

Submission
No 342

INQUIRY INTO PROPOSAL TO RAISE THE WARRAGAMBA DAM WALL

Name: Meron Wilson
Date Received: 10 September 2019

This proposal flies in the face of common sense.

Destroying thousands of hectares of internationally recognised landscape containing species that have already been brought to the brink of extinction by human 'development' so that thousands more people can be put at risk of flooding, all to 'save' money?? Please.

Increasing the height of the Warragamba dam wall wont stop floodwaters from the Grose and other downstream rivers which account for nearly 50% of the floods.

You will still need to build a better emergency exit road network.

You cant build a dam wall so high it wont fill and overflow in a flood, but by building it higher you get to subject downstream to release flooding for longer.

Lowering the top height of water held in the existing dam would be a safer option. The desalination plant could kick in should drinking water become scarce.

Allowing the floodplain to be built on for more housing is tantamount to negligence. In NSW as elsewhere floods are set to become more intense. The old measures of 1:100 no longer hold.

Government has an obligation to plan to protect its people from known disaster, not place them in its face.

Just as Government has an obligation to plan for the survival of all species that occupy the land it is custodian of. Humans are not the only forms of life that matter.