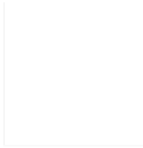


From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Saturday, 28 May 2022 9:57:09 PM



Your details

Title Ms

First name Sally

Last name Young

Email

Postcode 2460

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

My husband and I live on Sportsmans Creek in Lawrence. This was our first flood experience at our house since we bought it 6 years ago (we were interstate in March 2021). In late February, we watched the weather radar and forecast intently, and made appropriate arrangements including moving cars and the contents of our 1st level to higher ground.

On the night of the 27th February this year, the water began entering the house on the first level. By the next morning, there was more than 2 foot of water. By lunch time the water was approaching our electrical meter box that is positioned at the top of the outside back wall on the first floor. As far as we know, this has never happened before. We frantically called Essential Energy and our power supplier, no one could advise us of what to do other than not to use power. No one could tell us if the water, that was now rapidly rising was live or what danger we or our house was in. We made the decision to leave in our canoe with our 2 dogs, in the pouring rain. We slept in our cars on dry ground and when we returned the next day, we called Essential Energy who once again could not tell us if the house was safe but said 'if you're not standing in water flicking on switches, you'll be fine. If lights work then use them'. As the water had not entered the 2nd level, we followed their advice to use the power, but soon it soon tripped out and stayed out for around a week. We also lost our solar inverter in this event and 12 weeks later have still not had it repaired.

The lack of information regarding electrical safety during this event was incredibly dangerous. There were many other issues I wanted to raise, including the lack of resources or community information in the Clarence during the event for isolated homes, but I thought it important to raise the issue of electrical safety.

Terms of Reference (optional)

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

1.3 Response to floods

We felt incredibly isolated even though we are 2km from the town centre. We had no contact from emergency services and were without power for 8 days.

1.5 Recovery from floods

Our dirt road, approximately 1.5km has been in a dangerous condition for over 8 months and

despite calls to council, they have advised it will be repaired "sometime in the next 12 months". We have insurance but the process has been frustrating and drawn out.

1.6 Any other matters

The awful and dangerous state of the roads in the area need to be made a priority for repairs before multiple people are injured or killed. The patch jobs being undertaken do nothing but cover for a few days.

Supporting documents or images
