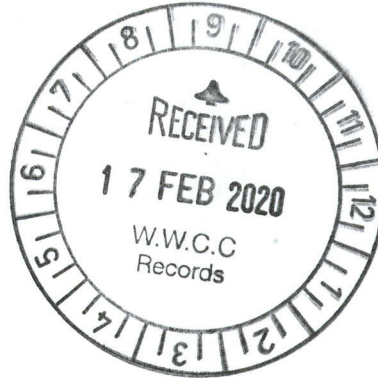




James Griffin MP
Parliamentary Secretary for the Environment and Veterans

MD20/202

Mr Peter Thompson
General Manager
City of Wagga Wagga Council
PO Box 20
WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650



Dear Mr Thompson

I refer to your letter to the Minister for Energy and Environment, the Hon Matt Kean MP, about the North Wagga Wagga floodplain risk management and feasibility studies. I have been asked to reply on the Minister's behalf.

I am informed that the initial North Wagga Floodplain Risk Management Study (FRMSP) and Plan was adopted by Wagga Wagga City Council in March 2018. The study recommended a feasibility study to consider upgrading the levee to provide a five per cent annual exceedance probability (AEP) level of protection, with a voluntary house raising and purchase scheme. Council was then awarded a floodplain management grant to complete the feasibility study.

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's (DPIE) understands that Council now wish to expand the scope of the feasibility study to include other options such as a one percent AEP protection level in addition to the recommended five per cent AEP option.

Under floodplain management program guidelines grant funding cannot be allocated to undertake feasibility studies for options that have not been recommended through the FRMSP process.

Council may wish to consider undertaking a short review of the FRMSP to determine whether other options should be included in the feasibility study. If additional funds are required to undertake the review, please liaise with the DPIE Grants Branch staff.

If you have any further questions about this issue, please contact Graeme Enders, Director South West, Conservation and Regional Delivery on 6229 7141 or at graeme.enders@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

James Griffin MP
Parliamentary Secretary for the Environment and Veterans