing structure • Concern that there is a flood risk during the construction	The dam is built on a strong rhyolite foundation and was designed to be raised. The risk of dam failure and dam failure mechanisms are considered in the design of the dam. This will be reviewed by the Dam Safety Committee. The risk of flooding during construction will be managed by the construction contractor in conjunction with Council.
Impact on Infrastructure	• Clarification on McCabe bridge – alignment road • Need to upgrade Kyogle Road in advance of construction • Question regarding intersection of Doon Doon Road and extent of impacts	The new McCabes bridge will be generally parallel to the existing bridge. There will be some road realignment. Plans were provided and are available.

Issue /Topic	Detail	Response - where provided during or after the information session (or recorded)
Groundwater	Concern about water mining activities	The issue of water mining is beyond Council's jurisdiction. The State Govt regulates extraction of groundwater. Council has amended its LEP so that new water mining activities are not allowed in the Shire.
Biodiversity	- Impact to the koala feed tree/s at Crams Farm. Want this tree protected. - Future of vegetation in inundation area - Use of existing trees - trees to impact amenity of Crams Farm - Compensatory revegetation	Council/consultants to investigate and determine whether tree will be impacted
Process of decision making	28 day response period and when is it being exhibited - Concern this is not enough time for response/ submission/research	Timelines were discussed.
MURWILLUMBAH		
Maps	- Area of impact and inundation and mapping of the area and impact on private property including acquisitions - Request for colour PDFs of maps	Maps of inundation area were available at the session and copies made available most the information session.
Recreation	- Walking tracks/ Canoeing – post development of the dam - Current recreation access - Protection of Crams Farm as recreation resource - Looking for improved recreation – walking tracks around dam circumference - Improving cycleway - Difficult to pass canoes/kayaks over fences to get to water at the dam wall - Can't launch a sailboat at dam wall area – only with difficulty at Crams Farm	Council discussed recreation opportunities that might be looked at post EIS. Discussion by Council about doing a master plan for catchment associated with raised dam – will consider recreation as part of that plan.
Flooding downstream	Concern that there will be flooding	The dam will have little or no impact on flooding downstream. In flood events the dam is "transparent". Flows into the dam will pass through the dam and any impact will be a very slight reduction in flood levels down stream.

Issue /Topic	Detail	Response - where provided during or after the information session (or recorded)
Groundwater mining	- Concern that water is being removed for bottling and impact on water available - How much water taken for bottling? Will that affect the dam.	WaterNSW regulates groundwater extraction so Council has no data on water mining. The dam will not be affected.
Construction	- Duration of construction and impacts including safety and access - Questions about the construction process	Information provided about the planned construction duration.
Water security	- Fear that Queensland will source the water created through the dam and this will be taken from the Tweed - Need to look at wider impact including Gold Coast - The newsletters are written poorly – fearmongering	Referred to the EIS that will consider the broader impact assessment to Queensland including social and water use issues.
Alternatives	Desire to revisit Byrill Creek	Noted as an interest of some participants.
Roads, traffic and Safety	- Desire that Council fix Kyogle Road potholes - Traffic and road safety - Safety for Uki residents from construction traffic - Impact on parking in Uki - Need to maintaining resident access on Clarrie Hall Dam Road during construction - Having access through the Clarrie Hall Dam gate	Discussed traffic assessment that will consider traffic routes, impacts to bus routes, schools, peak hour traffic.
Flooding	- Concerns about impact to an individual property - Concerned about impact of flooding on downstream communities - Have bought land and wants to know the impacts. Architect is waiting on hydrology report.	Discussed minimal downstream impact changes currently known and that this will be outlined as part of the reports of the EIS. Not intended for flood mitigation. Maps of flooding provided.
Property impacts	- Acquisition - Question of how many properties are impacted	16 properties will be impacted. Council is working with property owners to purchase all or part of the impacted properties through private treaty. Of the 16 purchases 14 are complete.
Alternatives	- Why not Byrill Creek Dam instead? - What about flooding at Green Hills?	Responses regarding Byrill Creek dam option were consistent with those provided in Appendix D of this

Issue /Topic	Detail	Response - where provided during or after the information session (or recorded)
	• Preference to Byrill Creek option to decrease impacts on Crams Farm.	report. The CHDR proposal will not result in changes to existing flood impacts in Murwillumbah.

