

From: s47F
To: [Delegation Australia](#)
Cc: [Natcom Australia1](#); [Australia World Heritage](#); ["OSIPOVA Elena"](#); [SHADIE Peter](#); [UNESCO Apia](#); s47F ; s47F ; s47F ; [Debonnet, Guy](#)
Subject: letter from Dr Mechtild to H.E. Mr Mackenzie - SOC GBMA
Date: Tuesday, 22 January 2019 1:51:45 AM
Attachments: [012 Amb Australia - SOC Greater Blue Mountains Area.pdf](#)
[Elon Musk's latest Australian thought bubble is \\$1 billion Blue Mountains tunnel - ABC News \(Australian Broadcasting Corporation\).pdf](#)

Dear Colleagues,

Please find attached a letter from Dr Mechtild Rössler to H.E. Mr Angus Mackenzie, regarding the State of Conservation of "Greater Blue Mountains Area".

Please note that the original of this letter will be sent to the Permanent Delegation via mail; the recipients in copy shall only get the electronic version attached.

With many thanks for your continuous cooperation and support in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention,

Best wishes,

s47F



s47F

Programme Specialist
Asia and the Pacific Unit
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**Culture Sector
World Heritage Centre**

FOI 191119
Document 1a

United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

H. E. Mr Angus Mackenzie
Ambassador,
Permanent Delegate of Australia to
UNESCO
UNESCO House

17 January 2018

Ref.: CLT/WHC/APA/19/012

Subject: State of conservation of the World Heritage property "Greater Blue Mountains Area"

Dear Ambassador,

The World Heritage Centre has received information regarding a development plan for a 50km tunnel beneath the World Heritage property "Greater Blue Mountain Area", which may negatively impact its Outstanding Universal Value.

We are sending this information to you (see Annex) in accordance with Paragraph 174 of the Operational Guidelines to enable us to verify, with your authorities concerned, the source and content of the information that we have received. We look forward to receiving your response as soon as possible and preferably within 2 months after the receipt of this letter.

Thanking you for your continuous collaboration and support in the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Mechtild Rössler
Director

Enc.

cc. Australian National Commission for UNESCO
National Focal Point for World Heritage
UNESCO Office in Apia
IUCN

WINE NEWS

Elon Musk's latest Australian thought bubble is \$1 billion Blue Mountains tunnel

By Jamie McKinnell

Updated Thu 17 Jan 2019, 2:49am



PHOTO: Elon Musk responded to a tweet from Greens MP Jeremy Buckingham. (Reuters: Bobby Yip)

Technology entrepreneur Elon Musk has hinted interest in helping solve Sydney's road congestion nightmares, quoting \$1 billion on Twitter for a high-speed transit tunnel through the Blue Mountains.

The bold idea was floated by independent NSW MP Jeremy Buckingham.

People would not actually drive through the tunnel — their vehicles would be secured on platforms that can travel at high speeds between stations.

Mr Buckingham pitched it to the Tesla boss on Twitter by explaining Sydney was "choking with traffic".

"How much to build a 50km tunnel through the Blue Mountains and open up the west of our State?" he tweeted.

Mr Musk replied it would take about \$15 million per kilometre for the two-way tunnel, with an additional \$50 million per station, taking the project to an estimated \$1 billion.

RELATED STORY: Elon Musk bores transit tunnel in bid to end LA traffic congestion

RELATED STORY: 'I'll fix SA power problems in 100 days': Tesla boss Elon Musk

RELATED STORY: World's most powerful lithium ion battery finished in SA

Key points:

- The 50-kilometre tunnel would link the Penrith and Lithgow regions
- Passengers would be transported at high speeds in an electric vehicle
- Elon Musk says it could be built for about \$1 billion

Jeremy Buckingham @greensjeremy · Jan 16, 2019
I'm a lawmaker in Sydney, which is choking with traffic. How much to build a 50km tunnel through the Blue Mountains and open up the west of our State? @boringcompany @mcannonbrookes @elonmusk

Elon Musk
@elonmusk

About \$15M/km for a two way high speed transit, so probably around \$750M plus maybe \$50M/station

25.6K 10:07 AM - Jan 16, 2019

1,789 people are talking about this

Mr Buckingham said commuters would access the tunnel by driving electric vehicles into the station before being transported via elevator into the tunnel.

A special vehicle would then transport them at high speeds between stations.

A similar tunnel system is being tested in Los Angeles where cars are lowered into the tunnel on a lift before being moved through it on platforms at high speed.

Another is under construction in Chicago.



PHOTO: Mr Buckingham tweeted an image of the potential tunnel route. (Supplied: Jeremy Buckingham)

Mr Musk was not the only one to reply to the proposition.

Australian billionaire Mike Cannon-Brookes described the move as "a bargain for Sydney".

Mr Buckingham, who was once a councillor with Orange City Council, said the transport loop would be "the envy of the world" and benefit regional cities.

"You could live out in the beautiful western region of NSW, enjoy the lifestyle, clean air and national parks while commuting into jobs centres of Penrith and western Sydney," he said in a statement.

"The infrastructure plan takes the pressure off traffic congestion and resources in Sydney, while providing a lifeline for our regions."

The NSW Farmers' Association said it was delighted to see "its" idea for the Blue Mountains tunnel grab the attention of two of the world's tech billionaires and urged NSW MPs to look into it.

"One of the biggest challenges to growing the state's food economy is the inadequate east-west transport connections between the food bowl that is western NSW and Sydney," president James Jackson said.



PHOTO: Passengers would access the loop via elevator and travel on special platforms. (Supplied: Jeremy Buckingham)

Mr Buckingham said he would focus on the plan as he seeks re-election and called for the Premier and Opposition Leader to meet with Mr Musk to discuss it.

It is not the first time Mr Musk has flagged interest in a major Australian project on Twitter.

In 2017, he used the platform to declare his company could install a battery capable of "fixing" South Australia's power problem within 100 days — or do it for free.

He followed through, constructing a giant lithium ion battery after partnering with Neoen and beating more than 70 competing bids in a government procurement process.

That project came about following a challenge from Mr Cannon-Brookes, who tweeted to Mr Musk offering to "make the \$ happen (& politics)" if it was running within 100 days.

Topics: transport, government-and-politics, human-interest, sydney-2000

From: s47F
To: [Delegation Australia](#)
Cc: [Natcom Australia1](#); [UNESCO Apia](#); [Australia World Heritage](#); [Elena.OSIPOVA@iucn.org](#); [Peter.SHADIE@iucn.org](#); s47F; [@iucn.org](#); s47F; s47F; s47F; s47F; s47F; s47F; [Debonnet, Guy](#)
Subject: Transmission of the 43 COM Decision - State of Conservation of Greater Blue Mountains Area
Date: Friday, 2 August 2019 6:06:41 PM
Attachments: [SOC transmission letters 2019 EN Australia Greater Blue Mountains Area.pdf](#)

Dear Madame, Dear Sir,

Please find attached letter from Dr. Mechtild Rössler, Director of the World Heritage Centre, concerning the decision adopted at the 43rd session of the World Heritage Committee on the state of conservation of:

Greater Blue Mountains Area

The original letter will be sent to the Permanent Delegation by post.

We thank you for your continuous cooperation and support in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

Best regards,

s47F

s47F

Asia & Pacific Unit, World Heritage Centre, UNESCO

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Culture Sector
World Heritage Centre

FOI 191119
Document 2a

United Nations
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Organisation
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منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للترقية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

H. E. Mr Angus Mackenzie
Ambassador,
Permanent Delegate of Australia to
UNESCO
UNESCO House

Ref.: CLT/WHC/APA/SY/19/177

29 July 2019

Dear Ambassador,

As you are aware, at its 43rd session (Baku, 2019), the World Heritage Committee examined the state of conservation of the following World Heritage property: Greater Blue Mountains Area.

You will find attached in Annex I, the Committee Decision **43 COM 7B.2**, concerning this property. In this Decision, the Committee requested your authorities to submit an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of its recommendations by **1 December 2020**, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 45th session in 2021.

At its 39th session (Bonn, 2015), the Committee adopted a specific compulsory format for the submission of state of conservation reports by the States Parties. The format is included as Annex 13 of the *Operational Guidelines* and attached to this letter for ease of reference. You are kindly requested to use this format for the submission of the report on the aforementioned property, in one of the working languages of the *Convention*, English or French (Decision **39 COM 7**) and by the deadline above-mentioned.

I would also like to call upon your authorities to do their utmost to comply with the above-mentioned statutory deadline for the submission of the report in order to ensure sufficient time for exchange and dialogue between your authorities, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies on the issues at stake before the next report to the Committee is produced.

In addition to the examination of individual reports on the state of conservation of properties, the Committee also discussed more general conservation issues and adopted Decisions **43 COM 7.1**, **43 COM 7.2** and **43 COM 7.3** to clarify its position on a number of current conservation issues and to provide guidance to States Parties in this regard. I therefore strongly encourage you to also consider these decisions.

Thanking you for your continuous collaboration and support in the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*, I remain.

Yours sincerely,

Mechtild Rössler
Director

cc: Australian National Commission for UNESCO
National Focal Point for World Heritage
UNESCO Office in Apia
IUCN

**World Heritage Committee
43rd session (Baku, 2019)**

Decision: 43 COM 7B.2

Greater Blue Mountains Area (Australia) (N 917)

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **28 COM 15B.15**, adopted at its 28th session (Suzhou, 2004),
3. Notes with concern that the State Party recognizes that the proposed raising of the Warragamba Dam wall is expected to increase the frequency and extent of temporary inundation of the property upstream of the dam;
4. Considers that the inundation of areas within the property resulting from the raising of the dam wall are likely to have an impact on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, recalls Decision **40 COM 7**, in which it considered that the construction of dams with large reservoirs within the boundaries of World Heritage properties is incompatible with their World Heritage status, and urged States Parties to “ensure that the impacts from dams that could affect properties located upstream or downstream within the same river basin are rigorously assessed in order to avoid impacts on the OUV”, and requests the State Party to ensure, in line with its commitment, that the current process to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposal fully assesses all potential impacts on the OUV of the property and its other values, including Aboriginal cultural heritage, and to submit a copy of the EIS to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN, prior to taking any final decisions regarding the project;
5. Also notes with concern that several mining projects exist in the vicinity of or adjacent to the property, and that some mining activities have resulted in impacts on the property, as evidenced by the incident at the Clarence Colliery, and also requests the State Party to undertake an assessment of potential cumulative impacts of all existing and planned mining projects in the vicinity of the property through a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) or a similar mechanism;
6. Reiterates its position that mineral exploration or exploitation is incompatible with World Heritage status, which is supported by the International Council of Mining and Metals (ICMM) Position Statement to not undertake such activities within World Heritage properties;
7. Notes the information provided by the State Party regarding the Western Sydney Airport proposal and further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre a copy of the EIS for the anticipated airspace and flight path operations, once available, for review by IUCN;
8. Welcomes the development of a Strategic Management Framework for the property as a new integrated management instrument and requests furthermore the State Party to ensure that potential threats to the property from activities outside its boundaries,

particularly mining, are fully considered in the development of this management framework and that the EIS required are carried out in conformity with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, with a specific section focusing on the potential impact of the project(s) on the property's OUV;

9. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2020**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 45th session in 2021.

ANNEX II

Format for the submission of state of conservation reports by the States Parties (Annex 13 of the *Operational Guidelines*)

Name of World Heritage property (State(s) Party(ies)) (Identification number)

1. Executive Summary of the report

[Note: each of the sections described below should be summarized. The maximum length of the executive summary is 1 page.]

2. Response to the Decision of the World Heritage Committee

[Note: The State(s) Party(ies) is/are requested to address the most recent Decision of the World Heritage Committee for this property, paragraph by paragraph.]

If the property is inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

Please also provide detailed information on the following:

a) Progress achieved in implementing the corrective measures adopted by the World Heritage Committee

[Note: please address each corrective measure individually, providing factual information, including exact dates, figures, etc.]

If needed, please describe the success factors or difficulties in implementing each of the corrective measures identified

b) Is the timeframe for implementing the corrective measures suitable? If not, please propose an alternative timeframe and an explanation why this alternative timeframe is required.

c) Progress achieved towards the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR)

3. Other current conservation issues identified by the State(s) Party(ies) which may have an impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value [Note: this includes conservation issues which are not mentioned in the Decision of the World Heritage Committee or in any information request from the World Heritage Centre]

4. In conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, describe any potential major restorations, alterations and/or new construction(s) intended within the property, the buffer zone(s) and/or corridors or other areas, where such developments may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including authenticity and integrity.

5. Public access to the state of conservation report

[Note: this report will be uploaded for public access on the World Heritage Centre's State of conservation Information System (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/soc>). Should your State Party request that the full report should not be uploaded, only the 1-page executive summary provided in point (1.) above will be uploaded for public access].

