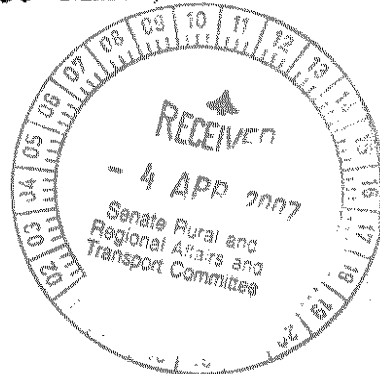


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ROBERT & RHONDA BROPHY**1188 KENILWORTH SKYRING CREEK ROAD
TUCHEKOI 4570 QLD****Telephone: (07) 54 85 5424**30th March, 2007.

The Secretary,
Senate Rural & Regional Affairs & Transport,
Parliament House,
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Dear Sir/madam,

**RE: Inquiry into Additional Water Supplies for South East Queensland -
Traveston Crossing Dam Information.**

The purpose of this letter is to provide information for the Senate Inquiry and this is our story.

We had made a decision to purchase our property in November, 2006, only to find out on April 27th, 2007, of the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam. We were bitterly disappointed and devastated, after having just moved into our home, one month prior.

Before moving to Queensland, we spent several years travelling Australia, looking for our ideal place to retire. We chose the Sunshine Coast as being our best prospect, whilst we were holidaying here in June, 2002. In July, 2002, we purchased a home on three acres, in Pomona, which we rented out for 18 months. This allowed us time to sell our farm and other property in South Australia.

In January, 2004, we retired and moved to Pomona, Queensland. The Pomona property was not our ideal choice but it enabled us to live in the area, and look more closely for our patch of paradise.

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We were drawn to the beauty of the Mary Valley, which we first saw whilst holidaying in June, 2002, but at this time we were unable to find a suitable property to purchase.

In November, 2006, we answered a Real Estate advertisement, and much to our delight, when we inspected the Tuckekoi property, it fulfilled all our requirements - thus OUR PATCH OF PARADISE.

To enable us to proceed with the purchase, we had to sell our Pomona property and make considerable capital gain (after spending a considerable amount of time and money) which we did achieve. Also, we had to make the hard financial decision to withdraw one third of our superannuation. This decision was not made lightly.

We unfortunately went through a very difficult settlement on the Tuckekoi property (due to legal bungling - which caused us much anguish and almost forfeiture of our deposit).

Finally the property was ours, and we moved in and then took three weeks holiday to South Australia. We had to return to South Australia to seek consolation from friends and family and try to relax.

On our return, we had a note in the letterbox from a neighbour requesting us to visit them regarding some bad news. WOW, were we blown away, when informed about the proposed dam at Traveston Crossing (three weeks holiday consolation - wasted!!)

On collecting our mail, from the post office, we received the letter informing us about the proposed dam at Traveston Crossing, and that our property was in the Buffer Zone. It is extremely difficult to put into words how we really felt.

We attended several public meetings ran by the Qld. Govt. participated in discussions and gained as much information as possible.

After nearly twelve months, to this point, we have been able to arrive at an informed opinion about the Dam proposal.

We consider that the Government will be flooding some of the best pastoral and cropping flood plains in Australia.

(3)

Secondly, we believe that there will a lot of land exposed to growth of weed, as water levels drop and the evaporation rate on such a large surface area will not be replaced reliably between floods. The shallowness will create warm water, thus allowing underwater weed growth, leading to increased levels of carbon dioxide and also detrimental to marine life of the river. Mosquitoes and other insects will breed and this could cause wide-spread problems and health risks to the area's residents, etc.

Some localities will become isolated and residents will have to travel around the perimeter of the dam, thus contributing to hardship, eg. Delayed Response Time for Emergency Services, e.g. Ambulance and Fire, etc.

Large number of farms, which have been in families for generations would be lost, causing extreme emotional stress and hardship. Also, many residents of the communities will have their long term friendships broken as people are forced to leave their homes.

Our local councils have taken steps previously, to ensure water supplies for the current and future populations and it would now appear that the rate payers, will be burdened with higher water rates, to pay for water for Brisbane and South East Queensland, after having contributed to their own water security over many years.

Further consideration should be given to the raising of the wall of the Barumba Dam, higher than the Governments existing proposal. Government already owns the land, and the valleys are deeper, less surface area, means less evaporation. Deeper water will be cooler and will have less marine weed growth. The deeper valleys will have less shallow back waters.

Consideration to suggestions by locals for piping the water towards the head waters of the Brisbane River as this would require a much shorter pipeline (than following the coast) and would allow Barumba catchment to be directly connected to Wivenhoe Dam. Less expensive option!!! Less disruptive to people and property along Sunshine Coast. A much more populated area.

The Traveston Crossing Dam proposal will have a direct and unknown impact on endangered species (flora, fauna and marine life) in the Mary Valley.

(4)

We wonder about the control of weeds and vermin on huge areas of land which will be exposed when the Traveston Crossing Dam drops to 2 metres from full, 80% of the time, according, to Queensland Water Infrastructure Project Update, March 2007.

We strongly oppose this dam being built due to economic, environmental and social reasons.

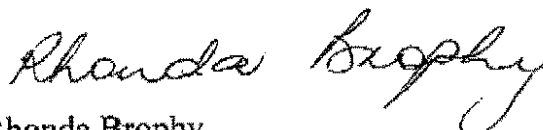
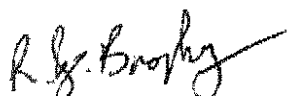
We all know the country is in drought and ONE cannot make it rain - NO MATTER WHO THEY ARE!!!

Finally , we are not impressed with the thought of looking out over a degenerated "water" view most of the time.

We urge the Senate to consider our submission along with many others and exercise their right to prevent this Traveston Crossing Dam Proposal. Surely Common Sense must prevail, if we are going to preserve this part of Australia and thus the country from future travesties.

We would appreciate reply to this submission being received.

Yours faithfully,



Robert Brophy & Rhonda Brophy