9 Future approach to community and stakeholder engagement

Consultation will continue leading up to and during the exhibition period for the EIS. Council is preparing a Communication and Engagement Plan for this phase. Beyond this, consultation will occur through the detailed design and construction contractor and through Council engagement in the same way as for other Tweed Council assets.

The mechanisms for people to get information or to ask questions will continue. This includes the following:

- Email address and phone contact number of Council
- Your Say Tweed - Raising Clarrie Hall Dam – Environmental Impact Assessment will be updated with links to the EIS and information about where and how to make submissions to DPHI. People will be able to continue to register their interest in the project and will be sent information as the project moves through the assessment stages. All information as it becomes available will be uploaded to the site.
- Council's Tweed Link - Advertising and information will be provided using this publication which is widely distributed as an insert in the free Tweed Valley Weekly newspaper (50,000 readers) and via email to 4000 Tweed Link subscribers. It's also published on the Council website and on the Tweed Valley Weekly website.
- A Newsletter / Project update will be prepared and distributed using the same Australia Post distribution area as for the publication distributed in January 2024 (11,000 households).
- Emails will be sent to all those contacted in the past and the additional people registering interest as a result of this consultation.
- Public Information Sessions – these are planned to be conducted in Uki, Murwillumbah and either Tweed Heads or Kingscliff as soon as practicable following the exhibition commencing. These need to be completed well before submissions are due so that people can get information that may contribute to the preparation of their submissions to the EIS.
- Online information sessions – to occur during the exhibition period.
- Media releases will be provided and distributed to announce the commencement of the EIS exhibition period.
- Facebook and other Council communication mediums will be used as appropriate.

Every effort will be made to ensure that there is wide knowledge of when the Clarrie Hall Dam Raising proposal progresses to have a finalised EIS on exhibition. The information and consultation at this time will focus on ensuring people understand the process for accessing and reviewing the EIS and making submissions to DPHI.

The project team will be available to answer questions about the content of the EIS, point community members to the sections of their interest/concern and help ensure that they have the information they may require to help them with their submissions to the EIS.

Appendix A – Project Update – January 2024 As Distributed

Environmental impact assessment for Clarrie Hall Dam raising



UPDATE – January 2024

Tweed Shire Council is in the final stages of assessing the potential impacts of the proposal to raise the height of Clarrie Hall Dam by 8.5 metres. This would increase the dam's capacity from 16,000 to about 42,300 megalitres and secure the Tweed's water supply until at least 2065.

All practical water saving measures have been considered and are being implemented by Council. However, population growth and the need to adapt to climate change means that with the existing infrastructure, Council cannot meet the community's demand for water after about 2028.

Planning for a solution to the water supply issue, including consultation with the community, started in 2009. In 2015, after considering options including other dam locations and pipelines from other water sources, raising the dam was considered the preferred option to provide for future water needs.

Now is the time to talk to the environmental impact assessment team

Take the opportunity to make Council aware of any issues or questions you have about the proposed raising of the dam. Your contributions, along with what the community has already told Council, will contribute to the identification and assessment of impacts and formulation of suitable mitigation measures.

How to get involved

Attend an information session – Visit any time during the hours indicated. Information will be available and team members will be able to speak with you.

Location	Date	Time
Uki Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 1473 Kyogle Road	Tuesday 6 February 2024	4-6.30 pm (drop in at any time)
Murwillumbah CWA Hall at 20 Queens Street	Wednesday 7 February 2024	12-2pm (drop in at any time)



Your Say Tweed – Go to: yoursaytweed.com.au/raisingclarriehall-eis to learn more. Read answers to frequently asked questions, view documents about the proposal and the need for water security. You can register to receive communication and be notified when the EIS is on exhibition.

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure Major Projects web site – Documents about the proposal, assessment requirements, and approval process are at: <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/clarrie-hall-dam-raising>

You can also contact us by phone on 02 6670 2460 or email us at tsc@tweed.nsw.gov.au

Scan the QR code to go to the Your Say Tweed website. Register to get updates or ask questions.



About the assessment of impacts

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) document is being prepared. When complete, it will comprise a range of studies that consider the proposal, including impacts on cultural heritage, biodiversity, flooding, water quality, hydrology, traffic and road safety, noise, air quality, social matters, and climate change.

