

Dear DPIE assessment team

**Can you please assist in raising the Warragamba Dam wall to mitigate the risk to human life and to property in the flood plain of the Hawkesbury-Nepean catchment**

1. We live near the Nepean River. Our family have lived here since the 1960,s.
2. In this period we have seen a number of floods and the community, the government, as well as governments departments have all had enough warnings. The last warning was the 21 March 2021.
3. We please ask if you can assist in helping to ensure the Dam wall is raised. The relevant engineers are all telling it needs to be done due to the "bath tub" effect and to avert a future catastrophe, in the waiting.
4. It makes no sense to wait for the disaster to occur then raise the dam wall after. The cost to repair the damage caused by severe flooding each and every time it happens is not the right thing to do.
5. This is exactly what happened with the last bush fire we had. Certain environmentalists successfully lobbied to stop the authorities from back burning and other physical strategies to reduce the fuel load.
  - a) Consequently, people and many, many animals died for no reason not to mention the monetary damage.
  - b) The outcome subsequent to the catastrophe, was to allow the authorities do what they need to in a controlled way to protect the animals, environment, people, and property.
6. Raising of the dam wall to better control flood discharge will also reduce environmental damage of everything down stream of the dam.
  - a) It will also provide more time to evacuate if needed to evacuate.
  - b) Currently, by doing nothing, the community and government are only placing the SES and other volunteers at more risk.
7. We live near Tench Reserve and love walking along the river.
  - a) We know that both the State and Local Council have spent millions and millions on making it so beautiful.
  - b) We thank them for that vision and we understand the raising of the dam wall will help protect this.
  - c) With the new airport so close in proximity, the river will become an important tourist employment hub (bread basket) for Penrith, by allowing more businesses to grow here.
8. The dam will also create employments for the next 3 years which is needed after the covid crisis