

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

**Name:** Name suppressed  
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Partially  
Confidential

Despite being the Government's assertions, the proposed raising of Warragamba Dam wall will not remove the risk of flooding in the floodplain downstream from the dam. Up to 45% of the floodwater in the valley arises from other catchments. The Government proposes to increase the number of people living on the floodplain downstream from Warragamba from 5,000 to 134,000 by 2030. This means that a very large number of people would be put at risk of potentially life threatening flooding. Substantial development on the flood plain will also impact farming which occurs there as well as destroying areas of endangered Cumberland Plain woodland.

The proposal will destroy sites that are culturally very significant to the Gundungurra people. Further, there was very rushed and grossly inadequate consideration of cultural sites in draft cultural assessments.

There will be enormous environmental impacts on the Great Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. Four thousand seven hundred hectares of it are to be inundated. This will include habitat of the critically endangered Regent honeyeater and the Camden white gum. Sydney's last wild river, the Kowmung River will also be destroyed.

The World Heritage Committee has indicated that the proposal would undermine the values that led to the Greater Blue Mountains becoming a World Heritage site. This would potentially threaten its listing as a World Heritage site and could impact the number of tourists visiting the Blue Mountains.