The EIS document will form part of an application for approval to the NSW Government. It is being led by an independent and experienced environmental consultancy team from KBR, they are:

- investigating the potential impacts of constructing and operating the dam
- completing the specialist studies to ensure potential impacts are considered
- determining ways to manage these impacts and propose suitable mitigations.

The EIS will be exhibited and available to any member of the public for a period of at least 28 days toward the middle of 2024. You will have the opportunity at that time to make a formal submission about the proposed project to the NSW Government. If the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces approves the project, it will be subject to conditions of that approval. Community submissions can influence those conditions.

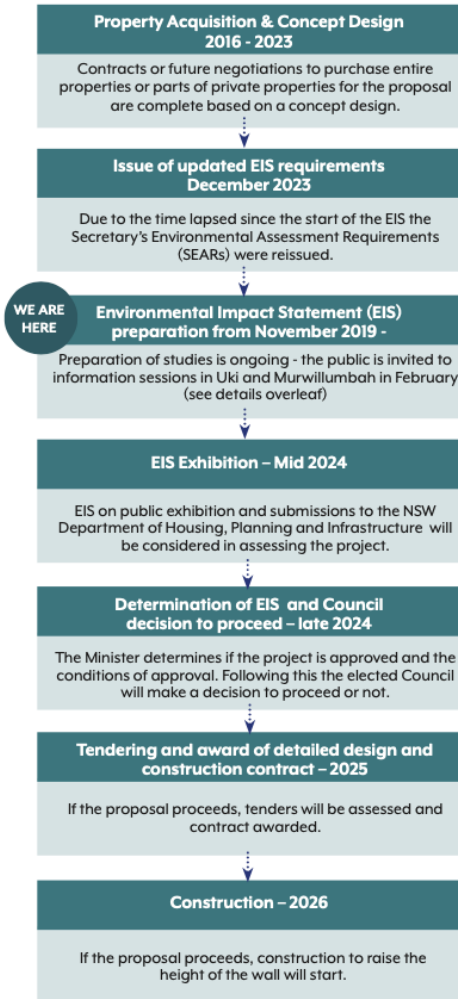
If NSW Government approval is obtained, Council will decide whether to progress this proposal.

Council's consultation with the community

Residents, members of the local Aboriginal community, government agencies, businesses and industry have been, and will continue to be, consulted throughout the impact assessment period and beyond, should the proposal be approved. Council has been working with affected landowners to purchase the land required for inundation and catchment management.

Residents, including those directly affected, have been key to informing decisions about McCabes Bridge, the Crams Farm public recreational areas and options for the management of catchment lands.

