

From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Friday, 20 May 2022 10:33:44 AM



Your details

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Submission details

I am making this submission as	A resident in a flood-affected area
Submission type	I am making a personal submission
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>I am a home owner, occupier of 34 years in East Lismore, my property has never been affected by flooding in the 34 years until now. I consider the water that entered my property did not come directly from the river but from storm water infrastructure that was unable to cope with the deluge.</p> <p>Due to this, in the future I feel Insurance</p>
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companies should consider this and not deem my property as flood affected as this will price me out of affordable insurance. I will be unable to insure.

I am an elderly female who lives alone. On Sunday 27th February 2022 when I went to bed the warning out was that during Monday the 28th February low lying parts of Lismore would flood, in my years in past floods this always means North and South Lismore and not East Lismore. All that is ever affected in my area are the sporting fields below me. No housing in my area has ever been affected in past floods so again I was not worried. The rain continued over night and I listened to the local radio station that is broadcast mainly from Sydney for the most part, however the local announcers came on air at approximately midnight, during the following hours I heard that the levee bank would be topped at 3am, this still was not an issue for me as this has happened several times since I have lived in my home. There was no warning to suggest East Lismore in my area would be affected.

I got up at 5.30am and looked outside and there was no water to be seen and no other homes had lights on so I still considered I was not in any trouble. How wrong was I.

My family started phoning me to say Mum you need to get out as they had heard (don't know from what source) that I could be in trouble.

As the daylight came about 6am I still could not see any water but my daughter convinced me to pack a bag and prepare to drive to her home for a few nights.

While packing the bag the electricity went off and then when I went to drive out there was water on the road up to the units beside my property and also coming from the other direction towards my property.

It was too late to drive out as which ever direction I would be going left or right I would have been driving into deeper water I had to leave my car in the garage and walk out via the

street behind my home.

Surely the powers that be, the experts should have had some idea that this event was far worse than we had ever experienced before and issued appropriate warnings naming specific areas, Streets etc. Warning sirens maybe.

I have lived in Lismore for 73 years so as a result I have experienced lots of flooding but never seen anything as enormous as this before.

There are so many far worse off than me and I feel so sorry for them however I am devastated that at my age I find myself in a vulnerable position, I have lost my independence and am having to rely on other family.

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

Local drains unable to cope with deluge.

1.2 Preparation and planning

Frequent clearing of drains

1.3 Response to floods

Devastating

Supporting documents or images
