

From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Thursday, 23 June 2022 7:23:53 PM

Your details

Title Miss

First name Wendy

Last name Ng

Email

Postcode 2756

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 family and I ran a farm growing vegetables for Sydney Markets, we lost everything in the floods last year and all over again this year. We didn't qualify for the grants last year for the primary producers and again this year. We are on our own to pick up the pieces. We have had this property since 1994 and never had experienced anything like the last 2 years. We

don't know how to move on for this. My parents are 70s and 60s and have declining health. How can they rebuild also 30 years of their life?

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

We are in the Hawkesbury.
Building in flood plain, building in surrounding previous wet plains, so the rain has no where to do, climate change, Dam for flood mitigation?, all the washed banks now sit at the bottom of the Hawkesbury river making it more shallow.

1.2 Preparation and planning

We were un prepared last year as we were notified that the 2021 flood was similar to the 2020 flood, and therefore we lost everything in our home and business. We were notified to prepare to evacuate at 10PM and 4 hours later told to leave in the middle of the night. This year we were prepared a few days before the 2nd March, but no message from SES to prepare or evacuate. When we left we almost didn't make it out. Some notifications went out 30mins after the time they had to evacuate by.

1.3 Response to floods

The response for notification was better last year than this year. This year was non- existent. We had to rely on ourselves. The evacuation centre was in Castle Hill we also had COVID and were told not to go there and find our own place to be. My parents stayed in their car in the McGraths Hill McDonalds. My brother and I stayed with a friend.

1.4 Transition from incident response to recovery

We were under water for over 2 weeks and was not able to return until the week of the 14th March. Origin was out on the 7th April for repairs to the pole. But were told to re- evacuate for another "mini" flood. Live the 2020 flood. Power was not restored until the 19th April. Not much help from there.

1.5 Recovery from

Because the flood was worse than 2021 event

floods

we lost everything all over again even if we moved everything to an higher location. We got a lot less skip bins as well (was told they went to Lismore). The available help (charities, from the community, the government) this year was by far a lot less than last year, probably there was more than 50000 people affected this year, and are spread thinner. We have to rely on ourselves. We were placed in emergency accommodation on the 21st of March to 17th April, then 19th April to 26th June. After this date we have no where to be, so my parents will return to our farm and live in the car or build some shelter until we rebuild (last year took 6 months as we were on our own) this year will take longer as there was far more damage this time around and we are still on our own. We have received the rental support grant, but unable to find a place to stay. The rental support barely covers 6 months or rent and most land owners request 12 months or more. Because we have not received any grants, we can not afford rent for an additional 6 months.

1.6 Any other matters

Fix the road at Pitt Town Bottoms Road, it is a hazard.
Temporary housing from 2-9 months. Not emergency accommodation as this is only for 7-28 days and can end at any time even if we have no where to go after the 26th.
Help for primary producers/ small business which which don't qualify for the Primary producer grant or the small business grant.
Everyone's circumstances are different and may not meet the black and white criteria listed in the eligibility criteria's.
Do something about the banks of the Hawkesbury River. We have lost more than 4 meters of our banks and can not afford the cost to fix the damage.

Supporting documents or images
