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4 April 2007

The Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Heffernan and Committee

ABOUT THE SUNSHINE COAST ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL:

The Sunshine Coast Environment Council (SCEC) Inc. is a peak body with more than 50 member groups, stretching from Cooloola to Caboolture, and over 300 individual, family and business members. Formed in 1980, SCEC has been instrumental in achieving many positive environmental outcomes for the Sunshine Coast. As SCEC has a strong commitment to lobbying all levels of government and working with business for optimal environmental outcomes, SCEC has a strong community education role. SCEC is actively working with the five local councils within the region: Caboolture, Caloundra, Maroochy, Noosa and Cooloola, as well as State and Federal government departments, industry stakeholders, educational institutions such as the University of the Sunshine Coast, other community groups and the general public. SCEC produces the Econews, a free newspaper with a circulation of 15,000 copies. SCEC organises the Greenhouse at the Woodford Folk Festival, an environmental forum attended by 18,000 people over six days, and for 27 years has hosted the World Environment Day Festival which attracts some 3,000 people. The Sunshine Coast Environment Awards, now in their 11th year, is convened by SCEC to reward business, government and individuals striving for optimum environmental outcomes.

INTRODUCTION

SCEC submits that the proposal to construct the Traveston Dam is a flawed decision that will have significant environmental, social and economic impacts. The Review of Water Supply-Demand Options for South-East Queensland conducted by the Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology, Sydney, and Cardno, consulting engineers, found that there are several other more effective options for meeting the water needs of South East Queensland at a considerably lower cost than the Traveston Dam. Indeed, the report found the Traveston Dam was neither necessary nor desirable.

We will address our concerns in two parts.

1. Merits of the various options for additional water supplies for South East Queensland.
2. Environmental impacts of the Traveston Dam proposal and other options.

1. MERITS OF WATER SUPPLY OPTIONS FOR SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND.

Dams in general are no longer considered world's best practice as water supply options. The respected International Rivers Network reports that, worldwide, dams have failed to live up to expectations and have devastated communities and ecosystems. Furthermore, the World Commission on Dams (WCD) has collated evidence that shows the negative impacts of large dams has been far greater than ever imagined and that they have failed to provide projected benefits. Indeed, the WCD report found that "70% of dams built for water supply did not reach their target." The WCD report also finds that dams run over on predicted economic costs by 56%. Extrapolated to the Mary River Dam, the cost would blow out from \$1.7 billion to \$2.65 billion.

The Review of Water Supply-Demand Options for South East Queensland (see attached) conducted by the University of Technology Sydney's Institute of Sustainable Futures and international engineering consultants, Cardno, (ISF/Cardno Report) is a comprehensive independent assessment of the various options available to meet the water supply needs of the region into the future. The study recommends that a suite of options should be investigated by the government, including:

- Demand Management Options.
- Indirect potable reuse.
- Water harvesting

These options are preferred by SCEC as they can be used immediately to resolve the current "crisis" and all have neutral or even positive environmental and social impacts, in contrast with the Traveston Dam which will have extremely negative impacts. Indirect potable recycling also has the benefit of contributing to healthier river systems as it minimises the amount of effluent discharged to waterways. The Healthy Waterways Partnership estimates that, unless there is 100% recycling, the condition of SE Queensland waterways will continue to deteriorate.

The ISF/Cardno Report concludes that the Traveston Dam is "neither necessary nor desirable as a part of the portfolio for ensuring supply security to 2050. The increase in supply from this proposed dam will not assist in the short-term during the current severe drought and is not needed for supply-demand balance in the longer term. It represents a high cost, high risk option."

Lack of consideration of alternatives to the Traveston Crossing Dam

SCEC holds that the State Government has not conducted proper analysis and investigation of alternatives to the dam as illustrated by the following:

Sequence of events.

- **27th April 2006** - Premier Beattie's announced on April 27th that the Traveston Crossing Dam on the Mary River would be constructed as the solution to the water crisis in South East Queensland. At the press conference at Gympie Airport on the same day, SCEC representative Scott Alderson, asked the Premier whether alternatives to the dam, such as water recycling and demand reduction, had been examined and whether a cost benefit analysis and rationale had been conducted which showed that Traveston Crossing was the best option. Mr Beattie replied that the Minister for Natural Resources and Water, Mr Henry Palaszczuk, had all the details and would be able to provide them. Mr Palaszczuk agreed to provide an analysis of the various water options.
- **28th April 2006** – SCEC Manager Ian Christesen telephoned the Minister's Brisbane office requesting a copy of the option s information. He was told enquiries would be made and the

Department would provide the information.

