

Submission
No 346

INQUIRY INTO PROPOSAL TO RAISE THE WARRAGAMBA DAM WALL

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I am bush walker I love the blue mountains national park It is a world heritage area and no building should take place there. As noted by the World Heritage Committee this year, the building of the wall will also undermine the 'Outstanding Universal Values' which led to the park being inscribed as a World Heritage Site. Thus threatening its status as a World Heritage site, and could be put on the 'at risk' list.

The amount of concrete required to build the wall would have a damaging impact on this pristine environment, 'Limestone quarries and cement factories are also often pollution sources, along with the trucks that ferry materials between them and building sites Taking in all stages of production, concrete is said to be responsible for 4-8% of the world's CO2. Among materials, only coal, oil and gas are a greater source of greenhouse gases. Half of concrete's CO2 emissions are created during the manufacture of clinker, the most-energy intensive part of the cement-making process.<https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2019/feb/25/concrete-the-most-destructive-material-on-earth> 25 feb 2019.author Jonathon Watts

In the building process Aboriginal sites would be destroyed including the last remaining features of the Gundungurra peoples dreaming stories.

The building of the wall will threaten 48 threatened species found in the 4,700 hectares to be inundated, including the critically endangered Regent honeyeater (Australia's rarest bird) and the Camden White Gum.

It will destroy Sydney's only remaining wild river and wilderness streams, including the iconic Kowmung river.

The government wishes to open up the floodplain for development and therefore allow more people to move into harm's way if there is a flood. The government's plan to build the dam wall is their a strategy for managing the flood risk.From my reading the raising of the Warragamba Dam wall will be Ineffective at mitigating flood risk on the Hawkesbury-Nepean floodplain.I don't think enough time has been spent on assessing the benefits of non-flood control alternatives . In Professor Piddock's paper he states 'It is crucial other flood management measures are considered in a transparent process that is tested through an independent review process to avoid the serious economic and social impacts of major flood events.'

https://d3n8a8pro7vnm.cloudfront.net/wildrivers/pages/310/attachments/original/1554349542/Professor_Jamie_Pittock_-_A_report_on_the_alternative_flood_management_measure.pdf?1554349542