



**The Hon. Stuart Ayres MP**

Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism  
and Western Sydney

Mr David Blunt  
Clerk of the Parliaments  
Parliament House  
Macquarie Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Blunt,

Please find attached the Government response to the Recommendations of the Inquiry into the *Water NSW Amendment (Warragamba Dam) Bill 2018* by the Legislative Council Standing Committee on State Development, to be tabled in the Legislative Council.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon. Stuart Ayres MP  
**Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism  
and Western Sydney**

Received at 8:09 am  
Wednesday 3 July 2014

Parliamentary inquiry into the Water NSW Amendment (Warragamba Dam) Bill 2018

Government Response

	Recommendation	NSW Government's Response
1	That the Legislative Council proceed with debate on the Water NSW Amendment (Warragamba Dam) Bill 2018.	Noted.
2	That the NSW Government address the committee comments and recommendations contained in this report.	Supported.
3	That the NSW Government: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>review the consultation processes incorporated in any planning approvals for the Warragamba Dam project and for the remainder of the Environmental Impact Statement process; and</li> <li>allow for adequate time to conduct survey mapping for Aboriginal heritage in the impacted areas.</li> </ul>	Supported.  The NSW Government is committed to comprehensive assessment and consultation processes for the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Warragamba Dam Raising project. All efforts will be made to complete the process according to best practice.
4	That, in order to inform the current legislative debate, Infrastructure NSW should now release on a confidential basis to members of the Standing Committee on State Development, the source documents that sit behind the 'Resilient Valley, Resilient Communities' strategy and the Cost Benefit Analysis of the alternative measures that have been examined.	Supported.  <i>Resilient Valley, Resilient Communities</i> – the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley Flood Risk Management Strategy (Flood Strategy) is a comprehensive long-term framework for the NSW Government, local councils, businesses and the community working together to manage flood risk in this important region. More than four years of detailed research, modelling and analysis underpins the Flood Strategy.  The analysis supporting <i>Resilient Valley, Resilient Communities</i> : the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley Flood Risk Management Strategy has been published in a report, which can be accessed at <a href="http://www.infrastructure.nsw.gov.au/media/1976/taskforce-options-assessment-report-2019-v2.pdf">http://www.infrastructure.nsw.gov.au/media/1976/taskforce-options-assessment-report-2019-v2.pdf</a> .
5	That the draft bill be amended to require the draft Environmental Management Plan to be put on public	Noted.

	<p>exhibition for 45 days, noting that this is required for any amendment to a Plan of Management under Part 5 of the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>.</p>	<p>It has been agreed by the Minister administering the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> and the Minister administering the <i>Water NSW Act 2014</i> that the Environmental Management Plan (under Part 5A of the <i>Water NSW Act 2014</i>) would be put on exhibition for 45 days.</p>
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p>That, in future, the Legislative Council consider referring bills prior to the conclusion of the second reading debate reply.</p>	<p>Noted. This is a matter for the Legislative Council.</p>
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p>That the Legislative Council facilitate amendments to the Standing Orders and the operation of committees to allow members to submit 'Additional Comments' rather than a 'Dissenting statement', noting that this is an option available under the current Senate practice.</p>	<p>Noted. This is a matter for the Legislative Council.</p>