INQUIRY INTO RATIONALE FOR, AND IMPACTS OF, NEW DAMS AND OTHER WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IN NSW

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I wish to express my concern about the proposed action to fast-track the construction of dams without due attention to EIS requirements, full business assessments and comprehensive, expert research into the possible effects on downstream ecosystems, communities, and all areas and water needs which may be relevant.

Water deprivation and flooding in times of excessive rain are opposite but important hazards to the environment which may cause irremediable damage. The predicted effect of dam construction on the Murray-Darling and RAMSAR wetlands is an example.

Short-term concerns such as provision of jobs in our current economic crisis should not be used as justification for hasty uninformed decisions causing irreversible destruction of the environment.