6. Signature of the Authority

From: s22
To: s22
Subject: FW: Additional info for SoC [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Thursday, 28 March 2019 1:41:06 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[NSW input to OEH draft notes on State of Conservation GBMWHA final.docx](#)
[image003.jpg](#)

fyi

From: Angie Stringer [mailto:Angie.Stringer@environment.nsw.gov.au]

Sent: Thursday, 28 March 2019 12:55 PM

To: s22 ; s22

Cc: Robert Quirk

Subject: Additional info for SoC

Dear s22 and s22

Please find further information regarding the Warragamba Dam. This has been approved by CEO of Industry NSW.

The Department of Planning will also be sending some information through however I won't receive that until Monday, and I will forward to you ASAP.

Thanks

angie



Angie Stringer
Director Partnerships, Planning and Heritage
NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
Find out more about our Branch [here on Insite](#).

135 Murwillumbah Street, MURWULLIMBAH
T: s22
M: s22
W: nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

cid:image036.jpg@01D47DAF.12ED2FF0



This email is intended for the addressee(s) named and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and then delete it immediately. Any views expressed in this email are those of the individual sender except where the sender expressly and with authority states them to be the views of the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.

PLEASE CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENT BEFORE PRINTING THIS EMAIL

Proposal to raise Warragamba Dam for flood mitigation

Context

The proposal to raise Warragamba Dam for flood mitigation is one of nine key outcomes of the NSW Government's flood risk management strategy for the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley¹.

Due to its unique landscape and large existing population, the valley has the highest flood exposure in NSW. The flood strategy is the result of four years of research and investigations, including a detailed assessment over two years of flood mitigation options by an independently-chaired Taskforce comprising 12 government agencies². Other key flood strategy outcomes being implemented include:

- a new regional land use, roads and emergency planning framework to manage future flood risk
- new flood information to support community awareness raising and decision making
- improved rainfall and flood forecasting to support emergency planning and response
- coordinated floodplain risk management across government, businesses and the community.

The proposed dam raising would create 'airspace' to capture and temporarily hold back floodwaters from the large Warragamba Catchment in a designated flood mitigation zone of around 14 metres above the current full supply level of the dam. This would reduce and/or delay flooding downstream, significantly reducing risk to lives and property, and allowing additional time for evacuation during major floods. It would only operate during floods.

Warragamba Dam is owned and operated by State owned corporation, WaterNSW, under the provisions of the *Water NSW Act 2014*.

Status

Since mid-2017, WaterNSW has been undertaking research and investigations to inform a detailed environmental impact statement (EIS) for the proposal to raise the dam. The EIS applies to temporary inundation for flood mitigation. The permanent water storage level in the dam would not change.

Areas upstream of the Warragamba Dam in the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area are already prone to inundation during floods. If the dam wall was raised, hydrological modelling for the EIS indicates an increase in temporary inundation in the World Heritage Area of 0.04% to 0.05%, in the total area of one million hectares. This equates to an increase of 400 hectares for a 1 in 100 (1%) chance per year flood, up to a maximum of 550 hectares for the worst possible flood (see map at Appendix X).

A section of NSW legislation prohibits the increased temporary inundation that would occur if a raised dam was operated to mitigate floods³. In October 2018, NSW Parliament passed an amendment to the *Water NSW Act 2014* to exempt the Warragamba Dam from this prohibition. The amendment is specific to Warragamba Dam, and only allows for temporary inundation.

The amendment does not constitute an approval for raising Warragamba Dam. It was made to allow for NSW and Australian Government consideration of the planning application for the proposal. If the dam raising proposal is not ultimately approved, the provisions of the *Water NSW Act 2014* will have no effect.

Under the amendment, an Environmental Plan of Management must be in place before the exemption can take effect. The plan would need to be approved by the Minister administering the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* in concurrence with the Minister administering the *Water NSW Act 2014*.

The environmental and planning assessments underway are focusing on the merits of the proposal as assessed under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. A detailed set of requirements for the EIS has been stipulated by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment⁴. As the project is State Significant Infrastructure, it will require approval from the NSW Minister for Planning.

¹ *Resilient Valley Resilient Communities*: Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley Flood Risk Management Strategy, (INSW) May 2017. See: http://www.infrastructure.nsw.gov.au/media/1534/insw_hnvfloodstrategy_1_v2.pdf

² Taskforce Options Assessment Report, (INSW) January 2019. See: <http://www.infrastructure.nsw.gov.au/media/1976/taskforce-options-assessment-report-2019-v2.pdf>

³ *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* section 153B

⁴ Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements, NSW Dept. of Planning and Environment, June 2017. See: <https://majorprojects.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/prweb/PRRestService/mp/01/getContent?AttachRef=SSI-8441%2120190319T042108.138%20GMT>

Under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act), any proposal likely to have a significant impact on the values of a World Heritage Area is subject to rigorous environmental assessment. The proposal will be assessed as a 'controlled action' under that Act for matters related to 'World Heritage properties, National Heritage places and Listed threatened species and communities'. The Commonwealth Department of Environment and Energy has advised WaterNSW of the specific places and species it will consider as matters of significance⁵.

As part of the assessments underway, detailed flood mapping and targeted surveys for all flora and fauna species are being undertaken in accordance with both Commonwealth and State biodiversity assessment requirements. The impacts of the temporary increase in inundation on the upstream environment – and options to manage, mitigate or offset those impacts - will be detailed in the EIS.

The Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment is being undertaken in accordance with all requirements set out in the NSW Government's guidelines and regulations⁶. All Aboriginal cultural heritage field surveys have been undertaken with participation of registered Aboriginal parties who work closely with qualified archaeologists in the field. The draft Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment report will be provided to the parties for comment and, when finalised, will form part of the EIS.

In August 2018, an Aboriginal Place nomination was made under National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (s84) for an extensive area along the Coxs and Wollondilly rivers and their tributaries. A preliminary investigation is currently being carried out under OEH Aboriginal place guidelines⁷.

The EIS process is supported by a robust community and stakeholder engagement program, which includes regular briefings with the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area Advisory Committee. This independent committee provides advice to relevant government ministers, and advises the management agency (OEH) through the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area Management Committee on matters related to the property's World Heritage values⁸.

In summary

A detailed EIS addressing all relevant environmental, heritage, and socio-economic matters is being prepared for the Warragamba Dam Raising proposal and is scheduled for exhibition and public comment for a minimum period of 30 days in late 2019.

Subject to all State and Commonwealth environmental and planning approvals, the NSW Government will then consider a Business Case for the proposal in 2020. No construction activity on the dam raising can progress unless and until all relevant approvals are in place. Other key outcomes of the Flood Strategy addressing downstream flood risk are progressing in parallel with the EIS process.

⁵ Notification of Referral Decision and Designated Proponent – controlled action Warragamba Dam Raising (WaterNSW) (2017/7940), July 2017. See: <http://epbcnotices.environment.gov.au/entity/annotation/8c75339a-a075-e711-93a7-005056ba00a7/a71d58ad-4cba-48b6-8dab-f3091fc31cd5?t=1553573560887>

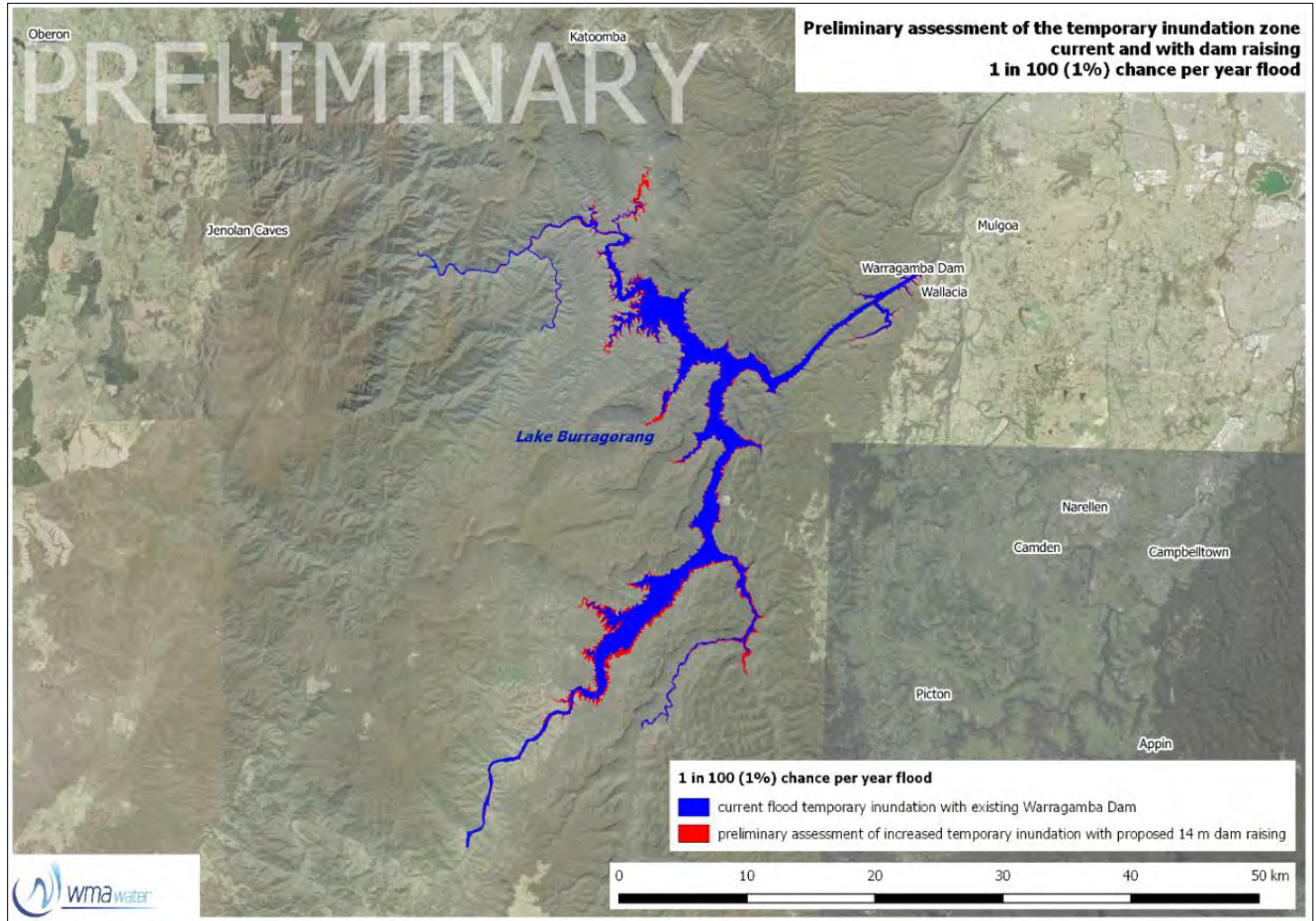
⁶ Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Requirements for Proponents 2010, NSW Dept of NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (2010), and Clause 80C of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Regulation (2009).

⁷ See: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/conservation/AboriginalPlacesNSW.htm

⁸ See: <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/parks-reserves-and-protected-areas/types-of-protected-areas/world-heritage-listed-areas/world-heritage-area-advisory-committees>

Appendix X

Preliminary assessment of the temporary inundation zone for a 1 in 100 (1%) chance per year flood - current and with 14 metre Warragamba Dam raising for temporary flood mitigation storage



From: [Angie Stringer](#)
To: s22
Cc: s22; s22; [Robert Quirk](#); s22
Subject: RE: additional info for draft SPR [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 3 April 2019 8:16:05 PM
Attachments: [image002.jpg](#)
[image003.jpg](#)
[image004.png](#)
[NPWS legislation and protection.docx](#)

H s22

Please find attached additional information as requested.

Thanks

Angie



Angie Stringer
Director Partnerships, Planning and Heritage
NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
Find out more about our Branch [here on Insite](#).

135 Murwillumbah Street, MURWULLIMBAH
T: s22
M: s22
W: nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

cid:image036.jpg@01D47DAF.12ED2FF0



From: s22
Sent: Monday, 1 April 2019 1:34 PM
To: Angie Stringer
Cc: s22; s22
Subject: additional info for draft SPR [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Angie – Stephen asked if we could include a stronger explanation of the NSW legislative arrangement for protection and management of the GBMA (And/or its constituent reserves). Would you be able to provide some draft text for this? E.g. about the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* serve, other relevant legislation, assessment of development proposals.
thanks, s22

s22
Director
Natural Heritage Section
Telephone: s22
Mobile: s22

cid:image002.png@01D24737.A9D83D20



The Department acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to their elders both past and present.