- **Early May 2006** – SCEC representative Scott Alderson made a follow up call as no information had been received. A ministerial office person stated that there is no cost benefit analysis and the Minister was preparing a briefing regarding the need for the dam based on rainfall data and population projections.
- **3rd May 2006** - Eco News reporter Amy Coleman telephones the Minister's media advisor Kirby Anderson requesting a copy of the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) and alternative supply options. Mr Anderson stated that the Government had only selected Traveston Crossing as a possible site and that other sites were still being considered.
- **Throughout 2006/2007** – Mr Beattie and Ms Bligh constantly announce that the dam will go ahead unless “compelling” evidence that it should not proceed is produced.

Subsequent events

- The State government has only submitted Stage 1 of the dam for assessment under the EPBC Act. Therefore, the referral is flawed as the proposal should be assessed on the impact of the entire project, rather than just a part. The proponent, Queensland Water Infrastructure Pty Ltd (QWIPL) is a \$1 company with one shareholder, Mr Peter Beattie, and the majority of shareholders are State government employees. In effect then, the State government is assessing its own project.
- The formally appointed Community Reference Panel associated with the development of the Mary Basin Water Resource Plan has advised that they were “profoundly deceived” by the State Government during the formulation of the plan and have publicly withdrawn their support for the process. Subsequent to the Community Reference Panel's involvement, the Queensland Government made substantial changes between the draft and final Water Resource Plan to accommodate the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam without any further consultation.

These events demonstrate the government's lack of investigation of any other alternatives to the Traveston Dam before the announcement was made, and there has been little evidence since to suggest they are investigating alternatives. Therefore, SCEC holds that the decision to construct the dam was irrational and ill considered and should be totally revised in light of the information regarding the alternatives that is available.

2. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACTS OF THE TRAVESTON DAM PROPOSAL

SCEC'S primary area of responsibility is towards environmental protection, however it should be noted that the social dislocation that the proposed Traveston Dan will cause is significant and should be cause for grave concern.

SCEC's submission to the Federal Minister for the Environment for assessment under the Environmental Protections and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC) details the impacts of the dam on several important and threatened species including the endangered Mary River Cod, Mary River Turtle and Giant Barred Frog as well as the vulnerable Queensland Lungfish. There are also major environmental concerns regarding migratory species protected under international agreements; aquatic flora; terrestrial fauna; various upstream and downstream effects and internationally recognised Ramsar Wetlands and World Heritage areas as detailed in the attached submission. *See attached submission for full details.*

Points to Note

Both the Mary River Cod and Turtle are unique to the Mary River system. Although both species can be bred in captivity should their habitat be destroyed by the Traveston Dam, such efforts represent a last line of defence to avoid extinction and all efforts should be made to preserve them in their natural habitat.

The Queensland Lungfish is listed as vulnerable under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act. This lungfish is the most enduring species of vertebrate known on earth, dating back to the Devonian period. It is the single most important species to biologists of any existing life forms in terms of assessing evolution. It has very specialised breeding requirements which are detailed in the attached submission under the EPBC Act. Particular points to note are:

- Although the species survives in impoundments, there is no evidence that they breed successfully in them.
- There is no evidence that fish ways or ladders actually work.

In summary, the following impacts will occur:

- Reduced recruitment to critical levels (raising 'vulnerable' status on EPBC Act to critically endangered)
- which will lead to a long-term decrease in the size of the population,
- reduce the area of occupancy of the species,
- fragment an existing population into two or more populations,
- adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species,
- disrupt the breeding cycle of a population,
- modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline and
- prevent the recovery of the species.

The National Water Initiative

The National Water Initiative represents the Australian Government's and State and Territory governments' shared commitment to water reform in recognition of:

- the continuing national imperative to increase the productivity and efficiency of Australia's water use;
- the need to service rural and urban communities; and
- ensuring the health of river and groundwater systems, including by establishing clear pathways to return all systems to environmentally sustainable levels of extraction (paragraph 5, NWI).

Some of the stated objectives of the NWI are to "bring about more profitable use of water and more cost-effective and flexible recovery of water to achieve environmental outcomes" and "more sophisticated, transparent and comprehensive water planning that deals with key issues such as the major interception of water, the interaction between surface and groundwater systems, and the provision of water to meet specific environmental outcomes". In Queensland, this is reflected in a commitment to achieving a consistent set of water resource planning outcomes as reflected in the legislated Water Resource Plans produced for catchments throughout the State. The final result of the Water Resource Planning procedure for the Mary River has been anything but transparent, and has resulted in legislation which does not adequately protect environmental flow outcomes in the 200km of river downstream of the proposal.