Timeline

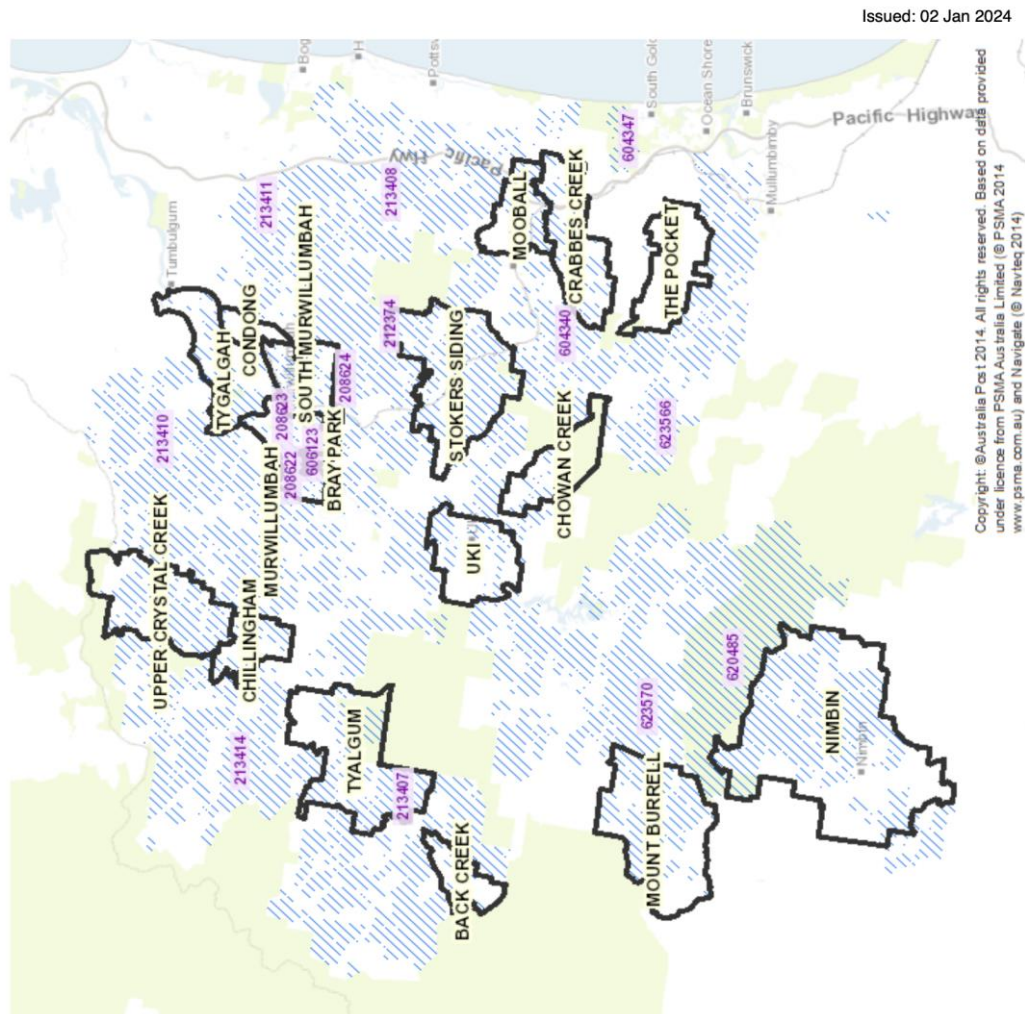


NSW Government strongly encourages best practice management by water utilities throughout Regional NSW. The NSW Government is proud to support this important planning work being done by Tweed Shire Council under the Safe and Secure Water Program.

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New South Wales

APPENDIX B – MAP OF AUSTRALIA POST COMMUNITY UPDATE DISTRIBUTION

Note that the map below represents Australian Post postal districts that were responsible for the distribution in areas surrounding the Uki area. While some of the listed locations are a distance from the site this is the name of the Australia Post office that was responsible for the distribution in the identified areas close to the dam site.



APPENDIX C – LIST OF MEDIA RELEASES AND RESULTING PRINTED / RADIO MEDIA

Media releases – The following media releases with reference to the raising of the dam and EIS were distributed on the dates indicated.

Date	Description of article/topic
5/5/2023	Work resumes on Environmental Impact Statement for raising Clarrie Hall Dam
26/9/2023	Tweed urged to save water to delay restrictions (informing of EIS preparation)
10/10/2023	Tweed urged to sign up for Water Night and learn how to save water now (informing of EIS preparation)
18/10/2023	Level 2 water restrictions start at Tyalgum next week (informing of EIS preparation)
18/01/2024	Keep up with the latest on raising Clarrie Hall Dam
July 2024	Announcement about the EIS lodgement in Council Water Matters publication sent to water customers.

Emails to people signed up to Your Say

Date	Description of article/topic
5/5/2023	Tweed Shire Council has contracted consulting company KBR to continue preparing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposal to raise Clarrie Hall Dam.
17/1/2024	Notification about the Information sessions
1/3/2024	Notification about the progress of the EIS and where to get information

Printed articles and radio media

Date	Description of article/topic	Channel
11/5/2023	Raising Clarrie Hall Dam vital to securing the Tweed's water supply	The Northern Rivers Times
18/01/2024	Information Sessions and EIS update	Daily Telegraph
23/01/2024	Information Sessions and EIS	Northern Rivers Times
31/01/2024	Advertisement for information sessions	Tweed Shire Council Environmental & Sustainability Newsletter
31/01 & 01/02/2024	Interviews with Elizabeth Seidl re information sessions and project/EIS	ABC North Coast Radio
2/2/2024	Information Sessions and EIS	Big Volcano Visitor Guide
22/02/2024	Tweed Council tackles population boom, housing shortage and water insecurity triple threat. Water shortage and fears for Uki.	ABC news

