Submission No 303

INQUIRY INTO PROPOSAL TO RAISE THE WARRAGAMBA DAM WALL

Name: Mr Stuart Paterson

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I am concerned that the dam, being a keystone construction, could only hold back flood water for a very limited time. Also, other creeks put a lot of water into the Hawksbury river so raising Waragamba dam does not really solve the problem. A narrow section down the Hawksbury river causes water to back-up into the floodplain. The area to be developed is good farmland. Our farmers are being pushed out to the deserts to farm. There is no mains water or sewage in the areas to be developed. I do not wish to pay for that through tax. Overall raising the dam is potentially very dangerous as it gives a false sense of security to those in the flood-prone area. Who will be responsible if people die in a disaster such as the one that hit Brisbane? I am not convinced much thought has gone into this.