National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAPSWQ)

The Mary River catchment is a Priority Catchment under the NAPSWQ and has already been identified as being at high risk of increased salinity. The intent of this priority listing is to allocate federal funding to projects designed to slow, halt or reverse the trend in increasing salinity and decreasing water quality in the catchment. As such, the NAP identifies community consultation and involvement as a 'cornerstone' of the plan, and ties the catchment into specific provisions under the NBCCAP and the NACCAP to incorporate climate change scenarios into the hydrological modelling and water resource planning in the catchment.

There is compelling scientific evidence that the Traveston Crossing Dam proposal could have no other possible outcome than to increase salinity and drastically reduce overall water quality in the catchment, particularly in the 200km of river downstream of the proposal. In times of low flow, the river already exceeds Queensland water quality guidelines for electrical conductivity, and has dissolved oxygen levels consistently below the guideline standards. Removing a great deal more freshwater from the catchment and drastically reducing the regular minor flushing flows in the river can only make these trends worse. It is also clear that community consultation with respect to the proposal has been absolutely unsuccessful within the catchment. For example, the entire community reference panel appointed by the State government in developing the draft Water Resource Plan for the catchment formally withdrew all support for the plan following the announcement of the dam proposal, prior to the plan becoming legislation (after being greatly amended with no consultation).

National Biodiversity and Climate Change Action Plan 2004 – 2007 (NBCCAP)

In catchments identified in the NAPSWQ, there is an obligation under the NBCCAP to specifically examine the effects of development projects on the ability of species and communities to move and respond to climate change. There is an added obligation to incorporate climate change modelling into the planning of water resource management in these catchments. The principal effect of climate change in the Mary system is likely to be the effect on stream flow regimes. The hydrological modelling used to investigate the impacts of the Traveston Crossing Proposal to date has specifically ignored the impact of climate change on streamflows. The impact of the proposal on biodiversity in the catchment is much greater in a climate change scenario. For example, the yield performance of the dam proposal is doubtful and its impacts on streamflow are far more severe if based on streamflow data from 1997 to 2007, rather than the climatic information over the period from 1890 to 1999 used in the state government modelling to date. Under this sort of climatic scenario, the impact of the proposal on the complete disruption of riparian and in-stream habitat corridors for extensive lengths along the stream (hundreds of kilometres), both in the proposed inundation area and in the downstream reaches of the river would seem to be in direct opposition to the intent of this National Plan.

Greenhouse gas emissions

The Review of Water Supply-Demand Options for South East Queensland report does not allow for the greenhouse emissions that will be produced by the decaying vegetation in the large shallow dam. Despite this, the report still finds that the Traveston Dam proposal to Stage 3 has one of the highest greenhouse gas emissions of all options.

Methane produced from rotting vegetation in the dam adds considerably to the greenhouse gas problems, particularly as methane has over 20 times more impact on global warming than carbon dioxide.

Given that the world scientists have reached unprecedented consensus on the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in an effort to minimise impending climate change, it is insupportable that an option with such high levels of greenhouse gas emissions is under consideration.

The State Government is in breach of the guiding principles of the Intergovernmental Agreement of the Environment which is intended to ensure better environmental outcomes across the nation. In particular the undertaking to include positive measures for:

“limiting emissions of all greenhouse gases, not controlled by the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer” as well as the acknowledgement that “that biological diversity is a major and valuable component of the environment and should be protected” are undermined by the Traveston Proposal.

IMPACTS OF ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS

The Review of Water Supply-Demand Options for South East Queensland found the environmental impacts of demand reduction, indirect potable re-use and stormwater harvesting, to be neutral or even positive, in stark contrast with the impacts of the dam. Desalination options were found to have high levels of greenhouse gas emissions compared with the other options. All of these options have only neutral or minor negative social impacts.

