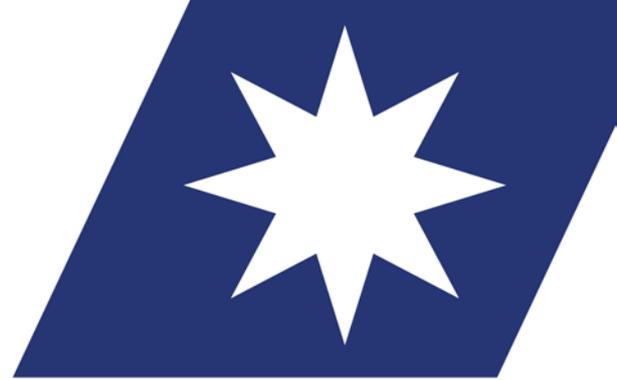


BOB KATTER

Katter's Australian Party

Federal Member for Kennedy



MEDIA RELEASE

2 August 2019

There's no dam way, Cairns

Bob Katter, KAP MP for Kennedy, has, today, expressed his relief that the Nullinga Dam has been taken off the table as a solution to Cairns' water security future.

"Southern Cairns, which I represent, needs water badly, if it's going to expand. It cannot get water from Nullinga."

"This is a lie perpetrated by a whole stack of people, and it is a lie because we are never going to pull the water from Nullinga, which is on the other side of the Great Dividing Range, into Cairns."

"Clearly, the people that are telling you these lies intend to take water from Tinaroo and that's farmers' water," he explained. "The farmers can't get the water from Nullinga because they would have to pump it up hill – they can't afford to do that."

Mr Katter went on to explain the more reasonable solution of the North Johnstone Transfer. "The bigger picture was always the North Johnstone Transfer."

By raising the Tinaroo dam, in conjunction with the North Johnstone Transfer, Mr Katter believes that Innisfail will be provided with some protection against future flooding events and provide farmers with an emergency supply.

"We want some long-term development of the water for Cairns and I don't think there's any alternative but to look at Flaggy Creek and to look at Rifle Creek."

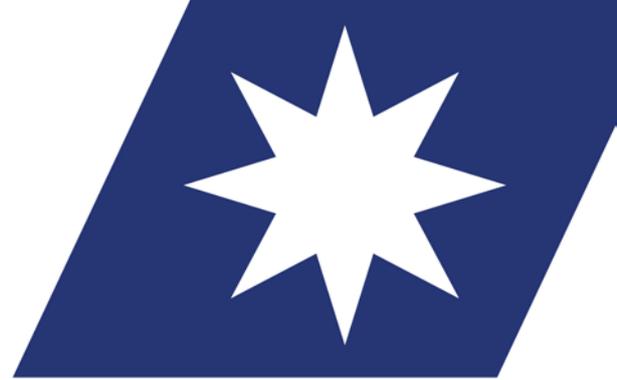
Mr Katter holds concerns over how much was spent "working on a scheme they knew was wrong in concept from the start."

"If some foreign corporation wants to build Nullinga, fine... but the Australian Government, if I have any say, will act intelligently and help the people. North Johnstone Transfer, raise the Tinaroo Dam, tourism... flood mitigation for Innisfail and if there is an emergency in the 10 to 20 years, we can supply water to Cairns."

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Mr Katter expressed his disappointment in the Qld State Government's lack of water development. "State Government won't let anyone do anything in water. They've been in government for most of the last 35 years and not a single water scheme in Qld – the driest continent on earth, suffering from the worst drought in the state's history and not a single dam built."

Mr Katter believes it is now time for the Federal Government to take control and make these projects a reality.

"But there is a bigger issue in this case, the farmers must have security of water and Cairns must have water for its growth. The answer is simple and cheap – North Johnstone Transfer, tiny little weir, it goes into Tinaroo and raise the dam wall."

"In the meantime, we can work on the really big dam schemes on the Mitchell River."

—ENDS—

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