

ORDINARY MEETING

Minutes: 26 October 2021

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Item: 215 **MM2 - Warragamba Dam Raising Project - (125610)**

Councillor Garrow declared a less than significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest in this matter as her father is an executive on the Hawkesbury Nepean River Flood Mitigation Action Committee. She left the meeting and did not take part in voting or discussion on the matter.

Ms Jocelyn Howden addressed Council. speaking against the recommendation in the business paper.

A MOTION was moved by the Mayor, Councillor Conolly.

That Council prepare a submission in response to the Warragamba Dam Raising Project EIS, to highlight the importance of the project to the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley.

The submission should consider matters such as:

- The estimated number of buildings and quantum of damage to buildings within the Hawkesbury River floodplain within the Hawkesbury local government area at risk of potential flooding in various design flood events, including 1 in 5, 1 in 20, 1 in 50, 1 in 100, 1 in 200, 1 in 500 and Probable Maximum Flood, and the reduction of the number of buildings and damage to buildings that the Warragamba Dam Raising project could potentially achieve
- The significant limitations and disadvantages of the alternative options for flood mitigation, as examined in the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley Flood Risk Management Strategy - Resilient Valley, Resilient Communities, and in the Environmental Impact Statement
- The role of the range of targeted actions across the nine outcomes contained within the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley Flood Risk Management Strategy - Resilient Valley, Resilient Communities
- The fact that the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley is considered to have the highest flood risk in Australia
- The legislative changes that would be required for the Warragamba Dam to be used for permanent water storage in the future, given concerns that the raised Dam could lead to the use of the increased height for water storage purposes as opposed to the stated intention of flood mitigation
- That it is currently not feasible for many of our residents to access flood insurance
- The very small proportion of the Blue Mountains World Heritage Area that would be affected by temporary inundation in the event of a major flood event, and that the project includes significant offsets to ensure there are no material impacts on biodiversity, and has also assessed the potential impacts on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage
- Council's Flood Policy 2020, which recognises the need for a collaborative approach to floodplain management across the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley and demonstrates our commitment to providing up to date and relevant, best practice controls based on consideration of flood hazard and risks
- The lack of proper provision for infrastructure in times of flooding
- The lack of electricity supply and emergency services west of the river during floods
- Council's concerns about development along evacuation routes including in neighbouring local government areas.
- Council requiring the Regional Land Use Study, Cumulative Overland Flood Study, and post-flood release information.

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For the Motion: Councillors Conolly, Richards, Tree, and Zamprogno.

Against the Motion: Councillors Lyons-Buckett, Calvert, Kotlash, Rasmussen, Reynolds, Ross and Wheeler.

Absent: Councillor Garrow.

The Motion was lost.