

24 March 2009

Committee Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories
Department of House of Representatives
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Dear Sir

INQUIRY INTO IMMIGRATION BRIDGE

I am strongly opposed to this nuisance being placed upon the lake, impeding its use by yachts and degrading the view for those walking by the lake.

The process adopted by Immigration Bridge Australia (IBA) to settle the design for the Immigration Bridge (the Bridge) has taken no account of the views of users of the lake. Nor has it sought to take into account the views of a majority of those descended from immigrants such as myself. Who appointed these people to wreck our lake's amenity? Or did they appoint themselves?

If the Committee wishes to do something socially useful for Lake Burley Griffin and the National Capital it should consider that the lake will be dry in another 20 years and this city will be abandoned or burnt out if no one rectifies the almost criminal failure of the ACT Government to build more dams and its scandalous emptying of the dams we have – which were built to support a city of 450,000 at 1960s levels of water consumption. The costs inflicted on the National Capital by these incompetent fools beggar belief. Is it your Committee's wish that foreign diplomats come to see a burnt-out dustbowl as our "National Capital"?

The sooner your Committee addresses the issue of restoring the National Capital's water supply and making sure we have a lake and a city worth looking at, the better.

Yours faithfully

Terence Dwyer