This email is intended for the addressee(s) named and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and then delete it immediately. Any views expressed in this email are those of the individual sender except where the sender expressly and with authority states them to be the views of the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.

PLEASE CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENT BEFORE PRINTING THIS EMAIL

Overview of NSW NPWS legislative and related arrangements, provided to the Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy, for the Greater Blue Mountains Area State of Conservation report to UNESCO.

The following is a brief summary of the key NSW legislative requirements related to the management and protection of national parks and other reserves that are part of World Heritage listed Greater Blue Mountains Area.

National Parks and Wildlife (NPW) Act 1974

The NPW Act is the primary legislative mechanism for the establishment and management of national parks and reserves. The objects of the NPW Act focus on the conservation of natural and cultural heritage, fostering public appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of these values, and providing for the management of land reserved under the Act consistent with clear management principles.

The Greater Blue Mountains Area includes eight national parks and reserves that are managed under the provisions of the NPW Act:

- Blue Mountains NP
- Gardens of Stone NP
- Jenolan Karst Conservation Reserve
- Kanangra-Boyd NP
- Nattai NP
- Thirlmere Lakes NP
- Wollemi NP
- Yengo NP.

Plans of management are prepared in accordance with the NPW Act to set out the specific management objectives, directions and actions for each park and reserve. Once adopted, all operations must be undertaken in accordance with the plan of management. Information on adopted plans of management is available on the OEH web-site [here](#)

For parks that do not yet have a statutory plan of management, guidance on park management priorities and actions is provided in a published statement of management intent. These are also available at the above web-link.

Section 153B NPW Act

Section 153B allows the Minister to grant lease or licences in relation to water or wastewater infrastructure in water catchment special areas. That includes reserves that are part of the Greater Blue Mountains Area.

However, s.153B specifically prohibits the granting of such approval for the impoundment of water on the land, permanent inundation of the land, construction of any flood mitigation structures on the land. The 'impoundment of water' includes temporary inundation.

In the context of the Warragamba Dam proposal, the effect of this provision is that it prevents the Minister for the Environment from granting a lease or licence to authorise the temporary inundation of land that would occur as part of flood mitigation measures if the dam wall is raised.

Water NSW Act 2014

The Water NSW Act 2014 was amended in 2018 to insert a new part 5A containing special provisions relating to Warragamba Dam.

Those provisions provide that a lease, licence, easement or right of way under the NPWS Act is not required for the temporary inundation of national park land resulting from the dam project. In addition, the Act states that the temporary inundation is not subject to the plan of management for that land.

In effect, these sections of the Water NSW Act 'turn-off' the prohibition that exists to temporary inundation under s.153B NPW Act.

The Water NSW Act also contains requirements related to the preparation of an environmental management plan (EMP) for temporary inundation activities, including monitoring and rehabilitation requirements.

The Water NSW Act provisions only have effect if the Warragamba Dam project receives planning approvals (see below).

Environmental Planning and Assessment (EP&A) Act 1979

Activities within national parks

All activities within national parks and reserves are subject to the environmental impact assessment requirements of the EPA Act. That includes activities by NPWS (such as new campgrounds, walking tracks and so on) and external proponents (such as utility infrastructure, new visitor accommodation, etc). Environmental impacts assessment must be undertaken before NPWS proceeds with the activity, or before approval is granted to an external proponent to do so (ie. via a lease, licence, consent or other approval under the NPW Act).

In most cases, activities are assessed by a Review of Environmental Factors (REF). Information on the REF process, including assessment guidelines and templates, are available on the OEH web-site [here](#)

Some types of projects require a higher-level, more comprehensive environmental impact assessment. That includes projects that meet criteria in the EP&A Act to be considered 'state significant'. The Warragamba Dam project is one such example.

Warragamba Dam project

The project is classified as State Significant Infrastructure under the EP&A Act and requires approval of the Minister for Planning.

An environmental impact statement (EIS) is being prepared to consider and address all potential environmental impacts, including to world heritage values. Community consultation, including statutory public exhibition, is a part of the EIS process.

OEH has a role in reviewing and providing feedback on the content of the EIS. Neither OEH or the Minister for the Environment have an approval role under the planning process.

As noted above, the 'turn-off' provisions of the Water NSW Act only take effect if the project receives planning approval.

From: [Angie Stringer](#)
To: s22
Cc: [Robert Quirk](#); s22; [David Williams](#)
Subject: RE: for review - DRAFT-GBMA-report-2019 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Date: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 2:03:47 PM
Attachments: [image002.jpg](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image004.jpg](#)
[DRAFT-GBMA-state-party-report NSW comments 2019.docx](#)

Afternoon s22

Thanks for sending through for us to review. Please find attached comments from Industry NSW (INSW) and OEH/NPWS to clarify some parts of the report. You will see in the comments that INSW have concerns about that version of the map being used. If you would like to discuss any of the dam comments or map further, INSW are very happy to discuss, just let me know and I will put you in touch. Give me a call if you want to discuss anything else.

Many thanks and good luck in finalising the report.

Angie



Angie Stringer
Director Partnerships, Planning and Heritage
NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
Find out more about our Branch [here on Insite](#).

135 Murwillumbah Street, MURWULLIMBAH
T: s22
M: s22
W: nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

cid:image036.jpg@01D47DAF.12ED2FF0



From: s22
Sent: Monday, 8 April 2019 11:22 AM
To: Angie Stringer
Cc: Robert Quirk; s22; s22; David Williams
Subject: for review - DRAFT-GBMA-report-2019 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Importance: High

Hi Angie

This is our latest, penultimate draft. Stephen Oxley reviewed it over the weekend and has made some comments which we still need to address (you'll see those in track changes or highlights).

He is happy for you to review it while we respond to the comments he has made. He wants to send it to the WHC on Wednesday.

He has asked for you to please review the content to ensure it is factually correct, and will consider any other comments you make.

Regards, s22

s22

Director

Natural Heritage Section
Heritage, Reef and Marine Division

Telephone: s22

Mobile: s22

Email: s22 [@environment.gov.au](mailto:s22@environment.gov.au)

GPO Box 787
Canberra ACT 2601

cid:image002.png@01D24737.A9D83D20



The Department acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to their elders both past and present.

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From: s22
To: s22
Subject: FW: Statement from INSW [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Thursday, 11 April 2019 9:26:43 AM
Attachments: [image001.gif](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[Warragamba Dam Holding statement_JB updates \(002\).docx](#)
[image003.jpg](#)

From: Angie Stringer [mailto:Angie.Stringer@environment.nsw.gov.au]

Sent: Thursday, 11 April 2019 7:41 AM

To: Stephen Oxley ; David Williams

Cc: Anthony Lean ; Robert Quirk ; s22 ; s22 ; s22

Subject: Statement from INSW

Morning Stephen and David

At our telemeeting in late March regarding the Greater Blue Mountains Area, we spoke about the recent media concerning the height of the Warragamba Dam. I have followed up with Industry NSW and Manager s22 has forwarded me a statement they released after the Premier's comments. Please find this attached for your information.

Thanks

Angie



Angie Stringer
Director Partnerships, Planning and Heritage
NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
Find out more about our Branch [here on Insite](#).

135 Murwillumbah Street, MURWULLIMBAH
T: s22
M: s22
W: nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

cid:image036.jpg@01D47DAF.12ED2FF0



From: s22 <s22@infrastructure.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 11:41 AM

To: Angie Stringer <Angie.Stringer@environment.nsw.gov.au>

Cc: Maree Abood <maree.abood@infrastructure.nsw.gov.au>; s22
<s22@infrastructure.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: 190318_HNV_Holding statement_JB updates (002)

Hi again Angie,

Here is the statement INSW has recently issued regarding the dam wall height. I would add that the potential climate change impacts have been modelled by expert hydrologists – based on the latest Australian Rainfall and Runoff Guidelines (2016) - to underpin the EIS.

Happy to discuss as necessary.

Kind regards,

s22

s22

Manager Communication & Engagement

Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley Flood Risk Management Directorate

M: s22

E: s22@insw.com www.insw.com

Level 15, Macquarie House, 167 Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000

cid:image001.gif@01D411FB.8CD94620



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STATEMENT - WARRAGAMBA DAM RAISING PROPOSAL

Claims the dam wall is being raised by 17 metres

- The Warragamba Dam raising proposal is being prepared to raise the dam wall by around 14 metres to create 'airspace' to capture and temporarily hold back floodwaters.
- In an extreme flood event the temporary height of the water (maximum flood level) would be around 14 metre higher than current water levels.
- An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Business Case for the raising of the Warragamba Dam Wall are being developed for the proposed 14 metre raising.
- Under NSW legislation, the NSW Secretary of the Department of Planning and Environment has required the project to be:
'designed, constructed and operated to be resilient to the future impacts of climate change'.
- The EIS currently being prepared will address all aspects of the proposal, including climate change resilience.
- Any proposed modification to the dam beyond 14 metres in the future would require new environmental, planning and business case approvals, as well as government approval to proceed.

Water storage

The NSW Government has been clear that the flood mitigation zone created by the raised dam wall would only be used to temporarily store flood waters during the floods. More information on this is available .

From: s22
To: "Angie Stringer"
Cc: s22 ; s22 ; s22
Subject: RE: Warragamba Dam wall Mediportal Alert - WHC [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 21 August 2019 9:40:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image003.jpg](#)

Many thanks Angie

From: Angie Stringer [mailto:Angie.Stringer@environment.nsw.gov.au]

Sent: Friday, 16 August 2019 1:35 PM

To: s22

Cc: s22 ; s22 ; s22

Subject: RE: Warragamba Dam wall Mediportal Alert - WHC [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s22

I have followed up and the Planning and Assessment Team in the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE), have advised that the report which Water NSW commissioned, has been sent to the registered Aboriginal parties and won't be circulated to anyone else until their input has been taken into consideration.

After this we will be able to see the report before public exhibition. I am also told that the Planning and Assessment team in DPIE have an imbedded Commonwealth Officer working with them called s22 .

Thanks and talk soon

angie



Angie Stringer
Director Partnerships, Planning and Heritage
NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
Find out more about our Branch [here on Insite](#)

135 Murwillumbah Street, MURWULLIMBAH
T: s22
M: s22
W: nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

cid:image036.jpg@01D47DAF.12ED2FF0



From: s22 @environment.gov.au

Sent: Monday, 12 August 2019 1:19 PM

To: Angie Stringer <Angie.Stringer@environment.nsw.gov.au>

Cc: s22 @environment.gov.au; s22 @environment.gov.au

Subject: Re: Warragamba Dam wall Mediportal Alert - WHC [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks Angie. Grateful if we could also see a copy if that is possible.

s22
A/g Director
Natural Heritage
(02) s22
s22

On 12 Aug 2019, at 12:33 pm, Angie Stringer <Angie.Stringer@environment.nsw.gov.au> wrote:

Hi s22 . Yes it is that. I haven't seen a copy of it yet. I will chase up one today
A

Sent from my iPhone
Angie Stringer
Director - Partnerships, Planning and Heritage
NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

Sent from my iPhone
Angie Stringer
Director - Partnerships, Planning and Heritage
NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

On 12 Aug 2019, at 11:41, s22 @environment.gov.au wrote:

Sorry I didn't read the article very well, is it the Warragamba Dam Raising Draft Indigenous Cultural Assessment?
[Is there any background re content, timing for review or other issues we need to be aware of?](#)

From: s22
Sent: Monday, 12 August 2019 11:36 AM
To: Angie Stringer <Angie.Stringer@environment.nsw.gov.au>

Cc: s22 [redacted] @environment.gov.au>

Subject: FW: Warragamba Dam wall Mediaportal Alert - WHC [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: High

Hi Angie

Can you please let us know as soon as possible what report the article below is referring to?

<https://www.news.com.au/national/breaking-news/no-time-to-review-dam-report-nsw-elders/news-story/e2f0d45db7946300de959f0f0d71b124>

No time to review dam report: NSW elders

<https://www.wellingtontimes.com.au/story/6322189/no-time-to-review-dam-report-nsw-elders/>

Traditional owners complain there's no time to assess a report on raising Warragamba Dam's wall.

Traditional owners say they have been given five weeks to assess a **confidential 2000-page report** into the impact of raising the Warragamba Dam wall, as proposed by the NSW government.

Blue Mountains mayor Mark Greenhill and Wollondilly Shire mayor Matt Deeth have invited the dam's project director, Maree Abood, to attend an urgent public meeting with traditional owners on Friday to hear about the cultural impacts of the dam project.

The Colong Foundation for Wilderness says there are more than 300 cultural sites and 4700 hectares of World Heritage National Parks within the affected area, but traditional owners have been given only five weeks to review the effects of the Warragamba Dam Raising Draft Indigenous Cultural Assessment.