APPENDIX D – COUNCIL RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS RAISED IN THIS PERIOD

Question	Answer
Once the water height has been established, will there be an opportunity to create some nature trails around the circumference of the dam?	We're working on a catchment management plan for the dam and as part of that, we're considering low-impact recreational activities such as walking, hiking and bird watching. We need to wait until the environmental impact statement on raising the dam is released and reviewed by the NSW Government because recreational activities near the dam will need to be in keeping with the EIS and any conditions that the State Government attaches to it. If you haven't already, please consider subscribing to Tweed Link or our media releases so you can keep up to date by receiving Council news in your inbox.
More water tanks at people's homes would be a great start in securing water. So many people live outside of town that live solely on tank water and manage just fine.	Council encourages all dwellings to have rainwater tanks – if you're connected to town water, they are great for reducing your reliance on tap water and saving money on water bills. However, should we move into extended dry weather, tanks can quickly run out. Rainwater tank owners then need to get their tanks filled with water from the Tweed district water supply. During those times, the water will be sourced from our main water storage facility, the Clarrie Hall Dam. Raising the dam will allow us to meet the projected demand for town water from our community until 2065.
What is the point you never publish anything	Our goal is to keep the community informed, and we apologise if you feel otherwise. The Raising Clarrie Hall Dam EIS page at Raising Clarrie Hall Dam - Environmental Impact Assessment Your Say Tweed already has a lot of information which you may find useful. There you can find a range of related documents as well as frequently asked questions about the proposal. Your feedback is valuable. I encourage you to share ideas or questions you may have about publishing information on the EIS for raising the dam. The upcoming information sessions are a great way to let us know. Please come along. If you would prefer that we have a chat, please let me know.
With regard to the proposal to raise Clarrie Hall Dam, Vehicular traffic impacts are a concern for me. Road works along Kyogle Road do not appear to be a priority. now or ever. Road works prioritised to address the additional vehicular traffic, to and from the dam during works, is a concern for me. Kyogle Road has many subsidence spots, post 2022 disaster and now many potholes from recent rains. Ensuring that the roads are maintained as a priority, is important for me, during a dam build and as a right as a citizen. keeping Uki safe for pedestrians also a concern. Traffic calming through the village of Uki would be a good idea as already a racetrack for some. Additional parking for the village would address much of the risk involved in visiting the amenities. Maybe it is time for an alternative route to avoid trucks traversing the centre of the village. Should dam works commence without consideration of	Thank you for your email. We will pass your comments to independent consultant KBR, which is completing the environmental impact assessment for raising the dam and developing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). As part of EIS, the NSW Government requires a detailed traffic assessment, which we are working on. The traffic assessment is considering the impact of construction on local road networks including key intersections, proposed improvements to affected intersections, impacts on public transport and school bus routes, and impacts on road traffic noise among a range of other things. We're also exploring options to limit construction traffic on local roads by locating workers' accommodation and ancillary construction activities close to the dam. Once construction is completed, the traffic generated by construction is expected to return to existing levels, with no increase in traffic anticipated for the long-term. To find out more or to raise any further concerns you may have, please consider coming along to one of the upcoming community information sessions. Our team welcomes the opportunity to chat with you. Your input would help us with our assessments. Sincere regards

Question	Answer
prioritising road infrastructure (repairs and maintenance), then council and rate payers will pay through delays to works. As the name implies, Northern Rivers sees much inclement weather. To maintain a schedule of works will necessitate an alternate access to Byangum Bridge. Bakers' road will require widening to accommodate trucks. Think about raising the road at the corner of Mistral and Stokers. My rural community is doing the heavy lifting for water security, but we are not a priority for transport. Lack of transport holds back economic prosperity. A single, limited, private bus service Murwillumbah to Nimbin, ensures a heavy reliance on vehicular transport. Meanwhile maintaining Kyogle Road does not seem a priority. Plus very little consideration for planning alternate vehicle routes. BTW additional bridge at Murwillumbah also well overdue.	
What will happen to the water run off when the dam is full and there is a lot of rain forecast, will this cause flooding down the Tweed River as we live on the river and have been impacted before	Clarrie Hall Dam is built with an open, un-gated spillway – it's not built to mitigate against flooding. This is because the dam isn't in a suitable location for protecting our towns and villages from flooding – its catchment area takes in just 5.7% of the overall catchment area of the Tweed River and its upstream creeks and rivers. For more details and a video to explain how the dam operates, please go to tweed.nsw.gov.au/clarrie-hall-dam#operations . Also consider coming along to a community information session that we're holding in early February at Murwillumbah and Uki. Details are at yoursaytweed.com.au/clarriehalldameis . Sincerely, TSC
What areas of the proposed development can the community impact?	We're inviting the community to comment on anything to do with the proposal to raise the dam. Issues and concerns raised will be considered in the EIS. The EIS will look into relevant issues and consider mitigation measures or solutions that can be implemented as part of raising the dam. Please come along to one of the community information sessions at Murwillumbah and Uki next month to find out more about the project and to voice your thoughts. When the EIS is on exhibition mid this year, everyone will have another opportunity to raise issues. Sincerely, TSC
Who's paying for it?	Currently, the raising of the dam is fully funded from Council's Water Fund. However, we are exploring the possibility of NSW and Australian Government grants that may be available. The preparation of the EIS is also funded by Council, with part funding from the NSW Government under its Safe and Secure Water Program.
Is there any correlation between development and water usage?	Yes - as our population increases, more water is needed. However, climate change will also reduce the secure water yield of Clarrie Hall Dam. That's why we are planning to raise the dam and we're aiming to have it raised by 2028. That will provide us a secure source of water until about 2065.

