

**From:** [NSW Government](#)  
**To:** [Flood Inquiry](#)  
**Subject:** Floods Inquiry  
**Date:** Friday, 24 June 2022 9:27:05 PM

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## Your details

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**Title** Mr

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**First name** Michael

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**Last name** Collie

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**Email**

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**Postcode** 2448

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## Submission details

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**I am making this submission as** A resident in a flood-affected area

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**Submission type** I am making a personal submission

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**Consent to make submission public** I give my consent for this submission to be made public

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## Share your experience or tell your story

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### Terms of Reference (optional)

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

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**1.2 Preparation and planning** The factors below (1.3, 1.4 and 1.5) are critical. Developing the best capacity to respond to natural disasters is a fundamental government

responsibility. However, these are retrospective measures that are required in the event of unexpected disasters. Equally (if not more) important is taking measures to prevent disasters from occurring in the first place. In this regard, I am not referring to more ambiguous issues such as climate change, but rather, well-understood combinations of threats, circumstances, and events, that could be pre-emptively addressed to prevent disasters from occurring. We live in the Nambucca Valley, a declared disaster area, which experiences regular flood-related events. In particular, the valley suffers from landslides. These occur in known areas, often on government (local, state or federal) land, and frequently impact private property and public infrastructure. State government assistance has been requested to remedy these areas, but funding has rarely been forthcoming. Taking a strategic, long-term view is what is required, but is rarely considered. Obvious to anyone who reviews the situation is that an up-front investment in public works is a long-term cost-effective solution. The government, however, seems unable consider funding options that extend past a few years. Unfortunately, this is a longer-term issue. In the interim, needed works will be refused and new government organisations established to consider the problem. Quite simply, if your aim is resilience, then take measures to prevent disasters from occurring. This will be far more effective than helping me "toughen-up" after a landslip has occurred that you (the government) could have prevented.

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## **Supporting documents or images**

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