

Greg Houston.
551 PUTTY RD.
WILBERFORCE. NSW 2756

3.11.21

Submission – Warragamba Dam Raising Project - SSI 8441

I would like to put forward my submission of support for the Dam raising project. The reason for my support;

I live at 551 Putty Rd Wilberforce on a property that backs on to Howes Creek which flooded in the recent 2021 floods and experienced Damage to plant and equipment, Property Damage, Power outage and being land locked for 3 days not being able to evacuate with rising waters threatening my home. The mental anguish of my wife and family throughout this period was an experience I do not want to relive.

The cost of repairs to fencing and repairs to machines and equipment is not covered by insurance therefore a monetary loss also.

Due to the floods and loss of power I could not attend my Business that is in Wetherill Park or avail myself to computers and electronic equipment to assist me run my business from home. With the Windsor Bridge closed and the Putty Rd Closed at my Front Gate myself and 4 of my employees could not attend work also another cost to myself and my family.

I also own a property at 566 Tizzana Road Ebenezer on the Banks of the Hawkesbury River prior to the peak of the flood myself and family had to attend to move all our goods above the predicted peak and prepare the property for the ensuing flood.

Our property loss was significant with loss of Pumps, Fencing Structures, out buildings, Water Tanks, Septic System, established trees and landscaping, retaining walls and the major issue with the deposit of 3,000 ton of sand and mud that had to be moved by heavy equipment.

The cost of this is ongoing and the repairs and clean up are still being carried out the cost has exceeded \$ 100,000.00 again with not being able to get flood insurance another cost I have had to bare.

I have witnessed firsthand the devastating effects of Floods in the Hawksbury remembering the 1961 floods and the personal losses in 1978, 1990 and through to our most recent March 2021 floods.

With the receding waters on both my properties, our friends homes, and all the other properties effected in our district as well as our wildlife and our councils roads and assets the devastation caused was unbelievable and heartbreaking.

We do choose to live in such a beautiful part of NSW, but the constant threat of future flooding is a test especially if we can alleviate the frequency and protect lives, property, wildlife, and our community by simply raising the wall which is long overdue and seems to be a political ball bouncing which way best suites the sitting Governments of the day.

Thank you for taking the time to review my submission.

Regards

Greg Houston.
0416 250 136