Question	Answer
Can you publish the reports on the old build. Wasn't there a problem with the strength of the bedrock.	Numerous geological investigations were completed as part of the original dam construction. More investigations have been undertaken for the raised dam and have consistently found the bedrock is suitable for foundations and construction of a raised dam. Access the NSW Public Works Clarrie Hall Dam Concept Design Report at yoursaytweed.com.au/90358/widgets/422769/documents/274421 , which features a geotechnical investigations section.
All the impacted land around there has been acquired by council in preparation for the raising of the dam. Why then ask the community now?	Council has purchased or is in the process of purchasing all parcels of land or portions that will be impacted by the raised water level. But acquiring the land is only one part of the work required to plan and gain approval for a proposal this extensive. For example, planning for the relocation of power and telephone services is another body of work. A range of environmental, social and economic studies have been done as part of the EIS and we have been keeping the community informed along the way. Now that the EIS will be completed by mid-2024, the community has a further opportunity now to ask questions about the proposal and raise any concerns before the EIS is completed.
How would you go about it? What areas will need to be built up and which areas are you willing to lose to becoming new dam water holdings? Is there an estimate of how much more water could be held within the new level and how did you come to the extra height of 8.5m and not more or less?	Before we started work on the EIS, NSW Public Works prepared a concept design for raising the dam. That design determined how high the dam could be raised and 8.5 metres was the result due to the topography. The concept design is what the EIS is based on. Raising the dam higher than 8.5 metres would cause water to overtop an upstream spur in the catchment. By limiting the height increase to 8.5 metres, no areas will need to be built up other than the dam wall itself. Raising the dam by 8.5 metres would increase its capacity from 16,000 to 42,300 ML, doubling its footprint and securing the Tweed's water supply until at least 2065. Have a look at this media release for a graphic comparing the dam's current inundation area (in light green) with the area that would be inundated should the 8.5 metres raising be approved by the NSW Government (in dark green). www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/council/news-updates/latest-news/media-releases/1454887-keep-up-with-the-latest-on-raising-clarrie-hall-dam council has been working for a number of years with landowners whose properties would be wholly or partly inundated due to the new water level. By the time the dam is being built, Council will have purchased all affected land.
Hello, Could you advise if the raising of the dam will increase flooding risk to residents of Uki or further downstream? Thank you.	There will be no "release" of water from the dam in times of high rainfall. In a high rainfall event, when the dam fills, water will overtop the spillway and flows in Doon Doon Creek and the Tweed River will be similar to flows that would occur if the dam did not exist. Clarrie Hall Dam is not a flood-mitigation dam. For more details and a video to explain how the dam operates, please go to tweed.nsw.gov.au/clarrie-hall-dam#operations . Also consider coming along to a community information session that we're holding this week at Murwillumbah and Uki. Details are at yoursaytweed.com.au/clarriehalldameis . Sincerely, TSC
I am planning to attend the information at the Anglican Church in Kyogle Road on Tuesday, but wanted a bit more information on the reasons for not going ahead with the Byrrill Creek Dam. I know the Council was divided, and we will lose water in the Clarrie Dam while you are raising the wall, but it would seem prudent to build other dam first,	The source of water for most of the Tweed is the Tweed River, with water drawn from the Bray Park Weir. Most of the time, the river's flow meets the demands of our population. In drier times when there are low river flows, stored water (stored in Clarie Hall Dam) is released to supplement the river flow. To augment the water supply, what is needed is more stored water to get us through future low-flow periods when there is higher demand. It does not matter where that water is stored, as long as it is an efficient storage and cost effective. Comparing raising Clarrie Hall Dam with a dam at Byrrill Creek: Environmental releases: There is an environmental release

