

From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Saturday, 7 May 2022 12:31:18 PM

Your details

Title	Mr
First name	Robbie
Last name	COMMENS
Email	
Postcode	2477

Submission details

I am making this submission as	A resident in a flood-affected area
Submission type	I am submitting on behalf of my organisation
Organisation making the submission (if applicable)	2 tonne enterprises (2te)
Your position in the organisation (if applicable)	Managing Director 2te
Consent to make submission public	I give my consent for this submission to be made public

Share your experience or tell your story

Your story	<p>500 acre 77,000 tree macadamia orchard.</p> <p>3m of water over the top of the entire property</p> <p>1m of water through office and workshop</p> <p>Machinery written off (\$750k),</p> <p>Estimated 10% tree loss</p> <p>FRUSTRATION at the lack of maintenance on the flood gates, this issue exasperated the flood significantly</p> <p>Water could not drain away before the Lismore floodwater came and made the water level much higher</p>
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Terms of Reference (optional)

The Inquiry welcomes submissions that address the particular matters identified in its [Terms of Reference](#)

1.1 Causes and contributing factors	No flood gate maintenance !! Nsw fisheries bureaucracy!!!!
1.2 Preparation and planning	Active maintenance of the gates and drain water levels
1.3 Response to floods	Community gov and defence force all did an admirable job
1.4 Transition from incident response to recovery	<p>Difficult - I think there should be ability to take assistance to the people, instead of expecting people going to the Assistance.</p> <p>The bureaucracy and the extensive questionnaires are too much.</p> <p>Make the punishment for "roriting" the system so high that it discourages poor behaviour.</p> <p>But the current exhaustive questions are having</p>

the opposite effect. It discourages the right people to apply, and it excludes the wrong people. The people that NEED the help.

Lower the threshold for getting Assistance to the right people, and increase the punishment to deter the wrong people.

I would prefer to see 5-10% of applications approved then pursued for incorrect applications, while 90-95% of the people get the help they need.

Whereas, at the moment I think it is 40% degrees because it is too hard, too exhaustive, too restrictive, too complicated and that means only 50-60% of the people that should get assistance are getting it.

1.5 Recovery from floods

This will be a long road and will require gov help.

Please keep assisting and helping the region get back on its feet

A larger regional project that injects funding into the region would be very beneficial. A dam? A large accomodation facility that could be used for sporting or quarantine ???

1.6 Any other matters

I think the state, fed and local gov all worked together in a very practical manner immediately after the floods, and get key jobs/work done in a short period of time.

It proved that gov CAN do crest work in short periods of time with no to minimal bureaucracy.

Why can't it keep being like that all the time ???

Supporting documents or images

Attach files

- [43BE5B79-5564-4036-8F3D-E2D34B6FCF83.jpeg](#)
- [B62B1F9A-D748-416B-ACED-](#)

[F3D09B2E02CE.jpeg](#)

- [DB22CB10-2C03-46D1-BB14-6048C3143401.jpeg](#)





