

From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Tuesday, 5 April 2022 11:20:22 AM

Your details

Title Ms

First name Vivienne

Last name Gorec

Email

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

I moved to Westland Drive West Ballina 7 years ago in that time I have seen several large weather events but the street hasn't flooded because at the Horizon Drive entrance there was an extremely large storm water retention pond that held mega litres of storm water. I have spoke to residents that have been here since the estate was built and they hadn't been flooded either. At Christmas when the king tides and the

rain are heavy this retention pond held all the water.

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

The reason this area flooded was because the storm water retention pond has been filled and a building has been erected on it. When the church bought the land they knew about the retention pond and were told it was NOT to be filled in and built on. When the church put in a DA to fill and build on this retention pond it was refused by Ballina Shire Council and they took it to the Northern Regional Planning Panel and they approved it. On there approval was NO mention of a storm water retention pond.

1.2 Preparation and planning

Because of this we will be forever wary of when it rains our properties flooding. The second flood it didn't enter my house but it did my garage but the whole estate was deep in water and my house couldn't be reached in my car. Since these events I have my clothes and personal belongings in my car ready to go in a moments notice and am living in my house on a concrete slab with minimal furniture.

1.3 Response to floods

I don't know what I can do to alleviate the problem in my house but the option I can see is to force the church to remediate the area back to a retention pond and take the loss of \$6.8 million or buy out the houses of anyone who wants to leave at the pre flood prices.

1.6 Any other matters

What the problem is the Developer dosen't take the council's advice and immediately goes to the likes of the Nthn Regional Planning Panel or the land and enviroment court who always rolls in favor of the Developer. In the mean time the original property owners are stuck with a problem that they are not responsible for and have no way of correcting. The developer, NRPP and LECourt gets off scotfree from any

responsibility.

Supporting documents or images