Question	Answer
especially to have some flood prevention strategies in place which Clarrie Dam will do nothing to provide. Also interested to know that there will be a Parliamentary Enquiry into Mt Warning and the access of the public. Can you send me some information on Birrell Creek options....	from Clarrie Hall Dam and if a Byrrill Creek dam was built, there would be a requirement for an environmental release from that dam. This means of total stored water, more would be lost if we had two dams. This makes a Byrrill Creek dam less efficient than raising Clarrie Hall Dam, as it would not increase our secure yield as much as raising Clarrie Hall. Cost: To provide similar secure-yield outcomes, a Byrrill Creek dam would be significantly more expensive than raising Clarrie Hall Dam. Cultural heritage: Consultation with First Nations peoples have informed Council the area around the location of a Byrrill Creek dam contains items and areas of significant cultural heritage, more so than the area that would be inundated by raising Clarrie Hall Dam. Ecology: Ecological studies have informed Council the area around the location of a Byrrill Creek dam contains areas of ecological significance, more so than the area that will be inundated by raising Clarrie Hall Dam. Community consultation: Community consultation in 2010 and more in 2019-20 indicated the community prefers the raising Clarrie Hall Dam to augment the Tweed District water supply. Based on these matters, Council resolved to raise Clarrie Hall Dam.
Thank you for the information provided at the recent community sessions. I have a question about the commitment of Tweed Shire Council to upgrade the road from Uki to Clarrie Hall Dam. There are a number of areas with tracks of potholes that would only get worse with significant truck traffic required for dam construction. Can you add in the engagement report community questions about road upgrade works to support truck movements and consideration of traffic calming measures around villages along Kyogle Road on the way to Clarrie Hall Dam. Thank you.	You're very welcome. The many discussions we had with members of the community during the information sessions have been documented as part of our work to prepare the Environmental Impact Statement. Thank you for raising the issue of road impacts during construction. We will definitely incorporate community concerns into the relevant report.
How do I find out more information on the Clarrie Hall Dam? How do I find out the contractors involved who will complete the Project? Or how do I become on the mailing list? Thank you	Thank you for your email on 13 February 2024, seeking more information about the Clarrie Hall Dam Raising project, the contractors involved and how to receive updates about the project. Our goal is to keep the community informed as much as possible about the project. The Raising Clarrie Hall Dam EIS page at Raising Clarrie Hall Dam - Environmental Impact Assessment Your Say Tweed has a lot of information which you may find useful. There you can find a range of related documents as well as frequently asked questions about the project. You can also choose to "Stay Informed" by registering your email address. This way you will be added to our mailing list and receive updates about the project as it progresses. Your feedback is valuable and I encourage you to share your ideas or questions on the page. With regards to contractors involved with the project, the original concept design for the project was prepared by NSW Public Works Advisory. The EIS is being prepared by Kellogg Brown and Root Pty Ltd (KBR) and is expected to be completed by mid-2024. KBR has engaged several sub-contractors who are preparing the various technical reports. Contractors for the detailed design and construction of the project have not been determined yet. Tenders for this work will not be called until (and if) the project is approved by the Minister and Council.

