

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 31 August 2019

Partially
Confidential

Raising Warragamba Dam wall will be Ineffective at mitigating flood risk on the Hawkesbury-Nepean floodplain. You could discuss that 45% of historical flood waters in the valley have originated from other catchments besides Warragamba, and that the wall raising will promote more development in risky areas, effectively increasing the number of people exposed to high flood risk. Raising Warragamba Dam wall will promote too much development on the Hawkesbury-Nepean floodplain. With plans to increase the Hawkesbury-Nepean Floodplain population by 134,000 by 2030, it will change the social-fabric of this semi-rural region which has historically provided a significant amount of Sydney's food. It will put massive pressure on western Sydney suburbs which will experience explosive expansion. Australia's zoning regulation for flooding (1:100 year) is far below other international best practice, with the US (1:500) or the Netherlands (1:1250 Years) as examples. We shouldn't be putting more people in areas that are deemed dangerous in many other countries. The irreversible damage the raising of the wall will have on the cultural heritage of the southern Blue Mountains is unacceptable and will destroy the remaining link its Traditional Owners have to country. It will result in the massive loss of sacred and archaeological sites, including the last remaining features of the Gundungurra peoples dreaming stories. It is worth discussing the draft cultural assessment, which utilised botched methodology resulting in only 26% of the entire area that will be submerged assessed by consultants.