"How are we meant to respond to a 2000-page cultural assessment in a matter of weeks when the area they want to destroy covers over 5000 hectares?" Gundungurra traditional owner Kazan Brown said on Monday.

"This meeting will be a litmus test for Infrastructure NSW. If the government is genuine about consulting traditional owners and the community, they will take part and listen to our people's concerns.

"The simple fact is we need much more time to understand and respond to this hastily put together assessment that tries to excuse the destruction of our people's key cultural sites."

Many thanks

s22 [redacted]

s22 [redacted]

A/g Director

Natural Heritage Section

Heritage Branch

Department of the Environment and Energy

Email: s22 [redacted] @environment.gov.au

Phone: (02) s22 [redacted]

Mobile: s22 [redacted]

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From: s22 on behalf of s22
To: s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22
Cc: s22 ; s22 ; Angie.Stringer@environment.nsw.gov.au; s22 ; s22 ; s22
Subject: FW: GBMWhA OUV assessment in Warragamba EIS [SEC=OFFICIAL]

fyi

-----Original Appointment-----

From: s22
Sent: Wednesday, 21 August 2019 2:39 PM
To: s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22
Cc: s22 ; s22 ; Angie.Stringer@environment.nsw.gov.au <<mailto:Angie.Stringer@environment.nsw.gov.au>>; s22 ; s22 ; s22
Subject: GBMWhA OUV assessment in Warragamba EIS [SEC=OFFICIAL]
When: Thursday, 29 August 2019 3:00 PM-5:00 PM (UTC+10:00) Brisbane.
Where: DPIE Offices- Waratah Room, 320 Pitt Street SYDNEY 2000.

Hi s22

As discussed, the Department proposes to meet with DPIE, WaterNSW, SMEC and OEH to discuss how the Warragamba Dam EIS is addressing impacts on the Outstanding Universal Values of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area . A draft agenda for Thursday 29th August would be:

- 1) Presentation on GBMWhA OUV - DoEE
- 2) Update on Warragamba Dam EIS assessment of impacts on GBMWhA OUV- WaterNSW/SMEC
- 3) Discussion

Please let me know if there are any issues with this date and time with the other agencies.

Thanks and regards

s22

Skype video conference details below.

Join Skype Meeting <<https://lync.environment.nsw.gov.au/meet/planning.nsw.gov.au/s22/HBYG4Q23>>
Trouble Joining? Try Skype Web App <<https://lync.environment.nsw.gov.au/meet/planning.nsw.gov.au/s22/HBYG4Q23?sl=1>>
Join by phone
+s22 # (Sydney) English (Australia)
Find a local number <<https://dialin.environment.nsw.gov.au?id=7139361>>
Conference ID s22
Forgot your dial-in PIN? <<https://dialin.environment.nsw.gov.au>> |Help <<https://o15.officeredir.microsoft.com/r/lidLync15?clid=1033&p1=5&p2=2009>>

From: s22
To: s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22
Cc: s22 ; s22 ; Angie.Stringer@environment.nsw.gov.au; s22 ; s22 ;
s22 ; s22 ; s22 @planning.nsw.gov.au; s47F ; s47F ; s47F
; s22 "
Subject: GBMWA OUV assessment in Warragamba EIS [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: [Project mtg-Agenda-290819.docx](#)

Hi s22

As discussed, the Department proposes to meet with DPIE, WaterNSW, SMEC and OEH to discuss how the Warragamba Dam EIS is addressing impacts on the Outstanding Universal Values of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area . Agenda is attached.

Thanks and regards
s22

Skype video conference details below.

Join Skype Meeting <<https://lync.environment.nsw.gov.au/meet/planning.nsw.gov.au/s22/HBYG4Q23>>
Trouble Joining? Try Skype Web App <<https://lync.environment.nsw.gov.au/meet/planning.nsw.gov.au/s22/HBYG4Q23?sl=1>>
Join by phone
+s22 (Sydney) English (Australia)
Find a local number <<https://dialin.environment.nsw.gov.au?id=7139361>>
Conference ID s22
Forgot your dial-in PIN? <<https://dialin.environment.nsw.gov.au>> | Help <<https://o15.officeredir.microsoft.com/r/rliidLync15?clid=1033&p1=5&p2=2009>>

Agenda

Warragamba Dam Wall Raising EIS

World Heritage Impact Assessment Meeting

Thursday August 2019, 3-5pm

Location: DPIE Offices –Warratah Room, 320 Pitt Street, Sydney 2000

1. Introduction and background	s22 (DPIE)
2. Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area – Outstanding Universal Values	s22 (DoEE)
3. World/National Heritage Impact Assessment to date	Water NSW/SMEC
4. Discussion	All
5. General EIS progress update	WaterNSW/SMEC
6. Next Steps	s22 (DPIE)

From: s22
To: s22
Cc: s22 ; s22 ; s22
Subject: RE: WaterNSW quote on SMEC in recent ABC article [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Thursday, 17 October 2019 9:13:29 AM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

Good morning s22

Thank you very much for your response, we really appreciate it.

If you have any questions about the Greater Blue Mountains and World Heritage please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

s22

s22 | Assistant Director |

Natural Heritage | Heritage Branch | (02) s22

<http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage>

From: s22 @waternsw.com.au]

Sent: Wednesday, 16 October 2019 5:58 PM

To: s22

Cc: s22 ; s22

Subject: WaterNSW quote on SMEC in recent ABC article

Hello s22

s22 brought to our attention your question in relation to the recent media commentary attributed to WaterNSW in this ABC news piece:

<https://mobile.abc.net.au/news/2019-10-11/warragamba-dam-company-smec-accused-of-abusing-indigenous-rights/11589222?pfmredir=sm>

For your reference, this is the full response we had provided prior to publishing –

Please attribute to a WaterNSW spokesperson:

- SMEC Australia Pty Ltd is not a part of SMEC international and therefore not involved with projects in other countries by other SMEC International subsidiaries.
- SMEC Australia Pty Ltd engaged Niche Environment and Heritage, a specialist local Australian company to deliver the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment on the project.
- The Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation and assessment for the EIS is being undertaken in line with all relevant policies, guidelines and requirements.

Additional background

In delivering the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Report for the EIS, Niche advertised for and established Registered Aboriginal Parties for the project and then worked with that group to agree a methodology for the assessment, to participate in all field surveys, and to review and provide comment on the draft report.

Further consultation with the Aboriginal and broader communities is planned when the EIS is placed on public display in 2020.

Please let me know if you have any other questions or if I can otherwise be of assistance.

Best,

s22

Communications Lead



Level 14, 169 Macquarie Street, Parramatta 2150

PO Box 398, Parramatta NSW 2124

T: s22 [redacted]

www.waternsw.com.au

From: s22
To: "Angie Stringer"; s22
Subject: RE: assessment process Warragamba Dam wall project [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 20 November 2019 12:51:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image003.jpg](#)

Many thanks Angie

From: Angie Stringer [mailto:Angie.Stringer@environment.nsw.gov.au]

Sent: Wednesday, 20 November 2019 12:26 PM

To: s22

Cc: s22

Subject: RE: assessment process Warragamba Dam wall project

Thanks s22

s22 FYI- as briefly discussed this morning



Angie Stringer

Director Partnerships, Planning and Heritage

NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

Find out more about our Branch [here on Insite](#).

PPH

npws.pphb@environment.nsw.gov.au

135 Murwillumbah Street,
MURWILLUMBAH

T: s22

M: s22

W: nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

cid:image036.jpg@01D47DAF.12ED2FF0



From: s22 <s22@environment.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 20 November 2019 11:12 AM

To: Angie Stringer <Angie.Stringer@environment.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: FW: assessment process Warragamba Dam wall project

Hi Angie

FYI Bruce Leaver's response to Bob Debus - cc'd to me.

Thank you

s22

From: Bruce Leaver <bruce_leaver@yahoo.com.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 20 November 2019 10:05 AM

To: bobdebus@gmail.com

Cc: s22 <s22@environment.nsw.gov.au>; s22 <s22@environment.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: Re: assessment process Warragamba Dam wall project

Dear Bob

Thanks for your views and attached material in the follow up email. The previous GBM WHA Advisory Committee decided that it would receive briefings and information from across the spectrum of views associated with this project. The Committee repeatedly expressed the view that its task was to advise Ministers on the protection of inscribed World Heritage Values. I reinforced this position when I recently met with NSW Minister. Balancing the conservation, planning and public safety-emergency response issues is the challenging task of others.

In view of its formal role the Committee was reluctant to draw into the dynamics of an NGO campaign, preferring to look to the eventual EIS contents and form its advice to governments accordingly. This is not to deny the legitimacy of such a campaign, indeed environmental activism has a proud record of achievement in Australia, including your organisation. Added to the EIS process is the World Heritage Committee decision on the issue you refer to. GBM Committee meetings include a representative of the Commonwealth who keeps the committee informed about world heritage issues. I have also been briefed on the outcome of the World Heritage Committee meeting re GBM and remain ready to assist with any reporting requirements.

The new Committee has been appointed and will hold its first meeting late February 2020. A delay reflecting the unfolding bushfire emergency. I have been reappointed as Chair. I am sure the dam wall project will feature as prominently on meeting agenda as it did in the past. I will make the information you have sent to me available to the new Committee. Kind regards.

[Sent from Yahoo7 Mail on Android](#)

On Tue, 19 Nov 2019 at 5:47 pm, Robert Debus

<bobdebus@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Bruce,

I write to you in my role as a director of the Colong Foundation for Wilderness.

Our organisation has recently commissioned an expert review of the biodiversity assessment process to date for the Warragamba wall raising proposal from Dr Steve Douglas. Also, Gundungurra traditional owner Kazan Brown has

commissioned an expert review from Dr Micheal Stack of the Aboriginal Cultural Assessment for the proposal which was completed some months ago. Each of these reports, by reputable professionals, have been submitted to the Legislative Council Select Committee concerning the proposal and each suggests severe shortcomings in the assessment process in unequivocal terms.

I will forward all documentation in a separate, following email.

1) On 23 July 2019 the World Heritage Committee (WHC) requested the Commonwealth to **"ensure, in line with its commitment, that the current process to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposal fully assesses all potential impacts on the OUV of the property and its other values, including Aboriginal cultural heritage..."** It also requested the submission of a **"copy of the EIS to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN, prior to taking any final decisions regarding the project";**

WHC asked that any EIS concerning potential threats to the property should be carried out **"in conformity with the IUCNs [2013] World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment"** which includes a specific section focusing on the potential impact of a project on a World Heritage property's OUV.

In his report Dr Douglas analyses the assessment of biodiversity for the proposal to date through the frame of the eight IUCN World Heritage Impact Assessment Principles included in the Advice Note. His finding is that: **" There is no evidence of the assessment process being consistent with the formal advice of IUCN (2013) or having any significant regard to World Heritage values. To date, the process appears to assume that the [State] Government will approve its own project, and that environmental assessment is just a formality to document effects and perhaps mitigate or offset some of these".**

2) I am also particularly concerned that Water NSW will incorrectly claim to have satisfied Principle 2 of the IUCN World Heritage Impact Assessment Principles simply because it has regularly briefed your Committee.

Principle 2 says the **"Experts with World Heritage, protected area and biodiversity knowledge must be closely involved in the assessment process in order to identify the issues that will need to be assessed"**. This guideline can only be satisfied adequately if professional ecologists and botanists with a through understanding of the eucalyptus genus and its relevance to OUV in the Blue Mountains are involved.

However, no such engagement has occurred. Indeed I am informed that so far there has not even been an attempt to develop a methodology to assess or survey the impact of the wall raising proposal upon eucalyptus diversity.

I do strongly suggest therefore that the Blue Mountains World Heritage Advisory Advisory Committee should urgently consider writing to Water NSW to express general support for the July decision of WHC and particular support for its insistence that the proponent of a proposal effecting the OUV of a World Heritage property should follow procedures set out in the 2013 IUCN Advice Note.

yours sincerely,

Bob Debus AM

Bob Debus AM

s47F

s47F

Mobile +61 s47F

Phone +61 s47F

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s22

From: s22
Sent: Thursday, 18 April 2019 1:52 PM
To: s22 ; s22
Cc: s22 ; s22 ; s22
Subject: RE: Warragamba Dam Raising - Approach to biodiversity offsets [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Thanks, s22 – s22 is currently away but will be able to respond when she's back next week.

Cheers

s22

From: s22 @waternsw.com.au]
Sent: Thursday, 18 April 2019 1:24 PM
To: s22 ; s22
Cc: s22 ; s22
Subject: RE: Warragamba Dam Raising - Approach to biodiversity offsets [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22

Just an update that the meeting with NSW OEH has been set for 2pm on the 3rd May at the OEH offices in Parramatta.