Question	Answer
Bottled Water is Crap. So why is there still over 60 water tankers with 28,000 litres of water in each leaving Tweed Shire every week!!!!!!!!!!	The NSW Government has regulatory responsibility over groundwater extraction throughout the State, including the Tweed. When it comes to groundwater extraction and bottling, Council's only influence is through planning controls. To that end, in 2020 we worked with the community to amend a clause in the Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2014 that allowed water bottling facilities in the RU2 Rural Landscape Zone. This has prohibited new water bottling facilities in rural areas of the Tweed.
The construction method for raising the Clarrie Hall Dam appears flawed given recent advice from the council and the current budget of \$100 million. What would be the environmental effect of an entire dam failure occurring during a heavy rainfall event when the dam's spillway is not functional which current methodology dictates will occur for a period of many months?	The construction methodology as presently proposed is indicative only. The actual construction methodology will be determined after the detailed design by the contractor engaged to raise the dam. That detailed construction methodology will consider the risk of extreme rainfall events during construction and how the impact of those event may be mitigated. As an example, the contractor may construct the raised embankment and the new spillway before "closing" the original spillway. This will be a matter for detailed design and construction methodology.
On 24 Feb 2024 I asked what would be the Environmental Impact if the Clarrie Hall Dam wall was to fail during construction of the wall raising which is likely if the contractor uses the Councils currently stated construction method. You did not answer this question and reply included the statement "As an example, the contractor may construct the raised embankment and new spillway before "closing" the original spillway". To be clear, the new embankment is to be built over the top of the existing spillway and will require significant modification to the existing spillway to attain the new dam wall and concrete membrane. Could someone the original question and someone who is has an engineering background please explain to the original responder what has to happen to build the new dam wall?	Thank you for your follow-up questions about dam safety during construction to raise the dam. If there was a failure of the dam during construction, it would be a "sunny day" failure or a failure due to overtopping. When there is no construction the events that could cause a sunny day failure are seismic activity or a piping failure. The probability of this has been assessed and will be reassessed after the determination of the EIS as part of the design of the raised dam. The probability is extremely low. The probability of failure of the dam due to overtopping is also extremely low and is managed by the spillway. In respect to failure during construction the probability of a sunny day failure remains extremely low, as it is now. The probability of failure due to overtopping might increase for a period, depending on the construction methodology used by the contractor. To suggest that a dam failure is likely to occur, due to overtopping during construction, is incorrect as it would require the combined events of an extreme rainfall event occurring at the same time as specific construction works and the risk of these two events coinciding is extremely low. It should also be noted as previously advised the method of construction presently proposed is a proposal only and it will be up to the contractor to develop a method to minimise this risk. If you have suggestions on the construction methods that should be used to mitigate risk please forward them to Council at WaterAdmin@tweed.nsw.gov.au so that Council may consider them and will pass those onto the designers and contractors
Clearly building a second dam is preferable as then there are two water sources. This has become even more apparent since our current water source has blue green algae. What is the environmental impact assessment of the new dam versus raising Clarrie Hall Dam?	Thank you for raising the question about whether having two dams would be better than one, particularly in light of the occasional outbreaks of blue green algae in Clarrie Hall Dam. So why not Byrrill Creek? Isn't it wiser to have some contingency in a second dam? While you might expect that a second dam would provide greater drought security, it's not that simple. The bulk of the water supplying the Tweed comes from Bray Park weir, which is fed by the Tweed River, which has both Byrrill Creek and Doon Doon Creek as tributaries. While ever there is adequate water flowing to Bray Park, the water stored in the dams is not needed. It is only when there is insufficient flow in the Tweed River that water from the dam/s would be released. So without consideration of issues like environmental flows or evaporation it doesn't matter where the water is stored. However, we do need to consider issues like evaporation and environmental flows. A second dam at Byrrill Creek would require

Question	Answer
	releases of water over and above that required from a raised Clarrie Hall Dam, thereby reducing the amount of water available to Tweed residents. Further, two dams have a much larger surface area than one dam and hence there would be greater evaporation losses, also reducing the amount of water available to Tweed residents. Lastly, the environmental impact of a second and new dam at Byrill Creek would be considerably greater than that of raising the existing Clarrie Hall Dam. Overall, in the case of Tweed, one dam is preferable to two. With regards to the risks of aquatic weeds and blue-green algae in the raised dam, these risks may be slightly reduced due to a bigger and deeper water body. A dam operations management plan will be developed to control aquatic weeds and blue green algae. Some ideas being considered include the profiling of the ground at the top water level of the dam so that the land falls steeply away and the area for aquatic weeds to propagate is reduced. Further, if it is found that there is a propensity for blue-green algae, Council will consider the four factors precipitating blooms, being nutrient presence, high water temperature, time and sunlight, to determine the most appropriate control measures. Typically, where required, the most common control measure is to mix the water to reduce the time water stays in a high temperature and sunny environment, limiting and / or preventing algal blooms.