

**Submission
No 47**

REVIEW OF THE NSW RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY ACT 2022

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I was directly and devastatingly affected by the flood and my house is in the high risk area. I was offered a buy back but it's not enough money to buy anything in the area and moving to the outback somewhere at my age and starting over is equally as devastating as going through the flood.

The buy back offers in my area, North Lismore seems to have no real rationale. They are supposed to be offered at pre flood values and in some cases that's what happened but in others it was way over the top and unbelievably so. Those people were able to get out. The rest of us are stuck here to go through the next flood and by then in properties that have no value therefore leaving us with no future. When we ask about the reasoning behind this we can't get an answer from the concierge at RA and generally they don't have the answers that we need, I feel sorry for the abuse they have to endure, at one point it was so bad they closed the office and had to employ security guards.

The ever changing complexity of the situation can't be explained to them and in return they can't explain it to us which means we have to go to community organisations like the Lismore and Nimbin Neighbourhood and Community Centres. They help us with applications, forms, they find out all the information on the ever changing landscape that is the RA and with only community funding, they work hard and tirelessly to the point of exhaustion, get them some funding as they are doing all the heavy lifting for us.

The waste of money is sickening the ever changing leadership is distressing and confusing for all concerned. All this has left me with two choices: kill myself now or wait for the next flood to do it for me. Emotional blackmail you call it, it's mine and many others' last resort. We are desperate and we want our futures back.