

Submission
No 334

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

Name: Name suppressed
Date Received: 10 September 2019

Partially
Confidential

To the Inquiry Committee

I write to call for the opposing of the planned addition to the height of the Warragamba Dam wall for flood mitigation. This hasty and rushed proposal is increasingly opposed by numerous scientists and others who have seriously considered the proposal and can see the enormous negatives it poses. The Blue Mountains is an outstanding area of natural beauty and as such has always been protected for that reason. This proposal puts that, and the region's UNESCO world heritage rating at risk for questionable benefits. Add to that a further loss to Indigenous heritage and cultural sites and the case against the proposal grows stronger. Numerous alternatives have been proposed which carry a lower environmental and financial cost and these should be investigated fully. I am strongly opposed to the spending of more than a billion dollars on an ill-conceived plan which will almost guarantee an increase of development on flood-prone land. No dam, however high will completely eliminate the risk of flood. Far better to manage the risk by appropriate development and strategies to cope with floods which will inevitably occur from time to time. As a visitor to the mountains many times in the past and still today, there is an amazing natural beauty in its wild places that would be a tragedy to see slowly lost through flood deluges and the consequent mud and weeds left behind. And it only adds another insult to the traditional owners to have more of their heritage and sacred sites ruined.

My request is simple; see this proposal for the damaging and costly idea it is, and oppose it to preserve this area for future generations to come.

Sincerely,