



CHAPTER 21

RECOMMENDATIONS

Nullinga Dam and Other Options Preliminary Business Case



21 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Nullinga Dam and Other Options Preliminary Business Case recommends that the Queensland Government:

1. Endorse that Option 2: Improve Mareeba-Dimbulah Water Supply Scheme rules and operation progress to further evaluation.
2. Endorse that Option 3: Modernisation of the Mareeba-Dimbulah Water Supply Scheme and conversion of losses progress to further evaluation.
3. Endorse that Option 4: Nullinga Dam for agricultural use not progress to further evaluation via a Detailed Business Case at this time. Nullinga Dam (via a 'swap' arrangement of existing water allocations from Tinaroo Falls Dam—see Recommendation 4) is not needed for Cairns urban water supply for at least the next 30 years and assessment has revealed limited certainty of information in relation to Nullinga Dam for agricultural use.
4. Note that the trigger for any further consideration of Option 4: Nullinga Dam for agricultural use is recommended to be a satisfactory level of certainty about the demand for new water allocations at a nominated volume and a nominated price (e.g. a significantly large proportion of the dam yield at an appropriate price). This certainty may be developed via an approach from industry to government, or via government commissioning a detailed demand assessment for new water allocations in the region.