All surface water options examined were found to have negative environmental impacts, although most were expected to have less significant impacts than the Traveston Dam. Surface water options were also found to have social impacts varying from minor negative impacts to negative impacts, with Traveston Dam being assessed as the most significant negative impact. *See attached report*

CONCLUSION

It is clear that adequate consultation and investigation processes were not pursued prior to the decision by the State government to announce the construction of the Traveston Dam. Moreover, the decision to build the dam erodes the principles of several Federal/State agreements and action plans. This dam has high negative environmental and social impacts and is likely to hasten the extinction of several important and rare species and will certainly contribute large quantities of greenhouse gas emissions. The reduced river flow is likely to have significant impacts in the downstream environment and on World Heritage and Ramsar listed wetlands.

The Review of Water Supply-Demand Options for South East Queensland identified several alternatives that will not only meet the water needs of the region well into the future without the negative environmental impacts of the dam, but will do so more economically and without the social dislocation.

SCEC believes there is overwhelming evidence to indicate that no social, environmental or economic need for the Traveston Dam has been demonstrated and further that the decision to build the dam does not stand up to scrutiny at any level.

Yours faithfully



Keryn Jones
Co-ordinator



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29th November 2006

Senator Ian Campbell
Federal Minister for the Environment
Ref: QWIP PTY LTD
Referral 2006/3150
Traveston Crossing Dam

Dear Senator Campbell,

ABOUT THE SUNSHINE COAST ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL:

The Sunshine Coast Environment Council (SCEC) Inc. is a peak body with more than 50 member groups, stretching from Cooloola to Caboolture, and over 300 individual, family and business members. Formed in 1980, SCEC has been instrumental in achieving many positive environmental outcomes for the Sunshine Coast. As SCEC has a strong commitment to lobbying all levels of government and working with business for optimal environmental outcomes, SCEC has a strong community education role. SCEC is actively working with the five local councils within the region: Caboolture, Caloundra, Maroochy, Noosa and Cooloola, as well as State and Federal government departments, industry stakeholders, educational institutions such as the University of the Sunshine Coast, other community groups and the general public. SCEC produces the Econews, a free newspaper with a circulation of 15,000 copies. SCEC organises the Greenhouse at the Woodford Folk Festival, an environmental forum attended by 18,000 people over six days, and has hosted the World Environment Day Festival which attracts some 5,000 people, for 27 years. The Sunshine Coast Environment Awards, now in their 11th year, is convened by SCEC to reward business, government and individuals striving for optimum environmental outcomes.

INTRODUCTION

SCEC refers to Queensland Water Infrastructure Pty Ltd (QWIPL)'s referral to the Minister under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) for approval to construct and operate the Traveston Crossing Dam on the Mary River in South-East Queensland (SEQ), and the construction or relocation of associated infrastructure.

Public comment on the QWIPL referral submission was not invited. Nonetheless SCEC feels that our opinion is important and should be considered along with the views of people across South East Queensland. Opposition to the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam has come from various sources including individuals, scientists and environmentalists, both nationally and internationally. An indication of the support for public comment is the petitions to the Queensland Govt which had over 20,000 signatures.

SCEC submits that this action should be declared to be a controlled action for the purposes of the EPBC Act and that three controlling provisions for this action should be declared.

1. Ramsar wetlands of international importance and World Heritage Areas.
2. Migratory Species protected under international agreements and
3. Nationally threatened species

1. Ramsar wetlands of international importance and World Heritage Areas

The proposed action should be declared to be a controlled action because of the likely impacts of the proposed action on the following relevant matters protected under the EPBC Act.

The Mary River catchment is the largest catchment that drains into the Great Sandy Strait. The Great Sandy Strait is listed as a Ramsar site and part of a State Marine Park (Great Sandy Marine Park). The Ramsar site extends the length of Great Sandy Strait to the eastern end of Inskip Point and the southern extent includes Tin Can Inlet and Tin Can Bay. The western boundary extends along the Mary River and includes the Susan River mangrove system (Department of the Environment and Heritage (DEH), 1999). The eastern side of the strait is occupied by World Heritage listed Fraser Island.

The current Mary Basin Water Resource does not adequately protect the river health and is not endorsed by the Community Reference Panel. It does not account for linkages between runoff, river water and ground water. Choosing 85% of average annual flow at the mouth of a river as an adequate figure to maintain health of a river is flawed. (Burgess and Edwards 2006). The statistic used should be the median annual flow and the scientific basis of the number 85% has no documented empirical basis (Arthington et al 2006.) These flows directly affect the ecological value of the RAMSAR wetlands and associated Sandy Straights

Due to inadequate downstream flows affecting salinity, nutrient and sediment all the following impacts are likely to occur:

