

**Submission  
No 185**

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

**Name:** Ms Kelly Keith  
**Date Received:** 5 September 2019

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Submission against the planned raising of the Warragamba Dam.

My name is Kelly and I am a preschool director. I work and live in the outer western region of Sydney. I am deeply concerned for the impacts on over development in the region, its affect on fragile eco systems and endangered species with the threat of continued extensive loss of habitat including increased risks of water contamination.

On behalf of my own family but for the children who are yet to know the wonders and knowledge of this great land. I strongly support the protection of the blue Mountains heritage listing and to ensure the sanctity of the lands and all that it encumbers. The ancient knowledge and custodian responsibility must be shared , because this land is shared. We are all responsible for what follows. And it must be told it must be protected for beyond my years and yours. The Warragamba dam wall should not be raised and there are many voices with evidence to support this.

But as a teacher of children I teach that it is important to speak up. But the land does not speak our language but we can learn to understand and respect it.

For the trees do not speak they whisper,

For the birds do not speak they sing,

For the bees do not speak they buzz,

For the water clean and clear, it does not speak, it flows. It flows through the forest of old with history before our time or knowing.

And For the rocks do not speak , they stand solid and strong to contain the earth we stand upon.

For the land beneath does not speak but lives and gives life to all above it.

These are the voices we will not hear because their language is different.

But these are the very things that sustain us.

These are the very things that will decide our destiny,our quality of life , our clear clean waterways, our existence and one day our extinction.

We can continue to destroy these rare lands for monetary gains by the elite few but it will cost us all dearly.

I am not the LORAX, but this country needs many of us to be.

I am a teacher of children I want them to know this truth,

That what is now may never be again because this beautiful valley was worth more to a few dead then to all a living breathing forest that sustains life and the air we breathe.

What tomorrow will the developers bring this land especially for those of us who live here, because they don't.

This submission is welcomed to be shared, to shed much needed light on the hidden agenda of the government plans to collaborate with developers expansion into the fragile environments of the Hawkesbury Nepean flood plains and the flooding of sacred valleys with endangered rare eucalyptus forests and the insects birds and ecosystems that rely upon it. History will always show the truth in the decisions made today. But for our children's sake I hope these will still stand when we are no longer.

Thankyou Kindly

Kelly Keith.

5th September 2019