

Submission
No 62

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 3 October 2018

Partially
Confidential

Submission to the Water NSW Amendment (Warragamba Dam) Bill 2018

I am deeply concerned about the proposal to raise the Warragamba Dam wall. This ill-advised action would cause severe damage to the ecological and cultural values of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

Alternative flood mitigation options such as stormwater and rainwater harvesting and reuse throughout the urban subcatchments would be more cost-effective and would achieve multiple benefits including protecting waterways from stormwater impacts, providing alternative water sources for non-potable uses and making urban areas more 'liveable'. We have before us an opportunity to create a more water sensitive Sydney, Blue Mountains and surrounds; a chance to make positive rather than negative change. To this end, the dam wall raising proposal should be abandoned and a new approach, utilising the best available scientific advice should be developed to ensure that dollars spent achieve multiple benefits for communities and the National Park/World Heritage Area.

For more on water sensitive cities, please refer to:

<https://watersensitivecities.org.au/>

The Draft Water Sensitive Blue Mountains Strategic Plan outlines the need for a new approach to water management in the region, and highlights the benefits that could be achieved by transitioning to water sensitive practices:

<https://www.bluemountainshaveyoursay.com.au/water-sensitive-strategic-plan>

Yours sincerely,