

**Submission
No 111**

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

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The Wyangala Dam Project is yet another example of human interference in the natural flows of inland waters. History has demonstrated repeatedly how this interference has had such a devastating impact on our fauna, flora and natural wetland sanctuaries right across the country.

Raising the Wyangala Dam Walls by 10 metres will increase its holding capacity by 53%, That is 600 GL of water not feeding creeks, wetlands etc during natural high flow events.

While I have a great deal of concern for the health of the entire Lachlan River system, and more broadly the Murray Darling Basin, I have particular interest in the lower Lachlan, including the Great Cumbung Reed Beds. This ecosystem is fragile at the best of times. Years of mismanagement of water flows has seen the once flourishing Phragmites Reeds of the Great Cumbung diminish to almost nothing. Bird life has all but disappeared and the other endangered flora and fauna decimated. This is such a crucial habitat and we let all this happen.

This da wall extension must stop.