

Submission
No 323

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

Name: Mr David Rostron
Date Received: 10 September 2019

1. I am 86 and have been a lifetime bushwalker and conservationist (member Sydney Bushwalking Club 55 years). I have had the privilege of walking in the Blue Mts National Park about 1000 times over 75 years. 2. In the area which would be flooded by raising the dam wall I have enjoyed hundreds of walks with family and club members. This is the pristine wilderness to which Alex Colley OAM and Henry Gold OAM took Neville Wran many years ago and convinced him of the need to extend the National Park. This ultimately led to the listing as a World Heritage area. 3. I have organised / participated in six multi day walks from Mittagong to Katoomba.. This is regarded as an epic/ classic bushwalking trek. These treks have been on various routes but all have passed through the area which would be flooded. A result would be that this trek would no longer be possible.. 4. We must preserve the area in its present state forever, to retain the Aboriginal history traditions and artefacts and allow future generations to enjoy this magnificent wilderness. 5. Further inundation will result in loss of the World Heritage listing and diminish the Blue Mountains as a tourist destination. ^ There is concern by many, including Penrith City Council that raising the wall will lead to rezoning and then building on flood prone land.. An extensive storm period and overflow would result in many thousands more homes being inundated.. 7. Flooding downstream could still result from the flows of 3 other rivers- Nepean, Grose and Colo which do not enter the Warragamba catchment..