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Hunter Water's "Acknowledgment of Country"

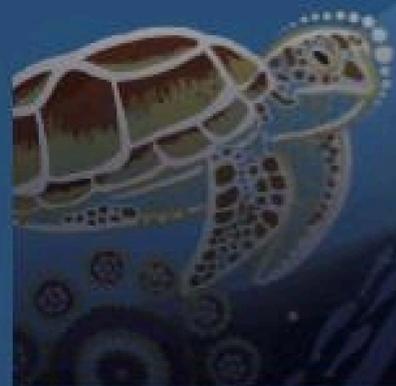
"We acknowledge the Traditional Countries of the **Awabakal, Darkinjung, Geawegal, Wonnarua** and **Worimi** peoples and the Countries on which we operate and beyond where our water flows.

"We recognize and respect the cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing connection to the lands and waters of its Traditional Custodians and pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging."

Miromaliko Baato

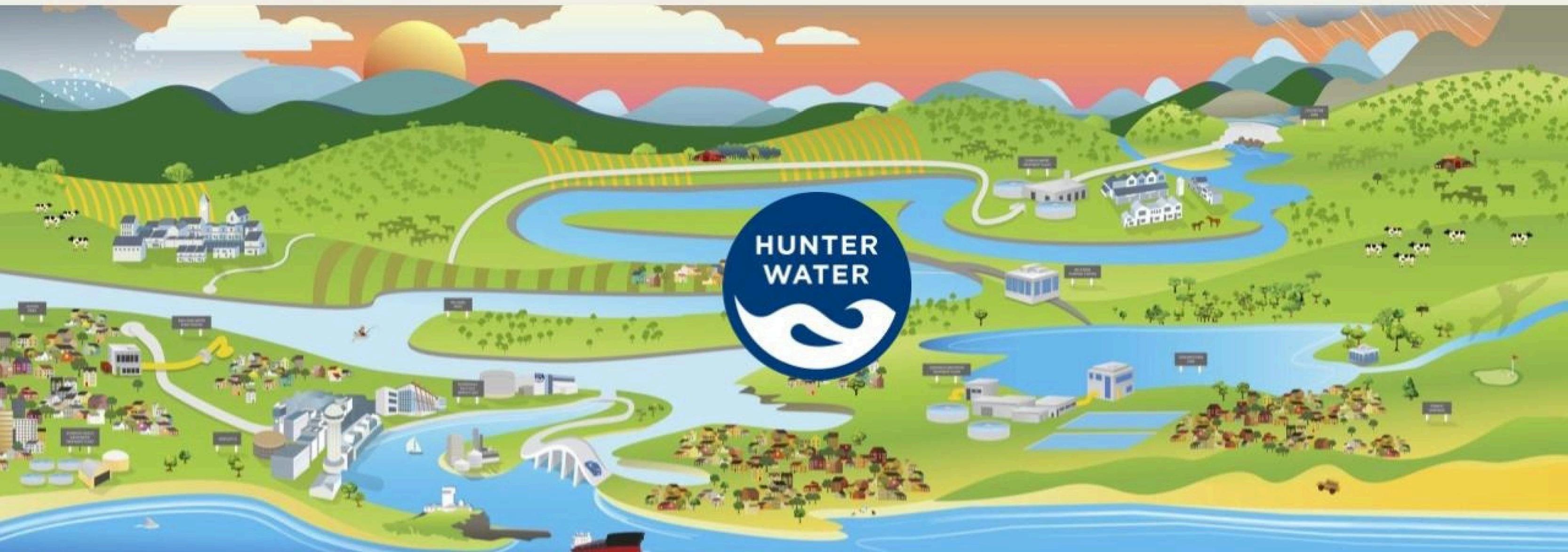
In the Gathung language, *Miromaliko Baato* means "saving water."

Hunter Water engaged Awabakal Elder Aunty Tracey Hanshaw to help us incorporate Aboriginal Language as part of Our Corporate Strategy.

