

I oppose the raising of the Warragamba Dam Wall, based on the following.

Gundungurra People lost their home and many hundreds of cultural sites as a result of the building of Warragamba Dam, it broke their hearts.

Raising the Dam wall a further 14 meters for flood mitigation will flood a further 4,700 hectares of Warragamba catchment and 65 km of wild rivers and destroy the remaining sacred sites.

Burraborang Valley is our ancestors' home. We may not be freely allowed to walk the valley where our ancestors lived but we are keeping a close eye on it. We don't want further flooding of our sacred place, which our ancestors fought and died trying to protect.

Raising Warragamba Dam wall will destroy thousands of hectares of World Heritage listed Blue Mountains National Park and threaten animal, bird and plant life. The world cried with us when the recent bush fires killed millions of native animals, birds and plant life. Now the Liberal State Government wishes to further flood our valley and drown the remaining native wild life including their food and habitat.

It is very unfair the Liberal State Government to want to destroy our beautiful valley for flood mitigation so they can sell and build on flood plains in the Sydney Basin. I don't believe the insurance company will insure anything built on the flood plains.

Is the Liberal State Government going to cover the cost of insuring all the homes flooded if they approve the land to be built on, which they should do, as it is a declared flood zone, even if flooded from other Creeks, pipes, runoff & other sources, if NSW Govt approves it? What happens if the NSW Govt declares it a "Non Flood Zone" & it still floods from other sources as stated above?

Or will Penrith City Council have to carry this cost, with rate payers having to foot this bill?

Will the cost of raising Warragamba Dam wall with interest of say 2% over 5-10 years (time to build the wall) out weight the cost of other ways of flood mitigating and if the extra water dammed, outweigh the cost of desalination plant use. Will it be all worth it in the end? Will the flood plains of the Sydney Basin eg Windsor, never again be flooded. The

newly built Windsor Bridge went under flood waters in 2020, was this with cost cutting.

Thirty years from now, will all the native animals and birds which live in the Burragorang Valley area, become extinct? Is this progress for the better or will it cause massive destruction.

I don't believe raising Warragamba Dam Wall will solve flood mitigation.

There are numerous estuaries running into the Nepean & Hawkesbury Rivers between Warragamba Dam & Richmond alone. It's a "hole in the bucket effect", you plug one whole but there are 99 more to plug, that are flowing into the Sydney Basin on its way to the ocean.

Please keep the flood plains for wildlife, have Nature Reserves. People should be able to walk to Nature Reserves close to home to keep a healthy mind.

Hoping you consider my request.

Michelle van Twest
Gundungurra descendant.