

# Sunshine Coast Waterways Authority Bill 2026

**Submission No:** 093

**Submission By:** Cherie O'Sullivan

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Dear Minister:

I am placing a submission to request all areas of Noosa Shire, including Noosa River are removed from the proposed Sunshine Coast Waterways Authority jurisdiction. My reason is:

1. in the referendum prior to the 2008 forced amalgamation, 98% of respondents voted to keep Noosa separate from Sunshine Coast jurisdictions
2. Between 2007-20014 many Noosa Shire Residents lives were turned upside down in relentless pursuit to deamalgamate Noosa from Sunshine Coast.
3. The reason Noosa residents fought so hard to deamalgamate from Sunshine Coast Regional Council is the values Noosa Shire has been built on, and engagement requirements of our community differ substantially to Sunshine Coast Counterparts, and still do.
4. Deamalgamation was delivery of a 2014 state government election promise, representing that the majority of voters supported Noosa's independence.
5. The huge costs of deamalgamation were absorbed by Noosa Council (I.e. Noosa ratepayers) in good faith the local Noosa community would have strong voices that are heard and responded to regarding activities in our shire, including Noosa River.
6. Due to reasons 1-5 , it does not seem ethical or democratic to include Noosa in the Sunshine Coast Waterways Authority.

For the Government to demonstrate they are not undermining principles that led to deamalgamation, either :

- a) remove Noosa from the authority jurisdiction all together; or
- b) To ensure consistency with Noosa Council Planning objectives:
  - i) Retain Noosa Councils existing assessment jurisdictions for prescribed tidal works approvals; AND
  - ii) enshrine a legally watertight code, developed and agreed to by Noosa Council as the community representatives, to give clear acceptance criteria for any new structures, regardless of the proponent.

Kind Regards  
Cherie O'Sullivan  
Noosa Shire resident since 1996

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