

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

Name: Name suppressed
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Partially
Confidential

Dear Committee It has come to my attention that you are planning to raise the Warragamba Dam which would flood part of the Kowmung River. In my perspective this would be wrecking a spectacular and unique place, it would be stopping young kids and adults from ticking this majestic place off their bucket list and it would also be completely and entirely wrecking the point of making this one of a kind place part of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. My first point is that if you dammed this breathtaking river it would mean losing over 48 threatened species and many unique views and rock pools. If you haven't walked down the Kowmung River you wouldn't know the feeling of running through the knee deep water, splashing with birds whistling all around, happy as a lark as if nothing else in the world matters. Another thing is that I am extremely lucky to have already in my 10 years of life been to 4 of the 19 World Heritage Areas in Australia and I am about to visit my 5th. If you raised the Warragamba Dam it would essentially be pulling something I loved out from underneath my nose and letting so many people never get that sweet smell of satisfaction in such a wonderful place. The last time I visited this picturesque location was on a 5 day walk at Easter time out of Kanangra. Truly it felt like the most glorious thing in the world. The final thing I would like to state is that if you proceeded to raise the dam wall higher it would be completely demolish the idea of a World Heritage Area. As far as I can see it the idea of a natural reserve is to keep something special from changing into a man-made part of the world. If you do this dreadful thing what is the next step? Turning the Great Barrier Reef into an underwater theme park or turning Shark Bay into a zoo? In conclusion the Warragamba Dam must not be raised, for the lower Kowmung River is part of an established World Heritage Area and that designation means it must be protected forever. I want to take my children there someday too!