

**Submission
No 310**

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

Name: Dr Kelvin Montagu and Ms Elizabeth Saunders

Date Received: 9 September 2019

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Mr Justin Field MLC
Committee Chair
Select Committee on the Proposal to raise the Warragamba Dam Wall
Parliament House
Macquarie Street,
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Mr Fields,

Upper House Inquiry into the Proposal to raise the Warragamba Dam Wall

I am making this submission opposing the raising of the Warragamba Dam.

At the heart of the submission is our concern for the Kowmung river, the unique riparian vegetation and fauna dependent on this restricted ecological community, and the wild nature of landscapes and their rivers.

The Kowmung river is a declared Wild River recognised and protected under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974. One of only six rivers left intact in NSW and able to be considered “wild”. Most of the river and catchment is protected and exists within the Kanangra-Boyd and Blue Mountains National Park.

Both National Parks are contained within the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

We ask the committee to reflect on a proposal, which will knowingly and willfully degrade one of NSW few wild rivers, despite being declared a **Wild River**, contained within two **NSW National Parks**, and **recognised nationally and Internationally** through the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area listing.

What value are these protections, at State, national and International levels, if they are to be overridden by a proposal which appears primarily driven by future property development on flood prone land and gives little value to the wild places it will destroy.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Kelvin Montagu and Ms Elizabeth Saunders

Blue Mountain Residents