



# INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITY

## NULLINGA DAM

<b>PROPOSERS:</b>	Advance Cairns / Mareeba Shire Council / Tablelands Regional Council
<b>COUNCIL:</b>	Mareeba Shire Council
<b>STATE ELECTORATES:</b>	Cook / Hill
<b>FEDERAL ELECTORATE:</b>	Leichhardt



### CURRENT FOCUS

Expediate completion of the detailed business case into Nullinga Dam in the 2018 calendar year and commit to the acquisition of the required land.

### ISSUE

Tropical North Queensland has enjoyed consistent population growth over the past 25 years. This growth has been underpinned by the expansion of several industries, including agriculture, fisheries and tourism. Consequently, investment in key water infrastructure is critical to service our sustained economic growth.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That the Queensland Government, through Building Queensland, works with the Commonwealth Government to ensure the detailed business case is completed and released by the end of the 2018/19 FY within the context of the Cairns Water Security Strategy (CWSS), ensuring a clear link between the proposal and the future urban water and agricultural needs in the region.**

**That the Queensland Government commits to the acquisition of the land required for the Dam in the 2018/19FY.**

### OVERVIEW

Consistent with the CWSS, the opportunity to assess and construct Nullinga Dam and associated infrastructure would provide long term water security for the wider region and enable growth in Northern Australia.

The purpose of the dam is to allow for future agricultural demand in the Mareeba-Dimbulah Water Supply Scheme (MDWSS) and the future urban demand in Cairns and Mareeba.

The current indicated storage capacity of the proposed dam is 365,000MI, but it could provide an additional 126,000MI with enhanced design options focused on the size of the dam wall.

While the Nullinga Dam project would provide both agricultural and urban water supply options, it also has the potential to stimulate a number of other catalytic projects around its construction, including hydro, lake-surface solar and water treatment plants.

Under the Northern Australian White Paper, the Federal Government has committed \$5M to assessing the viability of the proposal, but further resources are required to secure approvals and investment. Whilst funded by the Commonwealth, the detailed business case is being overseen by Building Queensland.

