

**Submission Number: NND.001.01276**

**Submission Of:**

**Your Details**

Email address:  
Phone:  
Preferred means of contact: Phone  
What is your submission based on? I am making this submission based on my personal situation  
What was your personal situation in relation to the 2019-20 Bushfires?  
Where do you live? Hawkesbury (C)

**Your Submission**

In your experience, what areas of the bushfire emergency response worked well?  
RFS app kept us up to date.

In your experience, what areas of the bushfire emergency response didn't work well?  
Lack of maintenance and essential back burning

In your experience, what needs to change to improve arrangements for preparation, mitigation, response and recovery coordination for national natural disaster arrangements in Australia?  
Flood mitigation.  
I am a resident of Pitt Town and fully support the raising of the Warragamba dam wall. I have attended several meetings and have heard the argument submitted by those lobbyists against the raising of the dam wall and personally found their argument rather weak. Basically they are arguing that by increasing the height of the wall will destroy the environment but fail to acknowledge that if the Hawkesbury valley floods the environment downstream will be destroyed many times over. This does not take into the consideration the following:-

1. The cost of repairing damaged infrastructure which runs into millions of dollars.
2. The thousands of animals which could be killed, both domestic and native.
3. The disruption of thousands of people's lives who live in the Hawkesbury valley, some of which could be stranded by floodwaters for many days or even weeks.
4. Destruction of property which in most cases the cost of which is born by the individual as many do not have flood cover because insurance companies either do not provide flood cover or make the premium so high many cannot afford it. Our insurance company wants \$20,000 per annum for flood over and we are well above the highest flood ever recorded
5. Cost to the community to rescue stranded people and animals, cost of evacuation and subsequent housing and feeding of those effected
6. Risk of life and limb to volunteers and people affected.
7. Disruption of thousands of people's lives.
8. Pitt Town became an island with only one road in and out and a simple thing like going to the shops is a major inconvenience.
9. There are many more arguments to support the raising of the dam wall but I will close with one final statement.

PEOPLE LOOK TO GOVERNMENT TO KEEP THEIR FAMILY SAFE YOU CAN DO THIS BY RAISING THE DAM WALL. People are also voters

Is there anything else you would like to tell the Royal Commission?  
Listen to real people not people pushing a particular pressure group  
Do you agree to your submission being published? Yes I agree to my submission being published anonymously