

**Submission
No 7**

**INQUIRY INTO WATER NSW AMENDMENT
(WARRAGAMBA DAM) BILL 2018**

Name: Mr John Ross
Date Received: 2 October 2018

I write as a resident of Hawkesbury LGA, in my private capacity. As an independent elected Councillor of HCC, your enquiry came to my notice over the long weekend. I express grave concern with the process upon which your Committee has embarked. Not only has insufficient time been provided to prepare submissions, but the mandated EIS and subsequent review processes are being subverted by the Committee. The purpose of your enquiry can only be construed by the public as contrary to the public interest. We in the Hawkesbury have already endured the failure of your Government & agencies to conduct any form of respectful, progressive, visionary infrastructure project enunciation. The most recent of these is the 3rd Hawkesbury River crossing, then BLOMG corridor, Vineyard housing, & the now notorious WBRP - Option !. As a lay person, now your Government has trumpeted the apparent remediation (?) of the desalination by December 2018, surely the precautionary principle would dictate LOWERING the existing water levels, which reduces the call on Treasury, as well as facilitating best practice engineering compliance. Following which operation of the desalination plant can become integral to supply, plus climate change response. However, if it is your Government's intention to progress as suggested in the WATER NSW - September Update (also conveniently released late last week), your haste accrues an altogether differing hue ! I refer to the following sentence verbatim: "A new Regional Land Use Planning Framework is being developed to ensure: FLOOD RISK IS NOT INCREASED BY LIMITING NEW GROWTH TO THOSE AREAS WHERE PEOPLE CAN BE SAFELY EVACUATED IN A SEVERE FLOOD". Please explain ! Waterfront development on the floodplain river banks ? Industrial + residential ? Your Committee & Government fall short once more. Regards, JR.