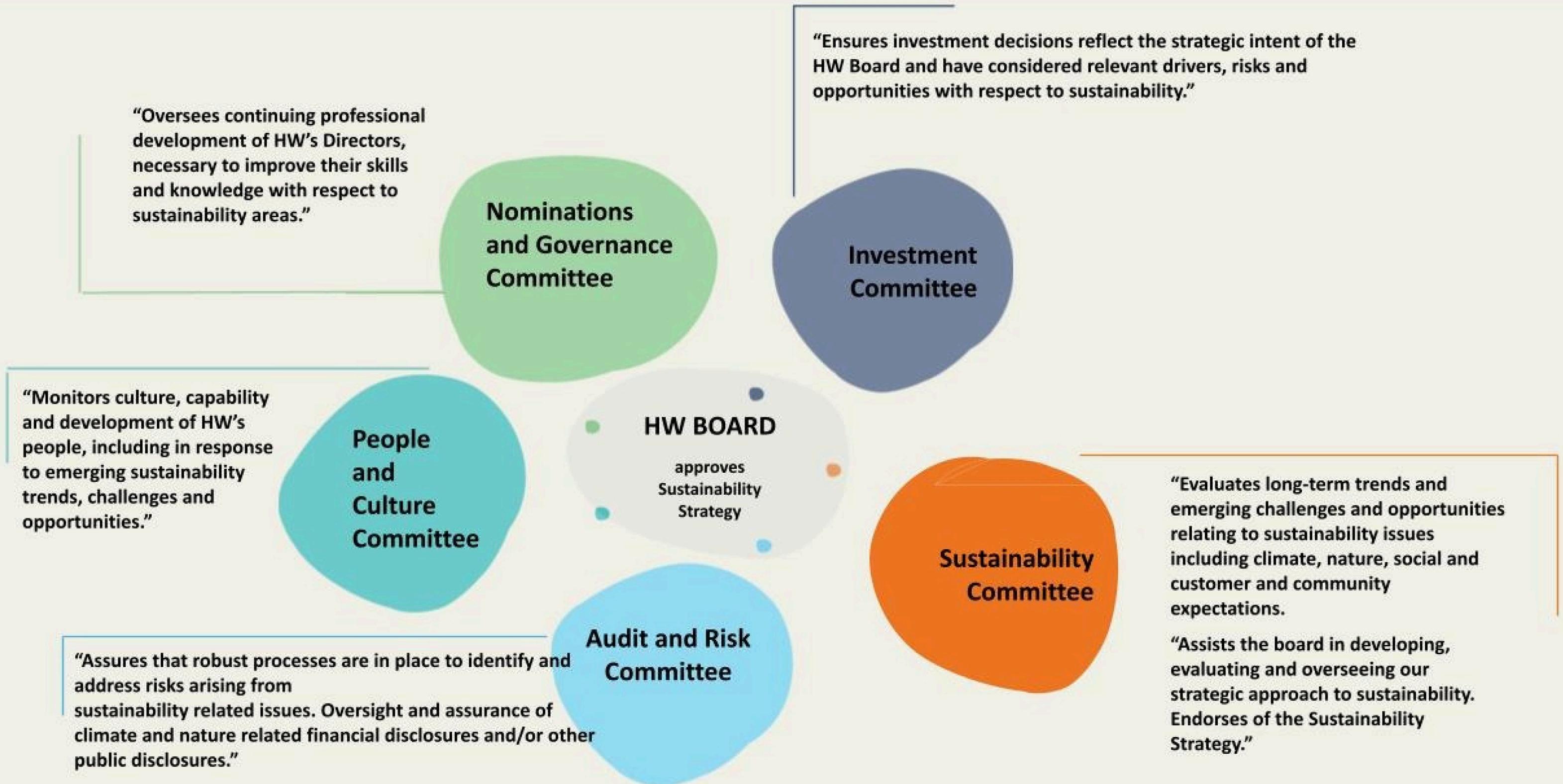


HW's Area of Operations
with
Traditional Boundaries

Background and Context



Hunter Water's Governance for Sustainability Planning



Hunter Water's Strategic Approach and Drivers for Change



Planning and Implementation *(ongoing actions)*

Investment planning

"When where, when and how to invest to meet our strategic objectives and manage risk."

Organizational planning

"Drives important organizational outcomes such as safety, health and wellbeing, sustainability and community activities"

Increasing environmental and social challenges



A growing region



A more variable climate



Increasing expectations and regulations



Navigating uncertainty and complexity



Hunter Water's Drivers for Change

Increasing environmental and social challenges



Water security, biodiversity loss, and intergenerational equity are some of the current and emerging challenges Hunter Water faces. HW will consider the diverse current needs of its communities and environment and future risks and opportunities to help create a sustainable water future for all.

A growing region



The region's population is forecast to grow by more than 20% over the next 20 years. Safe and reliable water services underpin this growth, delivering the right solutions at the right time to support livable communities and enable regional prosperity. Hunter Water has a role in supporting a thriving local economy and enabling industry transition in the greater Hunter Region.

A more variable climate



Hunter Water's assets, operations and services are exposed to a range of climate change risks, including increased severity of weather events, increasing mean temperatures, more frequent and severe droughts, bushfires, and rising sea levels. Hunter Water and its community needs to respond to the physical and transitional risks and opportunities that a changing climate presents at the right time to ensure a resilient future.

Increasing expectations and regulations



Hunter Water's customers, communities and stakeholders expect Hunter Water to be open and transparent in providing services that meet its community's needs without compromising the ability of future generations to do the same. As HW's regulatory and reporting expectations evolve, we must anticipate future shifts and ensure our readiness to adapt and respond.

Navigating uncertainty and complexity



For Hunter Water, navigating complexity involves understanding and addressing a multitude of interconnected environmental, social, and economic challenges. This includes navigating future uncertainties and being well-positioned to respond and adapt.

Hunter Water's "Guiderrails" for Action-Oriented Delivery

Guiderrails, Descriptions and Actions

Hunter Water's guiderrails include cross-cutting actions that will enable us to deliver on its sustainability objectives.

