

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

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 5 September 2019

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Partially  
Confidential

Key concerns regarding raising the Warragamba Dam wall are listed below in my submission: It is an effective method for mitigating flood risk. Most flooding originates through the catchments. No further development should be encouraged in areas prone to flooding.

Acres for food for Sydney should not be converted into a residential area with plans to increase the population by 134,000 within ten years. An effective use of such funds would be to convert brown sites/ previous industrial sites into housing not world heritage areas or areas bordering world heritage or farming land.

The irreversible damage the raising of the wall, due to the loss of sacred sites, 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.

The impact this project will inflict on the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area is devastating: 48 threatened species found in the 4,700 hectares to be inundated, include species such as the critically endangered Regent honeyeater (Australia's rarest bird) and the Camden White Gum. It will destroy Sydney's only remaining wild river and wilderness streams, including the iconic Kowmung river. As noted by the World Heritage Committee this year, the project will also undermine the 'Outstanding Universal Values' which led to the park being inscribed as a World Heritage Site. This threatens its status as a World Heritage site, and could be put on the 'at risk' list.