



Queensland Dairyfarmers' Organisation Limited ABN: 90 090 629 066

Ms Kerrie Martin  
Principal Research Officer  
Senate Rural, Regional Affairs and Transport Committee  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Wednesday, 9 May 2007

Dear Ms Martin,

**Re: Questions on Notice taken for the Inquiry into Additional Water Supplies – South East Queensland**

In relation to the questions that I agreed to take on notice at the Senate Inquiry hearing held on the 18<sup>th</sup> April 2007 in Brisbane I provide the following information in response to those questions.

Question 1: In relation to the Dairy Regional Adjustment (DRAP) program and potential investments by the program in the area which would be impacted by the Traveston dam proposal, all projects funded under the program from the year 2000 to 2005 are listed on the following government website;

<http://www.dotars.gov.au/regional/funding/programs/drap/index.aspx>

The DRAP was part of the Australian Government's \$1.94 billion Dairy Industry Adjustment Package (DIAP). DRAP was designed to assist communities that had been impacted upon by the deregulation of the dairy industry. The programme facilitated long term employment by supplementing business investment and providing support for services that lead to on-going economic and social benefits for regions affected by dairy deregulation.

As can be seen from the list of approved projects listed on the DRAP website a number of projects were approved within the broader region in which the Traveston dam is proposed. At this stage the impact of the proposed dam on these investments is not known and would require further analysis.

Question 2: In relation to the different usage classifications of water licences on the Mary River system I refer you to two reference documents as follows;

- A. Information Report, Mary Basin, proposal to prepare a draft water resource plan, Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mines, May 2002.
- B. Mary Basin draft water resource plan, hydrology report, volumes 1 and 2, Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mines, November 2005.

In the reference document A in Appendix B on Current Water Entitlements data is provided on the entitlements on the Mary River Catchment as follows;

**“Current Water Entitlements in the Mary River Catchment**

Water Use	Supplemented Irrigation	Unsupplemented Irrigation	Water harvesting	Stock and Domestic	Urban and Industrial
Number of Entitlements	450	1219	45	875	33
Entitlements Volume or Area	48 711 ML/a	7100 ha (37 663 ML/a estimated)	1169 ML/a (estimated)	1237 ML/a	59901 ML/a

In the reference document B the Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mines (now the Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Water) presented the following statement on page 1 of the document “Table 2.4 shows the current utilization case for the Mary River, which was determined by looking at annual historical use. In general, it was assumed that regulated irrigators used 50% of their allocation.....”

If the Senate requires further information on entitlements and licences for the Mary Valley it is recommended that you contact the Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Water.

I hope that the additional information provided herein is of assistance. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me, keeping in mind we are a ‘not for profit’ organisation with limited resources.

Yours sincerely,



**Adrian Peake**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Queensland Dairyfarmers’ Organisation Ltd**