

Submission
No 7

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSAL TO RAISE THE
WARRAGAMBA DAM WALL**

Name: Mrs Shirley Goodbar

Date Received: 18 August 2019

Sirs: I believe that large dams do more damage than the "good" they may produce. The changes they make to the land is irrevocable. Both habitat and species are destroyed in the process. There are many other steps that can be taken before we consider such devastation. Our problems are self-created.

There are ways of saving the water we do receive from rain and we can learn to waste less. Why are we not mandating rain tanks on both homes and public buildings? planting many many more trees? covering less of our earth with concrete and bitumen? We have continued to cover our land with highways, parking lots, and built up areas from habit—"we've always done it that way, why change?"

There is no realistic reason why "water restrictions" cannot be used more extensively, even year around. Experience has shown that citizens can learn how to conserve water resources for extended periods of time—long enough for that action to become habitual. We know we will have to curtail the use of cars sooner than later—get them out of the city and turn the parking lots in to oasis of plants and trees.

These and similar measures will not take longer and will surely cost a lot less than destroying precious now-open lands by drowning them. There are other non-drastic actions we should put in place before resorting to dams.

Mitigation should always be tried before destruction.

Sincerely Shirley Goodbar