Regards

s22

From: s22
Sent: Tuesday, 16 April 2019 3:43 PM
To: s22 @environment.gov.au; s22 @environment.gov.au
Cc: s22 @waternsw.com.au>; s22 @waternsw.com.au>
Subject: FW: Warragamba Dam Raising - Approach to biodiversity offsets [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22

I am currently assisting WaterNSW with preparation of the EIS for the Warragamba Dam Raising. s22 who you dealt with previously on this project is on maternity leave as per her advice below.

Our consultants SMEC and WNSW met with the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and a representative from your Department late last year to discuss the assessments of the projects impact on biodiversity. These meetings helped to refine the survey and assessment methodology and clarify expectations for the EIS. The project consultants have now reached a stage where we think it would be valuable to brief DoEE on the outcomes of the assessments to date and discuss key issues with application of assessment methodology in order to finalise the EIS for submission to the NSW Secretary of the Department of Planning later this year. The project team has been engaging with community and stakeholders over this period including the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Committee.

I am looking to arrange a suitable time for a meeting with your relevant officers to present and get feedback on the assessments to date including mitigation and offsetting. We would like to hold the briefing as soon as practicable ideally in the week commencing 30th April likely to be in Sydney. We would also invite the NSW Department of Planning assessment officers for this project as well as representatives from the OEH. Note if this is not feasible we would be happy to arrange a separate briefing directly with your Department

Please feel free to give me a call if you have any questions – I’m happy to talk through how we can tailor the presentation to ensure we cover your issues. If it is feasible I’d appreciate advice on a suitable day/time during that week so I can coordinate the best time for the other Agencies.

Regards

s22

s22

Environment and Planning Manager, Warragamba Dam Raising



PO Box 398
Parramatta NSW 2124
M: s22
s22 @watersw.com.au
www.watersw.com.au
ABN 21 147 934 787

From: s22
Sent: Thursday, 17 January 2019 9:39 AM
To: s22 @environment.gov.au>
Cc: s22 @environment.gov.au>; s22 @environment.gov.au>; Kevin Roberts s22 @watersw.com.au>; s22 @watersw.com.au>
Subject: RE: Warragamba Dam Raising - Approach to biodiversity offsets [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22 ,

Thank you for the below information, WaterNSW was recently advised by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment that:

‘Warragamba Dam Raising will remain a **pending or interim planning application** (see cl 27, and definition **(a)** of the term **pending or interim planning application**) under the *Biodiversity Conservation (Savings and Transitional) Regulation 2017*. This is because the SSI application was made before commencement of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* but not finally determined immediately before that commencement. There is no other action required for the project to remain a pending or interim planning application, and there is no cut-off date for the project remaining so.’

I would also like to take this opportunity to introduce my colleague and new Warragamba Dam Raising Project, Environmental Planning and Approvals Manager, s22 who will lead the EIS for WaterNSW as I commence maternity leave from February (returning late September 2019). s22 remains the Project Director and can be reached via email or phone on s22 .

Contact information:

s22
Environment and Planning Manager, Warragamba Dam Raising
PO Box 398, Parramatta NSW 2124
M: s22
s22 @watersw.com.au

Kind Regards,

s22

Project Manager, Planning and Environmental Approvals
Warragamba Dam Raising



Warragamba Dam Operations Office
Production Avenue, Warragamba NSW 2752
PO Box 63, Warragamba NSW 2752
M: s22
s22 @waternsw.com.au
www.waternsw.com.au
ABN 21 147 934 787

From: s22 @environment.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 21 November 2018 2:35 PM
To: s22 @waternsw.com.au>
Cc: s22 @environment.gov.au>; s22 @environment.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Warragamba Dam Raising - Approach to biodiversity offsets [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22

Following on from our discussion this morning, OEH has advised that you contact them via lmbc.support@environment.nsw.gov.au or 1800 931 717 to discuss the FBA/BAM issue and transitional arrangements.

Cheers
s22

From: s22 [mailto:s22 @waternsw.com.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 20 November 2018 9:00 AM
To: s22 @environment.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Warragamba Dam Raising - Approach to biodiversity offsets [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22

I tried calling and was advised you are out of the office for training today, if you could please give me a call when it suits you tomorrow it would be greatly appreciated.

Kind Regards,

s22
Environmental Advisor, Warragamba Dam Raising



Warragamba Dam Operations Office
Production Avenue, Warragamba NSW 2752
PO Box 63, Warragamba NSW 2752
M: s22
s22 @waternsw.com.au
www.waternsw.com.au
ABN 21 147 934 787

From: s22 [redacted] <s22@environment.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 19 November 2018 12:17 PM
To: s22 [redacted] <s22@watersw.com.au>
Subject: RE: Warragamba Dam Raising - Approach to biodiversity offsets [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22 [redacted]

Can you please call me when you have a chance, just want to discuss the below.

Cheers

s22 [redacted]

s22 [redacted]
Southern NSW & ACT Assessments
Department of the Environment and Energy
(02) s22 [redacted] | s22 [redacted] <s22@environment.gov.au>

From: s22 [redacted] <<mailto:s22@watersw.com.au>>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 November 2018 9:35 AM
To: s22 [redacted] <s22@environment.gov.au>
Cc: s22 [redacted] <s22@environment.gov.au>; s22 [redacted] <s22@watersw.com.au>; s22 [redacted] <s22@watersw.com.au>; s22 [redacted] <s22@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Warragamba Dam Raising - Approach to biodiversity offsets [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22 [redacted]

Further to my previous email regarding biodiversity, WaterNSW would like to enquire of the department whether there is any indication into the timing for a signed bilateral agreement with NSW following the enactment of the NSW Biodiversity Conversation Act. We note:

The Commonwealth Government has published a [Notice of Intent](#) to develop a new bilateral agreement with the NSW Government that will take account of recent legislative change in New South Wales, namely the commencement of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*. The current bilateral agreement remains operational and will continue to be used for projects that are being assessed under the transitional arrangements under the Biodiversity Conservation Act.

Currently the project is being prepared as a transitional project, however if unable to meet these timeframes wanted to be informed of the implications regarding being a NSW state significant infrastructure project and declared a controlled action under the EPBC should there not be a bilateral agreement in place. Your earliest response regarding the negotiations and anticipated timing of a potential bilateral agreement would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to discuss the matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks,

s22 [redacted]
Environmental Advisor, Warragamba Dam Raising



Warragamba Dam Operations Office
Production Avenue, Warragamba NSW 2752
PO Box 63, Warragamba NSW 2752

M: s22
s22 @waternsw.com.au
www.waternsw.com.au
ABN 21 147 934 787

From: s22 @environment.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 4 September 2018 9:26 AM
To: s22 @waternsw.com.au>
Subject: RE: Warragamba Dam Raising - Approach to biodiversity offsets [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22

I will be the new assessment officer on this project, I work part time Tuesday to Thursday and my best contact number is my mobile s22. If you could also please cc s22 on any emails so that if anything urgent comes up on the days that I am not working she can contact me.

Thanks

s22
Southern NSW and ACT Assessments

From: s22 @waternsw.com.au]
Sent: Monday, 3 September 2018 1:48 PM
To: s22 @environment.gov.au>; s22
s22 @environment.gov.au>; s22 @planning.nsw.gov.au>; s22
@environment.gov.au>; s22 @environment.gov.au>
Cc: s22 @waternsw.com.au>; s22 @environment.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Warragamba Dam Raising - Approach to biodiversity offsets [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22

Thank you for all your work on the project and I have subsequently made contact with the new appointed project assessment officer, s22. However given s22 wasn't present at the meeting, WNSW asks that on behalf of DoEE and as the attending officer, if you could please review the minutes and respond accordingly.

Many thanks,

s22
Environmental Advisor, Warragamba Dam Raising



Warragamba Dam Operations Office
Production Avenue, Warragamba NSW 2752
PO Box 63, Warragamba NSW 2752
s22
@waternsw.com.au
www.waternsw.com.au
ABN 21 147 934 787

From: s22 @environment.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 3 September 2018 10:13 AM
To: s22 @waternsw.com.au>; s22 @environment.gov.au>; s22

s22 @planning.nsw.gov.au>; s22 @environment.gov.au>; s22 @environment.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Warragamba Dam Raising - Approach to biodiversity offsets [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22 ,

I am no the assessment officer managing the Warragamba Dam project. I have CC'd in s22 (Director of the relevant section) to this e-mail, and he will be able to advise which officer has taken on this project.

Thank you,
Regards,

s22
Post Approvals Section | Environment Standards Division | Phone: s22

From: s22 @waternsw.com.au]

Sent: Monday, 3 September 2018 9:58 AM

To: s22 @environment.nsw.gov.au>; s22

s22 @environment.nsw.gov.au>; s22 @environment.gov.au>;

s22 @planning.nsw.gov.au>; s22 @environment.gov.au>

Cc: s22 @environment.nsw.gov.au>; s22

s22 @waternsw.com.au>; s22 @waternsw.com.au>; s22

@environment.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: Warragamba Dam Raising - Approach to biodiversity offsets

All,

Many apologies for the delay, however please find attached meeting minutes from discussions held on the 20 June, along with the technical note for background. If you have any comments, please do not hesitate to send these through at your earliest convenience.

Kind Regards,

s22
Environmental Advisor, Warragamba Dam Raising



Warragamba Dam Operations Office
Production Avenue, Warragamba NSW 2752
PO Box 63, Warragamba NSW 2752
M: s22
s22 @waternsw.com.au
www.waternsw.com.au
ABN 21 147 934 787

s22

From: s47F [redacted]@smec.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 24 July 2019 11:41 AM
To: s22 [redacted]; s22 [redacted]@environment.nsw.gov.au
Subject: presentation
Attachments: WaterNSW presentation.pdf

s47F

Principal Environmental Scientist - Environment & Waste
T +61 s47F [redacted] E s47F [redacted]@smec.com
Level 5, 20 Berry Street, North Sydney, NSW, 2060,

www.smec.com  LinkedIn  YouTube  Instagram  Subscribe



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s22

From: s22 @planning.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 19 June 2019 10:54 AM
To: s22
Subject: RE: Warragamba [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s22

I can confirm there will be opportunity for DoEE to review the draft EIS pre-exhibition, and then during the exhibition. I'll confirm indicative dates and follow up shortly.

I've tried to get an updated flowchart, but I don't have one at this stage. I will try to source/create something as soon as possible.

Regards,

s22

s22

Team Leader, Ports and Water Assessments
Department of Planning and Environment
Level 29, 320 Pitt Street SYDNEY NSW 2000 | GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001
T 02 s22 | E s22 @planning.nsw.gov.au

From: s22
Sent: Wednesday, 19 June 2019 10:42 AM
To: s22
Subject: FW: Warragamba [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s22

Just wondering if you had a chance to have a look at the email below last week re: EIS review process? Also do you have any updated information from Water NSW regarding the submission of the draft EIS?

