

**Submission
No 208**

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

Name: Mr Ross Stewart
Date Received: 6 September 2019

I object to raising the height of the Warragamba Dam. My objections are:

It is very likely the project will be lacking in high standards of engineering and will likely pose an OHS risk during construction and likely create massive disaster in the event of failure. Important to consider rain events on a scale not seen in a thousand years are becoming more likely with climate change.

The major stated reason for increasing the height of the dam is flood mitigation. As noted above, raising the dam wall will likely create the opposite effect, more catastrophic floods.

Building on floodplains is the principal need given for this project. How stupid! This is very bad planning to allow development of suburbs on flood plains. No wonder insurance is getting dearer!

If the task were to be done to exacting engineering standards there will be no cost benefit to the public. As mentioned above, the standard of construction will likely be economy class and will be an even bigger financial loss to the public.

There will be no extra public amenity in raising the height of the dam. There may be some short term business and jobs created in the Wallacia district, but this project will hardly bring any long term benefits.

There are no environmental benefits in increasing the height of the dam. Locally the construction will create a mess. Certainly the temporary impoundments will ruin large areas of the remaining sandstone valley country.

In short I see a high risk, no benefit project. What a waste of public funds!

Regards
Ross Stewart