

Submission Number: NND.001.01345

Submission Of: robin mcconkey

Your Details

Email address:

Phone:

Preferred means of contact: Email

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? Flooding of Pitt Town

Where do you live? Hawkesbury (C)

Your Submission

In your experience, what areas of the bushfire emergency response worked well?

NA to this submission.

My submission is based on raising the Warragamba Dam Raising the wall level by 14 Metres.

In your experience, what areas of the bushfire emergency response didn't work well?

NA to this submission, It is about flood mitigation in the Hawkesbury shire are in NSW by raising the Warragamba Dam wall

In your experience, what needs to change to improve arrangements for preparation, mitigation, response and recovery coordination for national natural disaster arrangements in Australia?

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Preferred method of Contact: Email

What is your submission based on: I am making this submission based on my knowledge as a Pitt Town recent resident for the previous 5 years and having an understanding of the devastation that can occur with floods in the Pitt Town Area from long-time residents feed back.

What is your professional expertise? Member of the Pitt Town progress association that has been representing the Pitt Town community for more than 125 years.

Submission on behalf of: As a current resident of Pitt Town that our families are concerned about the future of Pitt Town and impact on lives and future business development opportunities in this area for future generations to come.

Warragamba Dam Royal Commission Submission.

Impact on Pitt Town Bottoms area after flooding occurs

Opening Comments

By raising the Warragamba dam wall by 14 Meters will enable a more consistent control of flood waters into the river system should heavy rains occur. This will assist in mitigating the risk of major devastating floods in the Pitt Town Bottoms land area and retain the land and environment in a sustainable way for future farming to continue.

Events

Prior to and after the Warragamba dam was built in 1960, the Pitt Town bottoms region there was a thriving local community and a major food growing area in NSW. This rich farming area was suppling regular fresh produce by the way of convoys of trucks leaving Pitt Town and delivery into the Sydney fresh food market. This also included supplying and supporting Australian Solders in overseas conflicts around the world.

Pitt Town bottoms region was a vital part of the food supply chain for the greater Sydney region and was the lively hood for work and financial income supporting the local families, service providers such transport companies, local schools and industries.

In Summary

As regular flooding of the Pitt Bottoms area resulted in devastation of the local community's ability to recover year after year.

The lack of government assistance and family cash reserves available to support a once thriving industries, were demolished for ever such as orchards wiped out which never recovered. This created a situation of high unemployment and putting a lot of financial pressure on families in the area as there was no work available.

Families could not, hang on, and not having the ability to support children to pay for such things as school fees or food on the table as a small example, moved out of the area,

Today Pitt Town bottoms area is not the food bowl of the greater Sydney that it once was as only a small amount of vegetable and turf farms exists today.

The raising of the Warragamba by 14 Meters would give the confidence of people to reinvest into the once great Pitt Town Bottoms again.

Is there anything else you would like to tell the Royal Commission?

Do you agree to your submission being published? Yes I agree to my submission being published in my name