

**Submission
No 23**

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

Name: Mr Peter Tebbutt
Date Received: 18 September 2020

I am here registering my opposition to the proposition, acceptance, ratification and construction of any new dam in Australia's river systems. Particularly in the Murray - Darling Basin. There are already, quite obviously to most citizens of this country, numerous and enormous problems already existing in this basin.

There are issues so far not well understood relating to floodplain harvesting and so far unregulated. Flows from the Northern Basin are not, or barely reaching the lower basin.

The ecological ramifications are obvious with massive fish kills, drained Menindee lakes, Aboriginal custodian use of the river curtailed, loss of community water systems and wider decimation of the natural environment.

I call for a complete moratorium of any new dam construction until water flows are restored, flood plain harvesting is fully understood and regulated, water licences are returned to farmers who are irrigators solely and the rampant corruption evidenced in the Murray-Darling basin has been dealt with through a royal commission.

Failure to do these things would not only be reckless and immoral, but probably illegal under the water act 2007.