

Mary River Rd.,
Kandanga.
Qld 4570

To The Secretary
Senate Rural and Regional affairs and Transport
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Inquiry into Additional Water Supplies for South East Queensland-Travesty Crossing Dam Information

I work as a Physiotherapist in Cooroy. About 50% of my patients are directly affected by the announcement. I have heard many business owners report significant drops in sales. I have seen the start of many stress related illnesses-- from fibromyalgia, to hypertension, angina and depression. I have heard the anger, despair and confusion from the affected residence and their friends and relatives. I have seen many residents give in and sell up because they couldn't cope anymore.

Personally 6 farms that I grew up on are to be inundated. My heritage will be lost and the small community of Kandanga that I grew up in will disappear. I returned to this community 10 years ago to provide a specialised service I knew it needed. Being part of a community is a unique experience I did not feel anywhere else in the world in which I travelled. A community genuinely cares for each other. This is not something you measure in dollars and cents. It is however an essential part of life, a sense of belonging. Evidence of this community spirit is the success of the many rallies, information sessions and petitions against the Dam.

I am presently living on one of the farms to be inundated with my sister and father. I was actively campaigning against this Dam before I had a car accident in July last year. I believe the government has split our community by the method in which it was announced and withheld information. The emotional involvement was too much for me and I had a psychotic episode requiring 3 weeks in hospital. My marriage has recently failed and my children no longer talk to me. My life events in the past year I believe to be similar to many who live near and in the valley. It has changed my life forever and I am now looking to move on away from the valley at least in the short term to achieve some peace from the heart ache.

So what do I stand to lose from this announcement. Nothing tangible, just the loss of my immediate family, many of my friends, my patients, my community and my heritage. While change is inevitable in life, the callous way in which this has been and continues to be handled, the lies and deliberate belittlement of this minority group by the Beattie government must be held accountable. I am hoping that this Senate Inquiry has the depth of investigation to reveal the cruelty in which this government has managed this proposal and the documents about why the decision was made to build a dam here. It is the perfect example of lack of democracy and a State Government with too much unopposed power.

I continue to see a psychologist to assist me in dealing with my life changes. My now ex husband is on anti-depressants, anti anxiety medication and my son is threatening to commit suicide. My other

son has locked himself in his room for most of the past year. All this for a Dam that doesnt make any scientific sense.The alternatives have been well presented in the commissioned mayors report.

I hope my story helps to highlight the social impact of this proposal and that the Government eventually acknowledges the hardship it has imposed on its people.

Yours Sincerely,
Lynette Kaergaard