

Summary of Key Points from Infrastructure Workshop

The following points were collected as a summary of the key issues raised at the Infrastructure Providers' Workshop held on 22 February 1999.

Relationship Issues

- Positive that infrastructure providers are talking
- Local Government has a positive and co-operative approach

Infrastructure Issues

Positives

- Energy “surplus” available in next few years. Electricity and gas will be available in volume close to industrial sites.
- Ample availability of suitable land – not all identified at this stage. Private ownership over much of the targeted land; particularly Stanwell.
- Water committed but not fully utilised. Additional capacity available under WAMP but investment required to deliver.
- Transport – good infrastructure with long term plans. Rail infrastructure being strengthened to north.
- Airport upgrade is committed.
- Development in Gladstone may be constrained into the future due to environmental issues. May open opportunities for us.

Areas for attention

- Identification of targeted industrial development sites needs to be completed.
- Work needed to develop and optimise opportunities for the Stanwell industrial site.
- Councils have long term individual plans – need flexibility/co-ordination when dealing with major customers
- Distance to port could be an issue especially if materials have to be imported.
- How is new water infrastructure to be developed?
- Waste management is an issue – current facilities have limited life.

General Issues

- Integrated Planning Act will required Local Governments to review current plans.
- In general infrastructure is installed on an as needs basis rather than pre-emptive.

Notes from Presentations on 22 February 1999

The following are brief notes from each presentation. The slides/handouts provided on the day are attached.

Water - Ed Donohue (DNR)

- Existing water in Lower Fitzroy River of 86 335ML is fully allocated to existing entitlements (refer Slide 1)
- However not all entitlements are fully utilised. 1997/98 usage was 51 695ML (refer Slide 2)
- AMC's water needs were met from un-used entitlements
- The Mt Morgan water supply is limited (refer Slide 3)
- Consumption levels in Rockhampton are relatively high compared with Capricorn Coast and State Average
 - RCC – 1100 litres/day/person
 - Livingstone – 750 litres /day/person (close to state average)
- Draft WAMP provides for an additional 100,000ML. However this reserve has to be developed – it is not available within the current catchment arrangements. Additional infrastructure is required.
- Water should not be a significant impediment to major development. Infrastructure investment is required however.

Land Use – Ken Day (DNR)

- DNR is an advisory agency. It does not actually get involved with project approvals.
- Industrial land is available. There is about 100 Hectares around Stanwell, however much of this is still privately owned.

Energy, Electricity Generation – Chris Walker (Stanwell Co)

- Majority of generation for the State is in Central Queensland. CQ is a major exporter of power with flows north and south.
- Refer to handout – if current proposed projects proceed there may be an over capacity in Central Queensland.
- Overall the availability of generation capacity in CQ looks positive and when coupled with the potential wholesale gas projects, this makes the CQ area very attractive to large energy users such as AMC.

Energy, Gas – Jason Garrett (Boral Energy)

- Possible major gas projects for Central Queensland. Particularly the Chevron gas pipeline project from PNG.

- Duke Energy currently own the pipeline to Rockhampton from Gladstone. (Gas comes from Surat Basin).
- Boral is building a pipeline from Gladstone south to Bundaberg, Maryborough and Hervey Bay.
- Gas usage is increasing in the state. Boral grew natural gas sales by 10% and LPG by 4-5% last year.
- Boral are supplying Coal Seam Methane to the Boyne Island Smelter.
- Boral have recently purchased Conoco.

Energy, Electricity Distribution – Denis Harris (CAPELEC)

- Good transmission capacity available in Rockhampton. Growth only projected to be 3-4%.
- Rockhampton - Sufficient capacity for additional light industrial growth at Parkhurst.
- Capricorn Coast – Work required within next 5 years, ultimately a 132kV line will be required. Easements already obtained.
- North of Rockhampton – limited distribution capacity, transmission lines traverse north.
- West of Rockhampton – limited distribution capacity. Transmission capacity available.
- South of Rockhampton – limited capacity available.
- Need to have a consistent vision for the location of major projects so that infrastructure scenario planning can proceed.

Communications – Tony James (Telstra)

- Copper network – 58% utilised (refer Slides)
- Optical Fibre Network is being extended as growth and economics dictate.
- Radio systems – Many of the radio systems are approaching their limit on capacity and are being upgraded.
- Mobile coverage – analogue system due for closure in 2000, digital rollout is progressing (refer Slides and Maps)

Transport, Main Roads – Peter Griffin (Main Roads)

- MRD have a 10 year investment strategy
- Have a 5 year Project Plan called RIP, first 2 years is fixed with yrs 3-5 indicative.

Transport, Rail – Dan Healy (QR)

- QR is largest rail business in Australia.
- 2 Business units – Coal & main line freight is profitable, other activities are CSO based.
- Rockhampton is a major crew and workshop centre.
- Electric traction to north, diesel traction to north.
- Major projects include the upgrade of the Rockhampton to Townsville track – 26 tonne axle loads for bridges.

- Underlying growth assumptions provided (refer Slides)
- Possible transit centre for Rockhampton

Local Government, Fitzroy Shire – Vern Donovan

- Co-ordinated approach for industrial land development. Study has identified 4 locations:- Stanwell P/S, Western Corridor (between Gracemere and Stanwell), East of Bajool, and Egan's Hill.
- None of these sites are State Development sites. Private ownership is an issue and negotiation is required.

Local Government, Mt Morgan – Jim Brown

- Water supply has limited capability.
- Sewerage is not currently available.
- Ample land available for new industry.
- No major infrastructure initiatives.
- Mt Morgan has some limitations due to environmental and infrastructure issues.

Local Government, Livingstone Shire – Jim Brown

- Strategic plan due for completion this year.
- Restructured in 1998 for “one stop shop” service.
- 5 year plan for roads – around \$2M pa.
- Has existing industrial estates – not promoting any heavy or noxious industry on the coast.
- Water – offstream storage at Woodbury. Ultimately can service up to 40,000 people on Capricorn Coast.
- Population growth around 4% pa.

Local Government, Rockhampton City – Chris Hegarty

- RCC has Corporate Strategic Plan
- Water
 - RCC willing to sell spare capacity
 - Water infrastructure is “mature”
 - Water usage is high compared with metered locations
- Sewerage, capacity available to accommodate northside growth.
- Airport extensions progressing. Planned for completion by October 1999.
- Industrial land available at Parkhurst – 540 ha. Government has significant holdings.
- Population growth is low.

Environment – Steve Elson (DEH)

- Has licensing role for land usage.
- Need to consider scale and cumulative impacts of development
- Refer Slides attached.