

Darren Clifton submission

Given to Alan Gale at the Menindee community listening session on 28 June 2023

Why Water NSW did the wrong thing with flood waters

The could and should have put the water into Lake Menindee ... it was only at only 110 percent. If it had been sent into Wetherill through Pamamaroo into the Menindee it would have avoided flooding the town. It would have gone into Lake Speculation and then out through the flood plain.

There were 12 months of the river at very low levels, so they could have had more head room and created space in advance for the flood waters that they knew were coming. There was heaps of notice this flood head was coming down the river.

Did know that as it comes out of Wilcannia and Talyawalka creek. There is another river off the Darling to the Talyawalka and it broke banks and flooded the countryside they did not account for this.

For some strange reason they only seemed to wake up to it at Christmas and increased main weir flow. Should have been 24 megs a day in the lead up. It would have more easily dispersed the water through the system.

There are too many agencies battling for control. SES did not know what they were doing. Water NSW advised BOM. BOM advised SES but then Water NSW made wrong decision.