

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

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I am a member of the Peel Valley Water Users' Association and I support their submission. I am also an Australian Citizen concerned with the development and good of Australia. As such, I will speak more generally.

Australia needs more production and jobs for its people. Mole River, Wyangala and Dungowan Dams will all lead to increased productivity and jobs. As, no doubt, will Macquarie River Re-regulating storage project and the Western Weirs Project, of which I am not familiar.

It is the responsibility of Government and Parliamentary Committees to provide for the welfare of their citizens. Government must look forward to provide infrastructure to make New South Wales and Australia productive. If this had not happened in the past, we would still be a small settlement in Sydney Cove. No Snowy Mountain Schemes, etc. Now is the time to move forward.

I believe in protecting the Environment but care must be taken not to be unrealistic with well-intentioned schemes. I have seen a large number of trees killed in the Gwydir Wetlands by released environmental water. There are other similar circumstances.

With the variable rainfall that occurs in Australia, the Environment has evolved to deal with this. So the release of large volumes of water in a very dry time, no matter how desirable it may appear to be, could upset the balance of nature and bring about unseen consequences.

In the case of the Peel River, Chaffey and Dungowan Dams, as 95 percent of the flow goes down the River, there should be no case for water to be stored in the Dams for the Environment.

Australia need productivity to support its increasing population. New dams must be built and water efficiently used and or transferred as the case may be.

Australia is one of the driest continents on Earth so building dams, Bradfield type schemes and converting sea water to fresh must remain under consideration as technology improves. Above all, only small amounts of water should be allowed to return to the sea where its benefits are lost.

Australia's future is bright if it uses the water available constructively to maintain its place as a leading and prosperous world nation.