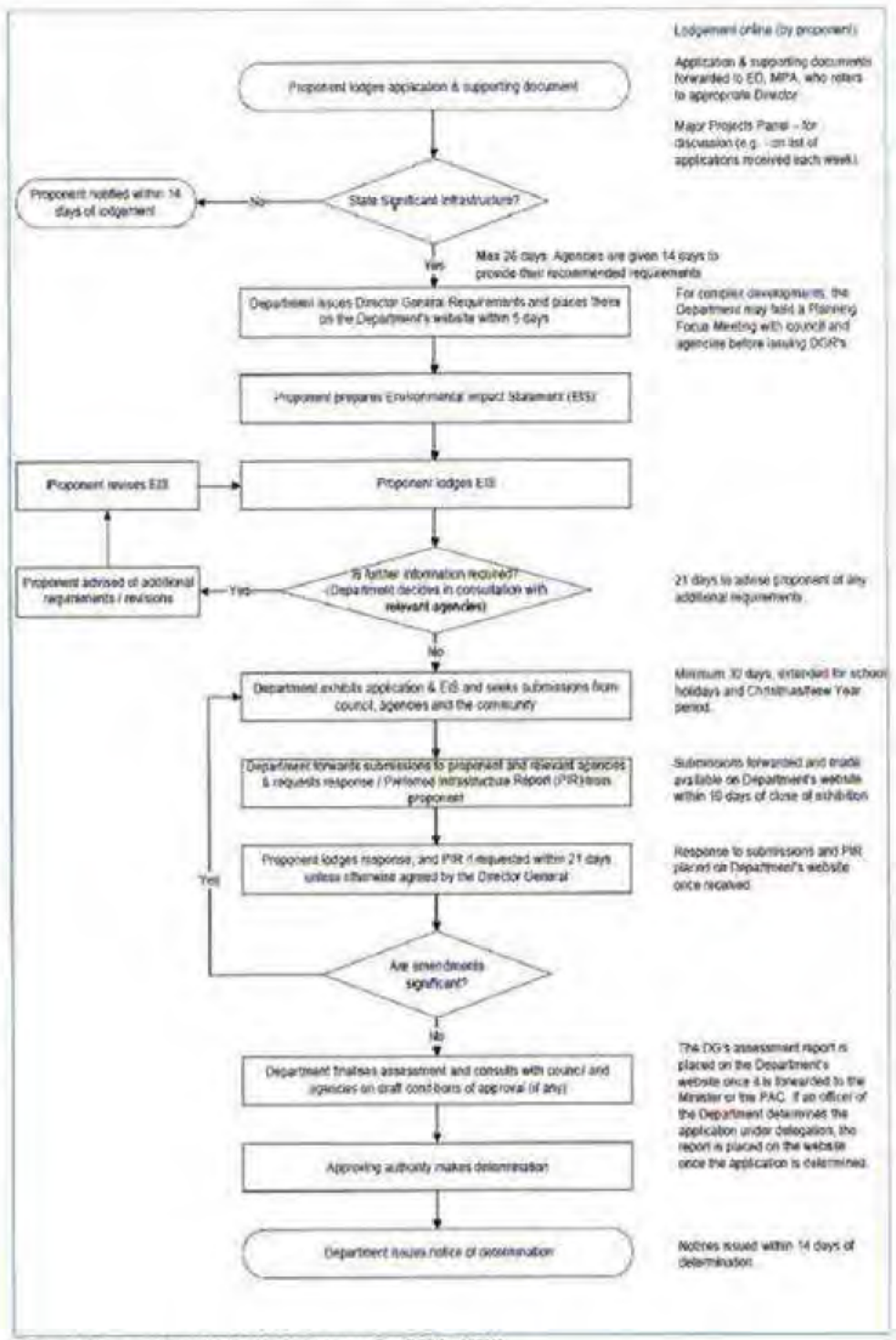
Thanks

s22

From: s22
Sent: Thursday, 13 June 2019 11:07 AM
To: s22 @planning.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Warragamba [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s22

I just left a message on your voice mail, which was in relation to the following flow chart. Would we (DoEE) be given the draft EIS during the further information phase marked as 1 in the red box below, in which case we would have 21 days to comment, or would we receive it before this point, not part of the formal process below, or at Stage 2 which is the public comment (minimum 30 days). Also would you have an updated version of this flowchart, as it still references the PAC.



1

2

Figure 2-4 Flowchart of EIA Process for SSI in NSW

The Department acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to their elders both past and present



s22

From: s22 @environment.nsw.gov.au >
Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 10:41 AM
To: s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s47F ; s47F ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; Maree Abood; David Crust; s22 ; s22 ; s22
Subject: Warragamba Dam Raising EIS - biodiversity issues - Meeting, Paroo Room, Level 14, 59 Goulburn Street, Haymarket
Attachments: 30012078-WDR-Meeting_Agenda-Biodiversity-OEH_meeting-190503 Ver 2.docx

Hi all, the meeting agenda is attached. A pdf of the presentation(s) will be emailed by the consultants before the meeting,

Regards



s22
Senior Conservation Planning Officer
 Greater Sydney Branch
 Communities and Greater Sydney Division

10 Valentine Avenue, Parramatta 2150
 PO Box 644, Parramatta 2124
 T: s22

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Meeting:

Meeting Title:	Biodiversity update	Date:	3 May 2019
Subject:	Warragamba Dam Raising EIS	Time:	3:30pm – 5pm
Location:	Goulburn Street, Sydney		
Invitees:	OEH - s22 [redacted], s22 [redacted], s22 [redacted], s22 [redacted], s22 [redacted], s22 [redacted] DPE - s22 [redacted], DoE - s22 [redacted], s22 [redacted] WaterNSW - s22 [redacted], s22 [redacted] INSW - Maree Abood SMEC - s47F [redacted], s47F [redacted]		

Item	Item Details	By
1	Introductions	All
2	Objectives of meeting	s22 [redacted] s47F [redacted] (5 minutes)
3	Summary of field survey – including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Survey coverage - Key findings from the survey 	s47F [redacted] (10 minutes)
4	Construction Site Biodiversity Assessment	s47F [redacted] (5 minutes)
5	Downstream Biodiversity Assessment	s47F [redacted] (5 minutes)
6	Upstream Biodiversity Assessment – including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - use of FBA methodology - literature review including CSIRO assessment - determination and use of management zones - assessment of impacts - use of experts 	s47F [redacted] (30 minutes)
7	Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance – including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - impacts on EPBC listed communities and species - impacts on World Heritage Areas 	s47F [redacted] / s47F [redacted] (5 minutes)
8	Biodiversity Offset Strategy – approaches and options	Various (30 minutes)

Warragamba Dam Raising EIS

Meeting	Biodiversity assessment and offsets meeting		
Date	3 May 2019	Time	3:30
Location	OEH Offices Goulburn St Sydney		
Chair	s22	Minutes	s22
Attendees	<p>s22 – WaterNSW</p> <p>s22 – WaterNSW</p> <p>s47F – SMEC</p> <p>s47F – SMEC</p> <p>Maree Abood – Infrastructure NSW</p> <p>s22 – Department of Energy and Environment</p> <p>s22 – Department of Environment and Energy</p> <p>s22 – Department of Environment and Energy (by phone in part)</p> <p>s22 – Department of Planning</p> <p>s22 – Department of Planning</p>	<p>s22 – NSW Office of Environment and Heritage</p> <p>s22 – NSW Office of Environment and Heritage</p> <p>s22 – NSW Office of Environment and Heritage</p> <p>s22 – NSW Office of Environment and Heritage</p> <p>s22 – NSW Office of Environment and Heritage</p> <p>s22 – NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (by Phone)</p> <p>s22 – NSW Office of Environment and Heritage</p> <p>David Crust - NSW Office of Environment and Heritage</p>	
Invitees	NA		
Apologies	NA		

Meeting minutes

No	Item	Description & details of decision/action
0	Introductions	N/A
1	Presentation from SMEC on status of Biodiversity Assessment	<p>s47F and s47F provided a presentation on the assessment of the biodiversity impacts of the Warragamba Dam Raising proposal. A copy of the presentation was provided to participants through s22.</p> <p>The presentation included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent of field investigations • Key findings in terms of threatened species and endangered ecological communities • Assessment method to estimate the upstream impact of temporary inundation on biodiversity within the framework of the FBA and credit calculator

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief description of assessment method for downstream and construction site impacts • Key findings in terms of MNES and how they would be addressed in the EIS • Assessment of impacts on protected lands, World Heritage and Wild Rivers and how they would be addressed in the EIS <p>There were no significant concerns raised at the meeting about SMEC's presented approaches being adopted to assess biodiversity impacts. However, OEH noted the key assumptions for the assessment would be those for the impacts of inundation on threatened species and vegetation, given that little data existed. OEH recommended details on the key assumptions be referred to OEH for review as soon as possible.</p>
2	Biodiversity offsetting assessment	<p>s22 led a discussion on the development of the offset strategy for the project. The discussion identified a range of issues that need to be considered including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • different approaches to offsets for the construction, upstream and downstream components of the project • impact on National Park land and the role of offsets in addressing that impact • timing of delivery of offsets in relation to timing of impact • consideration of the role of rehabilitation within the potentially impacted area in terms of both credit calculations and offset delivery • clarification was provided regarding the DoEE position on direct offsets – can include direct actions in addition to land offsets as per the EPBC Act environmental offsets policy (as previously advised).
3	Future meetings	Meeting agreed that a follow up meeting be organised once the assessment has been completed and a draft BOS prepared. This is expected late June.
Closed		5:00 pm
Next meeting		TBA
Documents issued		Copy of Presentation

s22


From: s22 <s22@environment.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 6 May 2019 9:12 AM
To: s22 ; s22
Subject: FW: Biodiversity Presentation - Warragamba Dam Raising
Attachments: Biodiversity Update_20190503 - WDR.pdf

From: s47F
Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 1:43 PM
To: s22@environment.gov.au
Cc: s22 ; 30012078 - Warragamba Dam EIS ; s22
Subject: Biodiversity Presentation - Warragamba Dam Raising

Hi s22 and s22

Attached is the presentation for this afternoon's meeting. Please note this is not a record of the meeting.

s47F
Principal Environmental Scientist - Environment & Waste
T +s47F E s47F@smec.com
Level 5, 20 Berry Street, North Sydney, NSW, 2060,

www.smec.com  LinkedIn  YouTube  Instagram  Subscribe



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s22

From: s22 s22 @environment.nsw.gov.au >
Sent: Thursday, 9 May 2019 9:59 AM
To: s22
Subject: RE: Warragamba Project - heritage [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: WDR ACH OEH Pres 20190411 DFT01 - JEB.pdf; WDR Meeting Agenda 12 April 2019 FINAL.docx

Hi s22, attached is the agenda and a pdf of the presentation from the meeting.

Regards,



s22
Senior Conservation Planning Officer
Greater Sydney Branch
Communities and Greater Sydney Division

10 Valentine Avenue, Parramatta 2150
PO Box 644, Parramatta 2124
T: s22

From: s22
Sent: Tuesday, 7 May 2019 10:53 AM
To: s22
Subject: Warragamba Project - heritage [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s22

As discussed last week, would you be able to send me the notes from the recent Warragamba heritage meeting, which the Commonwealth didn't attend.

Thanks

s22

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Warragamba Dam Project

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Update

Meeting held at: Office of Environment and Heritage 10 Valentine Ave Parramatta NSW
12 April 2019 1.30 pm – 3.30 pm

ATTENDANCE

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
s22	Office of Environment and Heritage	s22	Dept of Planning and Environment
s22	Office of Environment and Heritage	s22	WaterNSW
s22	Office of Environment and Heritage	s22	WaterNSW
s22	Office of Environment and Heritage	s47F	SMEC
s22	Office of Environment and Heritage	s47F	Niche
s22	Office of Environment and Heritage	s47F	Niche
s22	Office of Environment and Heritage		

AGENDA

Item	Presenter	Notes
Introductions	s47F	
Project Background	s22 / s22	
Project Assessment Introduction	s47F	
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Update	s47F / s47F	
Observations from OEH / DPE	s47F	
Next steps - pathway	s47F	
Questions / Discussion	s47F	

s22

Subject: GBMWA OUV assessment in Warragamba EIS [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Location: DPIE Offices- Waratah Room, 320 Pitt Street SYDNEY 2000.

Start: Thu 29/08/2019 3:00 PM
End: Thu 29/08/2019 5:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: s22
Required Attendees: s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22
Optional Attendees: s22 ; s22 ; Angie.Stringer@environment.nsw.gov.au; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 @planning.nsw.gov.au; s22 ; s47F ; s47F ; David Crust

Hi s22

As discussed, the Department proposes to meet with DPIE, WaterNSW, SMEC and OEH to discuss how the Warragamba Dam EIS is addressing impacts on the Outstanding Universal Values of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area . Agenda is attached.

Thanks and regards
s22



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Australian Government
Department of the Environment and Energy

Outstanding Universal Value

Greater Blue Mountains Area



Introduction

The Greater Blue Mountains Area was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2000.

The property:

- consists of 1.03 million hectares of sandstone plateaux, escarpments and gorges dominated by temperate eucalypt forest
- is comprised of eight protected areas
- provides significant representation of Australia's biodiversity (especially eucalypts)
- includes endemic and evolutionary relict species, such as the Wollemi pine
- has occupation and rock art sites that provide physical evidence of the longevity of the strong Aboriginal cultural connections with the land.

April 2019 State Party Report on the State of the Conservation of the Greater Blue Mountains Area

On 1 March 2019 the UNESCO World Heritage Centre requested a *State Party Report on the State of Conservation of the Greater Blue Mountains Area*, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at their July 2019 meeting in Baku, Azerbaijan.

This report (provided in April 2019) notes that:

- Australian law provides legal protection for Outstanding Universal Value by regulating actions occurring within or outside a World Heritage property that have, will have or are likely to have a significant impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of a World Heritage property.
- The Australian and New South Wales governments are fully committed to protecting the Outstanding Universal Value of the property.