Delivering commercial value

Working with HW's supply chain and procurement services to identify opportunities and deliver on HW's sustainability objectives.

Trusted relationships

Partnering with customers, community and industry groups, local councils, regional bodies, and research institutions to innovate together and leverage resources and knowledge.

Learning with First Nations Wisdom

Partnering with customers, community and industry groups, 'Learning with First Nations' wisdom will enrich our understanding of land and water management and strengthen our environmental stewardship.

Planning for future generations

Embedding intergenerational equity and sustainability principles into our policy, strategic planning, investment, and risk frameworks.

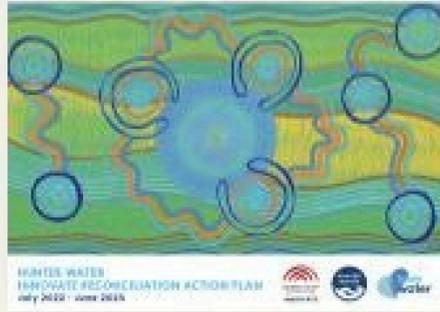
Listening and doing

Transparent and inclusive community engagement and education to understand our community's priorities and values, inform decision-making and help our community take meaningful action towards a more sustainable future.

Digital transformation

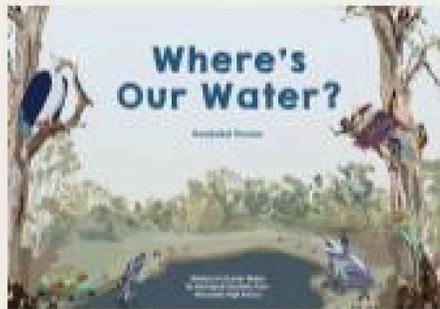
Improve operational performance to deliver environmental and customer outcomes through innovation, smart devices and data-driven decision-making.

References and Resources



Hunter Water - Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan

<https://www.hunterwater.com.au/documents/assets/src/uploads/documents/Other-Reports/Reconciliation-Action-Plan-2022.pdf>



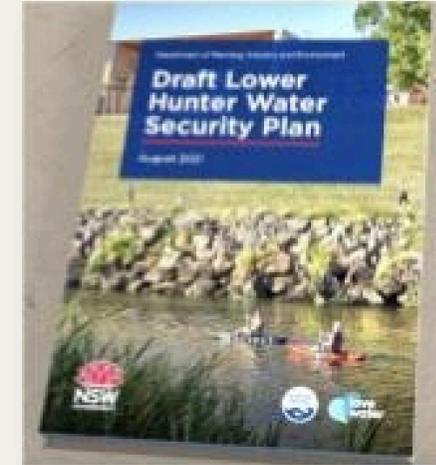
“Where’s Our-Water?” Awabakal

https://www.hunterwater.com.au/documents/assets/src/uploads/documents/Re-print-Wheres-Our-Water-Awabakal_2025-01-28-050513_vvop.pdf



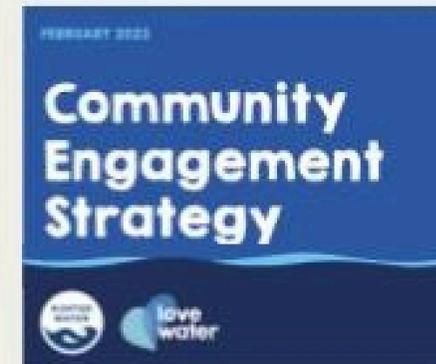
Hunter Water Sustainability Strategy

<https://www.hunterwater.com.au/documents/assets/src/uploads/documents/sustainability-strategy.pdf>



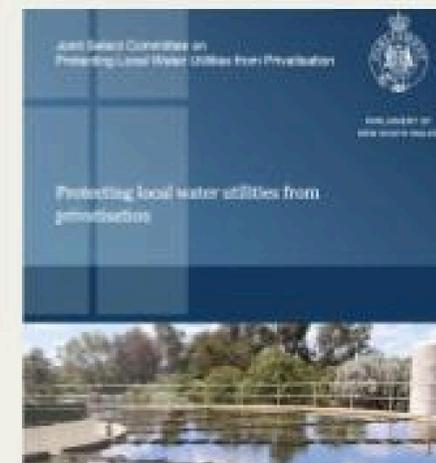
Lower Hunter Security Plan

<https://www.hunterwater.com.au/documents/assets/src/uploads/documents/Plans--Strategies/lower-hunter-water-security-plan.pdf>



HW Community Engagement Strategy (2023)

<https://www.hunterwater.com.au/documents/assets/src/uploads/documents/Plans--Strategies/Community-and-Engagement-Strategy.pdf>



“Protecting local water utilities from privatisation” (Parliament of New South Wales)

<https://www.hunterwater.com.au/documents/assets/src/uploads/documents/Plans--Strategies/Community-and-Engagement-Strategy.pdf>

Thank You