Extracts from the 2019 State Party Report <https://whc.unesco.org/en/soc/3994>

World Heritage Committee (Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan)
Extract of July 2019 Decision on the State of Conservation of the
Greater Blue Mountains Area

The World Heritage Committee:

3. Notes with concern that the State Party recognizes that the proposed raising of the Warragamba Dam wall is expected to increase the frequency and extent of temporary inundation of the property upstream of the dam;

4. Considers that the inundation of areas within the property resulting from the raising of the dam wall are likely to have an impact on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, recalls Decision **40 COM 7**, in which it considered that the construction of dams with large reservoirs within the boundaries of World Heritage properties is incompatible with their World Heritage status, and urged States Parties to “ensure that the impacts from dams that could affect properties located upstream or downstream within the same river basin are rigorously assessed in order to avoid impacts on the OUV”, and requests the State Party to ensure, in line with its commitment, that the current process to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposal fully assesses all potential impacts on the OUV of the property and its other values, including Aboriginal cultural heritage, and to submit a copy of the EIS to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN, prior to taking any final decisions regarding the project;

<https://whc.unesco.org/en/soc/3994>

World Heritage Committee (Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan)
Extract of July 2019 Decision on the State of Conservation of the
Greater Blue Mountains Area

The World Heritage Committee:

8. Welcomes the development of a Strategic Management Framework for the property as a new integrated management instrument and requests furthermore the State Party to ensure that **potential threats to the property from activities outside its boundaries**, particularly mining, are fully considered in the development of this management framework and that the **EIS required are carried out in conformity with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, with a specific section focusing on the potential impact of the project(s) on the property's OUV**;

9. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2020**, an **updated report on the state of conservation of the property** and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 45th session in 2021.

Maintaining 'Outstanding Universal Value' is one of the key obligations or responsibilities as a signatory to the *World Heritage Convention*.

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/conventiontext/>

Outstanding Universal Value is defined as:

cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity.

<http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/about/world-heritage/outstanding-universal-value>

Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) is :

- the **values** or attributes for which a property is included on the World Heritage List (assessed using 10 criteria)
- its **integrity** (its wholeness and completeness) and
- a continuing commitment to **protection and management** the property to the highest standards.

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/guidelines>

The Greater Blue Mountains Area was included on the World Heritage List in 2000 and met two criteria

Criterion (ix): be outstanding examples representing significant on-going ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of terrestrial, fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals;

Criterion (x): contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of Outstanding Universal Value from the point of view of science or conservation.

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/guidelines>

The Outstanding Universal Value of the Greater Blue Mountains Area is described in a **Statement of Outstanding Universal Value** (SOUV) that was approved retrospectively by the World Heritage Committee in 2013.

<https://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/places/world/blue-mountains>

What is a Statement of Outstanding Universal Value?

- A Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (SOUV) is a **brief summary** of why a World Heritage property is considered to be of international importance - its Outstanding Universal Value.
- It is the official statement adopted by the World Heritage Committee and is **intended to be the basis for ongoing protection** of the World Heritage property:
 - The **values** or attributes for which a property is included on the World Heritage List (as assessed using the 10 criteria) and its **integrity** (its wholeness and completeness) are to be protected and maintained.
 - There needs to be a continuing commitment to **protection and management** of the property to the highest standards.

<https://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/places/world/blue-mountains>

Criterion (ix): The Greater Blue Mountains include outstanding and representative examples in a relatively small area of the **evolution and adaptation of the genus Eucalyptus and eucalypt-dominated vegetation on the Australian continent**. The site contains a wide and balanced representation of eucalypt habitats including wet and dry sclerophyll forests and mallee heathlands, as well as localised swamps, wetlands and grassland. It is a **centre of diversification for the Australian scleromorphic flora**, including significant aspects of eucalypt evolution and radiation. **Representative examples of the dynamic processes in its eucalypt-dominated ecosystems** cover the full range of interactions between eucalypts, understorey, fauna, environment and fire. The site includes **primitive species of outstanding significance to the evolution of the earth's plant life**, such as the highly restricted Wollemi pine (*Wollemia nobilis*) and the Blue Mountains pine (*Pherosphaera fitzgeraldii*). These are examples of ancient, relict species with Gondwanan affinities that have survived past climatic changes and demonstrate the highly unusual juxtaposition of Gondwanan taxa with the diverse scleromorphic flora.

Extract from Statement of OUV

<https://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/places/world/blue-mountains>

Criterion (x): The site includes an **outstanding diversity of habitats and plant communities** that support its globally significant species and ecosystem diversity (152 plant families, 484 genera and c. 1,500 species). A significant proportion of the Australian continent's biodiversity, especially its scleromorphic flora, occur in the area. Plant families represented by exceptionally high levels of species diversity here include Myrtaceae (150 species), Fabaceae (149 species), and Proteaceae (77 species). Eucalypts (*Eucalyptus*, *Angophora* and *Corymbia*, all in the family Myrtaceae) which dominate the Australian continent are well represented by more than 90 species (13% of the global total). The genus *Acacia* (in the family Fabaceae) is represented by 64 species. The site includes **primitive and relictual species with Gondwanan affinities** (*Wollemia*, *Pherosphaera*, *Lomatia*, *Dracophyllum*, *Acrophyllum*, *Podocarpus* and *Atkinsonia*) and supports many **plants of conservation significance** including 114 endemic species and 177 threatened species.

The diverse plant communities and habitats support more than **400 vertebrate taxa (of which 40 are threatened)**, comprising some 52 mammal, 63 reptile, over 30 frog and about one third (265 species) of Australia's bird species. **Charismatic vertebrates** such as the platypus and echidna occur in the area. Although invertebrates are still poorly known, the area supports an estimated **120 butterfly and 4,000 moth species**, and a **rich cave invertebrate fauna** (67 taxa).

Extract from Statement of OUV

<https://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/places/world/blue-mountains>

Integrity

The seven adjacent national parks and single karst conservation reserve that comprise the GBMA are of sufficient size to protect the biota and ecosystem processes, although the boundary has several anomalies that reduce the effectiveness of its 1 million hectare size. This is explained by historical patterns of clearing and private land ownership that preceded establishment of the parks. However parts of the convoluted boundary reflect topography, such as escarpments that act as barriers to potential adverse impacts from adjoining land. In addition, much of the property is largely protected by adjoining public lands of State Forests and State Conservation Areas. **Additional regulatory mechanisms, such as** the statutory wilderness designation of 65% of the property, **the closed and protected catchment for the Warragamba Dam** and additions to the conservation reserves that comprise the area **further protect the integrity of the GBMA**. Since listing, proposals for a second Sydney airport at Badgerys Creek, adjacent to the GBMA, have been abandoned.

Most of the natural bushland of the GBMA is of **high wilderness quality** and remains close to pristine. The plant communities and habitats occur almost entirely as an extensive, largely undisturbed matrix almost entirely free of structures, earthworks and other human intervention. Because of its size and connectivity with other protected areas, the area will continue to play a vital role in providing opportunities for adaptation and shifts in range for all native plant and animal species within it, allowing essential ecological processes to continue. The area's integrity depends upon the **complexity of its geological structure, geomorphology and water systems**, which have created the conditions for the evolution of its outstanding biodiversity and which require the same level of protection.

An understanding of the cultural context of the GBMA is fundamental to the protection of its integrity. Aboriginal people from six language groups, through ongoing practices that reflect both traditional and contemporary presence, continue to have a custodial relationship with the area. Occupation sites and rock art provide physical evidence of the longevity of the strong Aboriginal cultural connections with the land. The conservation of these associations, together with the elements of the property's natural beauty, contributes to its integrity.

Extract from Statement of OUV

<https://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/places/world/blue-mountains>

Protection and management requirements

The GBMA is protected and managed under legislation of both the Commonwealth of Australia and the State of New South Wales. **All World Heritage properties in Australia are 'matters of national environmental significance' protected and managed under national legislation, the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.** This Act is the statutory instrument for implementing Australia's obligations under a number of multilateral environmental agreements including the World Heritage Convention. By law, any action that has, will have or is likely to have a significant impact on the World Heritage values of a World Heritage property must be referred to the responsible Minister for consideration. Substantial penalties apply for taking such an action without approval. Once a heritage place is listed, the Act provides for the preparation of management plans which set out the significant heritage aspects of the place and how the values of the site will be managed.

Importantly, this Act also aims to protect matters of national environmental significance, such as World Heritage properties, from impacts even if they originate outside the property or if the values of the property are mobile (as in fauna). It thus forms an additional layer of protection designed to protect values of World Heritage properties from external impacts. In 2007, the GBMA was added to the National Heritage List, in recognition of its national heritage significance under the Act.

A single State government agency, the New South Wales Office of Environment and Heritage, manages the area. **All the reserves that comprise the GBMA are subject to the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* and the *Wilderness Act 1987*. Other relevant legislation includes the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*, the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, the *Sydney Water Catchment Management Act 1998* and the *Heritage Act 1977*.**

At the time of nomination **statutory management plans for the constituent reserves** of the GBMA were in place or in preparation, and these are reviewed every 7-10 years. Currently all management plans have been gazetted, and those for three component reserves (Wollemi, Blue Mountains, and Kanangra-Boyd National Parks, which constitute 80% of the property) are under revision for greater emphasis on the protection of identified values. An **over-arching Strategic Plan for the property** provides a framework for its integrated management, protection, interpretation and monitoring.

The major management challenges identified in the Strategic Plan fall into six categories: uncontrolled or inappropriate use of fire; inappropriate recreation and tourism activities, including the development of tourism infrastructure, due to increasing Australian and overseas visitor pressure and commercial ventures; invasion by pest species including weeds and feral animals; loss of biodiversity and geodiversity at all levels; impacts of human-enhanced climate change; and lack of understanding of heritage values.

The set of key management objectives set out in the Strategic Plan provides the philosophical basis for the management of the area and guidance for operational strategies, in accordance with requirements of the World Heritage Convention and its Operational Guidelines. These objectives are also consistent with the **Australian World Heritage management principles**, contained in regulations under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act*.

Extract from Statement of OUV

<https://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/places/world/blue-mountains>

World Heritage Committee (Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan)
Extract of July 2019 Decision on the State of Conservation of the
Greater Blue Mountains Area

The World Heritage Committee:

3. Notes with concern that the State Party recognizes that the proposed raising of the Warragamba Dam wall is expected to increase the frequency and extent of temporary inundation of the property upstream of the dam;

4. Considers that the inundation of areas within the property resulting from the raising of the dam wall are likely to have an impact on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, recalls Decision **40 COM 7**, in which it considered that the construction of dams with large reservoirs within the boundaries of World Heritage properties is incompatible with their World Heritage status, and urged States Parties to “ensure that the impacts from dams that could affect properties located upstream or downstream within the same river basin are rigorously assessed in order to avoid impacts on the OUV”, and requests the State Party to ensure, in line with its commitment, that the current process to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposal fully assesses all potential impacts on the OUV of the property and its other values, including Aboriginal cultural heritage, and to submit a copy of the EIS to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN, prior to taking any final decisions regarding the project;

<https://whc.unesco.org/en/soc/3994>

World Heritage Committee (Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan)
Extract of July 2019 Decision on the State of Conservation of the
Greater Blue Mountains Area

The World Heritage Committee:

8. Welcomes the development of a Strategic Management Framework for the property as a new integrated management instrument and requests furthermore the State Party to ensure that **potential threats to the property from activities outside its boundaries**, particularly mining, are fully considered in the development of this management framework and that the EIS required are carried out in conformity with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, with a specific section focusing on the potential impact of the project(s) on the property's OUV;

9. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2020**, an **updated report on the state of conservation of the property** and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 45th session in 2021.

s22

From: s22 @planning.nsw.gov.au >
Sent: Wednesday, 7 August 2019 12:39 PM
To: s22
Cc: s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22
Subject: RE: Select Committee - raising of Warragamba Dam wall [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi s22

Re timeline s22 a is collating the whole of DPIE response to the ToR and I believe she wants content by Friday this week so that all the necessary Dep Sec can see it the following week. Just confirming we are not preparing content ready for the Inquiry, just a response to the ToR

Re this ToR

1c) engagement between the NSW Government and the World Heritage Committee of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in relation to the project,

I propose to put some of content s22 from your email below in the BN for our Sec background

And we might just make a statement of fact in the response back to the select committee about the project being a transitional project under the previous assessment bilateral agreement.

And that the project requires approval from Commonwealth Minister for the Environment, who would consider the Department's assessment report.

Share details as I draft.

s22 is also looking at providing comments to s22 on that Tor on behalf of EES.

s22

Director, Social and Infrastructure Assessments

Planning and Assessment | Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

T s22 | E s22 @planning.nsw.gov.au

Level 29, 320 Pitt Streets, SYDNEY NSW 2000

www.dpie.nsw.gov.au



The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment acknowledges that it stands on Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and we show our respect for elders past, present and emerging through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work, seeking to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically.

From: s22
Sent: Wednesday, 7 August 2019 12:10 PM
To: s22
Cc: s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22
Subject: RE: Select Committee - raising of Warragamba Dam wall [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s22

Thanks. I think it would be a good idea to have a meeting in next couple of weeks between your team and s22 team so we can share information. When are your comments on the terms of reference due? As I understand it, the Australian Government won't provide a formal report back to the WHC until September next year and will formally consult with NSW before they submit a report. There are a few actions we need to progress between now and then – including providing the Warragamba EIS to the Committee for their review. s22 in s22 team, is the contact for Warragamba but he's travelling for work this week. I'll ask s22 to organise a meeting when he's back – and hopefully come to Sydney. We would probably invite someone from our Heritage area to talk about assessing OUV. I'm at home a bit under the weather today but hope to be back in Pitt St tomorrow, Talk soon,
s22

From: s22 [<mailto:s22@planning.nsw.gov.au>]
Sent: Wednesday, 7 August 2019 11:20 AM
To: s22 <s22@environment.gov.au>
Cc: s22 <s22@environment.nsw.gov.au>; s22 <s22@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Select Committee - raising of Warragamba Dam wall

s22 My team and s22 are providing input into the whole of government comments of the terms of reference for the Inquiry re this item

1c) engagement between the NSW Government and the World Heritage Committee of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in relation to the project,

We would expect this to be public facing statements of fact. Has there been a formal response back to the World Heritage Committee yet . I couldn't recall from our last discussion if it had occurred or will occur. It would be important that you are comfortable with the content DPIE gives to INSW for the whole of gov response.

s22 **Director, Social and Infrastructure Assessments**

Planning and Assessment | Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

T s22 | E s22 [@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:s22@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Level 29, 320 Pitt Streets, SYDNEY NSW 2000

www.dpie.nsw.gov.au



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From: s22
Sent: Tuesday, 6 August 2019 11:22 AM
To: David Gainsford (David.Gainsford@planning.nsw.gov.au) <David.Gainsford@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Cc: s22 <s22@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Select Committee - raising of Warragamba Dam wall

David

I've attached the ToR re inquiry into dam raising.

The question being asked below is are we wanting to include comments in the response from DPIE, and INSW to the ToR.

I will look for 15 min in your diary.

If we don't need to include comments our meeting can be short.

I can't recall as providing a response back on SFS – did INSW and did we contribute

s22
Director, Social and Infrastructure Assessments

Planning and Assessment | Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
T s22 | E s22 <s22@planning.nsw.gov.au>

Level 29, 320 Pitt Streets, SYDNEY NSW 2000
www.dpie.nsw.gov.au



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From: s22
Sent: Monday, 5 August 2019 9:14 PM
To: s22 <s22@planning.nsw.gov.au>; s22 <s22@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Cc: s22 <s22@planning.nsw.gov.au>; s22 <s22@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Select Committee - raising of Warragamba Dam wall

s22

I will check in with s22 regarding the other inputs – particularly EES.

I understand that Water NSW are still a separate department, so they will have their own process for input.

s22

From: s22 <[redacted]@Planning.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 5 August 2019 7:29 PM

To: s22 <[redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au>; s22 <[redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au>

Cc: s22 <[redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au>; s22 <[redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Select Committee - raising of Warragamba Dam wall

s22

Sorry, but I think this needs a briefing note for the Secretary to sign off on. I'd check with s22 on whether a whole of Department approach will be needed for this given we 'own' the Dam, the Park, the assessment process and the planning.

Can somebody check with s22 how the inputs of EES and Water are being managed?

s22

From: s22 <[redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 2 August 2019 12:27 PM

To: s22 <[redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au>; s22 <[redacted]@Planning.nsw.gov.au>

Cc: s22 <[redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au>; s22 <[redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: Select Committee - raising of Warragamba Dam wall

s22,

INSW is preparing the whole of government reply to the select committee relating to the proposed raising of Warragamba Dam.

The ToR below requires a response from DPIE, and INSW has asked us to draft a reply between ½-1 page. Working backwards from the necessary approvals, INSW requires DPIE words by **19 August 2019**.

That a select committee be established to inquire into and report on the NSW Government's proposal to raise the Warragamba Dam wall, and in particular:

(b) plans for future property development on flood prone land on the Hawkesbury Nepean Floodplain,

s22 will begin drafting the reply. What are the approval processes for the DPIE words – **email approval from s22**

Regards

s22

s22

From: s22
Sent: Wednesday, 14 August 2019 8:28 AM
To: s22
Cc: s22
Subject: Re: Warragamba Dam Assessment document

Thanks s22 . I presume it's s22 - she speaks with Angie quite often. On another note we will be drafting a paper for SOC on the WHC actions. We'll consult with you on Warragamba input. s22

Sent from my iPhone

On 14 Aug 2019, at 8:14 am, s22 <@planning.nsw.gov.au> wrote:

Hi s22 just to keep you in the loop - looks like Angie is also in direct contact with the Comm as well

s22 and I will try and make sure that all involved as contact points are aware what other parties are doing.

I might get s22 to check who Angie's contact has been in the Comm as well

Angie Stringer
Director Partnerships, Planning and Heritage
NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
Find out more about our Branch [here on Insite](#)

s22
Director, Social and Infrastructure Assessments

Planning and Assessment | Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
T s22 | E s22 <@planning.nsw.gov.au>

Level 29, 320 Pitt Streets, SYDNEY NSW 2000
www.dpie.nsw.gov.au

<image001.jpg>

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment acknowledges that it stands on Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and we show our respect for elders past, present and emerging through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work, seeking to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically.

From: Angie Stringer
Sent: Tuesday, 13 August 2019 9:54 PM
To: s22 s22 <@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Cc: s22 <@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Warragamba Dam Assessment document

Hi s22 thanks for following up and explaining-that's all much clearer!

Thanks
Angie

Sent from my iPhone

Angie Stringer
Director - Partnerships, Planning and Heritage
NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

On 13 Aug 2019, at 15:47, s22 <[redacted]> <[\[redacted\]@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:[redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au)> wrote:

Hi Angie,

Thanks for your email; David Gainsford has asked me to respond on his behalf.

Our Department has not received the draft Indigenous Cultural Assessment.

We do understand that the applicant, WaterNSW, has prepared a draft Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment report, and is currently consulting with registered Aboriginal parties before finalising the report.

As s22 <[redacted]> noted, once the report is provided, we will review it in conjunction with our agency partners, including EES Group, and the Commonwealth.

If you have any questions, I'd be happy to discuss; my details are below.

Regards,
s22 <[redacted]>

s22 <[redacted]>
Team Leader, Water and Intermodal Assessments

Planning and Assessment Division | Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
T s22 <[redacted]> | E s22 <[redacted]> <[\[redacted\]@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:[redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au)>
320 Pitt Street Sydney NSW 2000 | GPO Box 39 Sydney NSW 2001
www.dpie.nsw.gov.au

From: Angie Stringer <Angie.Stringer@environment.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 13 August 2019 3:14 PM

To: David Gainsford <David.Gainsford@planning.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: FW: Warragamba Dam Assessment document

Hi David,

Hope you are well. I am trying to get a copy of the draft Indigenous Cultural Assessment for Warragamba that has been referred to in recent media. Do you know who would be able to provide me with a copy? The Commonwealth have also asked to see it.

Thanks
angie

<image001.jpg>

Angie Stringer
Director Partnerships, Planning and Heritage
NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
Find out more about our Branch [here on Insite](#).

135 Murwillumbah Street, MUR
T: 02 s22 <[redacted]>
M: s22 <[redacted]>
W: nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

<image003.jpg>

From: s22 [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:[redacted]@environment.nsw.gov.au)>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 August 2019 1:30 PM
To: Angie Stringer <Angie.Stringer@environment.nsw.gov.au>
Cc: s22 [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:[redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au)>; s22 [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:[redacted]@environment.nsw.gov.au)>; s22 [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:[redacted]@environment.nsw.gov.au)>
Subject: Warragamba Dam Assessment document

Hello Angie,

Greater Sydney is not aware of a Draft Indigenous Cultural Assessment. Planning & Assessment Group in DPIE (old DPE) did not mention it when Greater Sydney spoke to them last week.

The draft documents will be provided agencies by the Planning & Assessment Group for adequacy review prior to exhibition. At that point (i.e. before public exhibition) EES should check with Planning and Assessment Group and the proponent that it is appropriate to provide the draft documents to the Commonwealth. Alternatively the DPIE imbedded Commonwealth Officer s22 [redacted] and her team should also be provided with the draft documents. They could provide them to their colleagues in the Commonwealth.

Angie you can contact s22 [redacted] and myself directly regarding any matters associated with the EIS as Greater Sydney will be coordinating EES, including Parks comments, on the documentation and will also be the primary contact for Planning and Assessment Group and WaterNSW on the EIS.

Regards

s22 [redacted]

s22 [redacted]

Senior Team Leader Planning

Energy, Climate Change & Sustainability | Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

T s22 [redacted] | E s22 [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:[redacted]@environment.nsw.gov.au)>

<Level 2, 10 Valentine Avenue, Parramatta, NSW 2150

www.dpie.nsw.gov.au

<image004.jpg>

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment acknowledges that it stands on Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and we show our respect for elders past, present and emerging through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work, seeking to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically.

From: Angie Stringer <Angie.Stringer@environment.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 12 August 2019 2:39 PM

To: s22 [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:[redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au)>

Subject: Assessment document

Hi s22 [redacted]

I note that s22 [redacted] is on leave. I was wondering if you could please send me a copy of the Warragamba Dam Raising Draft Indigenous Cultural Assessment?
I have been doing all of the coordinating with the federal government regarding the world heritage area and the dam proposal. I would also like to pass it onto our colleagues in Canberra who are coordinating the UNESCO response.

Many thanks
angie

<image001.jpg>

Angie Stringer
Director Partnerships, Planning and Heritage
NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
Find out more about our Branch [here on Insite](#).

135 Murwillumbah Street, MUR
T: s22 [redacted]
M: s22 [redacted]
W: nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

<image005.jpg>

s22

From: s22
Sent: Friday, 15 November 2019 11:38 AM
To: s22 @planning.nsw.gov.au'
Cc: s22
Subject: Warragamba EIS [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s22

s22 mentioned that certain sections of the EIS for Warragamba dam were likely to be released for agency comments at the end of this week. Can you please advise whether this is still the case? s22 also mentioned that the proponent had requested a meeting next week to discuss their offsetting proposals. Can you please advise details of this meeting?

Thanks

s22

s22

Assistant Director (ag)
Southern NSW and ACT Assessments / Environment Approvals Division / Department of the Environment and Energy

51 Allara Street Canberra 2600 /GPO Box 787 Canberra 2601 /s22 /s22 @environment.gov.au



s22

From: s22 s22 @planning.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 24 June 2019 8:48 AM
To: s22 ; s22
Cc: s22 ; s22 ; s22
Subject: RE: nsw Parliamentary Inquiry into Warragamba Dam

Thanks s22 We'll watch with interest. I'm sure s22 will want to provide a few dot points to our MO so we will no doubt have some questions,

s22

From: s22
Sent: Monday, 24 June 2019 8:16 AM
To: s22 @planning.nsw.gov.au>; s22 @environment.gov.au
Cc: s22 @planning.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Fwd: nsw Parliamentary Inquiry into Warragamba Dam

Good morning s22

A parliamentary inquiry into Warragamba Dam has been called. Let me know if you have any questions. We had a few inquiries last year so I can explain the states process if required

here are the terms of reference.

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lcdocs/inquiries/2535/Terms%20of%20reference.pdf>

David Gainsford

Executive Director Priority Projects Assessments – Planning Services
Department of Planning & Environment
320 Pitt Street | GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001
T s22 M s22 E david.gainsford@planning.nsw.gov.au

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

<image001.png>

Sent remotely as I'm away from my office

On 20 Jun 2019, at 4:02 pm, David Gainsford
<David.Gainsford@planning.nsw.gov.au> wrote:

<https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/greens-defector-teams-up-with-one-nation-to-form-inquiry-into-plans-to-raise-warragamba-dam-wall-20190620-p51zoi.html>

David Gainsford

Executive Director Priority Projects Assessments – Planning Services
Department of Planning & Environment

320 Pitt Street | GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001
T s22 M s22 E david.gainsford@planning.nsw.gov.au

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

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s22

From: s22 @environment.nsw.gov.au >
Sent: Wednesday, 29 May 2019 9:58 AM
To: s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ;
 ; Maree Abood; David Crust; s22 ; s22 ; s22 ;
 ; s22 ; s22
Subject: Warragamba Dam Raising EIS, biodiversity issues, 3 May presentation
Attachments: WDR Draft Minutes of meeting with Agencies 3 May 2019 (v2) - Biodiversity Assessment.pdf; Biodiversity Update_20190503 - WDR.pdf

Hi all,

Please find attached the SMEC presentation and minutes of the 3 May meeting.

Regards



s22
Senior Conservation Planning Officer
 Greater Sydney Branch
 Communities and Greater Sydney Division

10 Valentine Avenue, Parramatta 2150
 PO Box 644, Parramatta 2124
 T: 02 s22



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