- areas of the wetland being destroyed or substantially modified;
- a substantial and measurable change in the hydrological regime of the wetland, for example, a substantial change to the volume, timing, duration and frequency of ground and surface water flows to and within the wetland;
- the habitat or lifecycle of native species, including invertebrate fauna and fish species, dependant upon the wetland being seriously affected;
- A substantial and measurable change in the water quality of the wetland has been measured relating to salinity since 1980 and is evidence that there is a cumulative effect of impacts from building impoundments in the Mary and the Burnett River catchments (see 5.2.2 for details). This is likely to adversely impact on biodiversity and ecological integrity if this action proceeds which all combine to mean that the dam is likely to have significant impact on the ecological character of declared Ramsar listed Great Sandy Strait. This includes likelihood of it having a significant adverse impact on matters of national environmental significance such as the migratory birds, whales, marine turtles and the dugong .

2. Migratory Species protected under international agreements

There are five marine turtles which use the Sandy Straits/ Commonwealth Marine area which are known to either breed or inhabit this area. Some of these species are also nationally threatened species.

Caretta caretta (Loggerhead) – endangered, *Chelona mydas* (Green) – vulnerable, *Derochelys coriacea* (Leatherback) – vulnerable, *Eretmochelys imbricata* (Hawksbill)-vulnerable and *Natator depressus* (Flatback)- Vulnerable.

The Marine Turtle recovery plan has identified five different habitat types that marine turtles use at different stages of their lives. These are: the natal beach; mating areas; inter-nesting habitat; feeding areas; and pelagic waters. Deteriorating water quality has been identified as a main threat to turtle habitat. Due to inadequate downstream flows affecting salinity, nutrient and sediment all the following impacts are likely to occur on the migratory marine turtles:

- adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species;
- disrupt the breeding cycle of a population;
- modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline;
- result in invasive species that are harmful to a critically endangered or endangered species becoming established in the endangered or critically endangered species' habitat;
- interfere with the recovery of the species.

Terrestrial migratory species such as *Monarcha melanopsis* (black-faced monarch), *Monarcha trivirgatus* (spectacled monarch), *Myagra cyanoleuca* (satin flycatcher), *Rhipidura rufifrons* (rufous fantail) are all known to require damp gullies in rainforest for breeding (Pizzey 1988). The main channel of the Mary River and Yabba, Amamoor and Kandanga creeks are recognised as significant riparian corridors (Cooloolo Shire Council, 1995). Inundation of riparian corridors is likely to significantly impact on these migratory species which rely on forest vegetation to provide protection and food along their migratory path. The inundation of this state endangered riparian rainforest 12.3.1 will clear about 20% of the remaining remnant in this area. It is likely that significant impact on riparian vegetation will occur downstream of the proposed dam through bank erosion, groundwater depletion or salinity.

- lead to a long-term decrease in the size of a population through loss of habitat and migration corridor protection.
- reduce the area of occupancy of the species through loss of habitat;
- fragment an existing population into two or more populations – a large water body would likely present a barrier to migration.
- adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species – migratory species particularly these small birds need habitat protection;
- disrupt the breeding cycle of a population;
- modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline; and
- interfere with the recovery of the species.

3. Nationally threatened species

1. Listed threatened species (Fauna)

- a. *Elusor macrurus* (Mary River turtle) - Endangered
- b. *Maccullochella peelii mariensis* (Mary River Cod) - Endangered

- c. *Neoceratodus fosteri* (Australian Lungfish; Queensland lungfish) - Vulnerable
- d. *Mixophyes ieratus* (Giant Barred Frog) – Endangered
(**Flora**)
- e. *Floydia praealta* - Vulnerable
- f. *Xanthostemon oppositifolius* - Vulnerable

2. Listed Migratory species

Terrestrial

- a. *Monarcha trivirgatus* (spectacled monarch)
- b. *Monarcha melanopsis* (black faced monarch)
- c. *Rhipidura rufifrons* (rufous fantail)
- d. *Myagra cyanoleuca* (satin flycatcher)

Marine

- a. *Dugong dugon* (*dugong*)
- b. *Caretta caretta* (*loggerhead turtle*)
- c. *Chelonia mydas* (*green turtle*)
- d. *Indo Pacific Bottlenose*
- e. *Humpback whales*
- f. *Dwarf Minke*
- g. *Southern right whale*

There are also numerous plant species (endangered and vulnerable) that are affected by the proposed action.

The Mary River system has evolved over millennia in isolation which is evident when you consider several of the endemic species. It is a rare river for Australia (in particular for the eastern seaboard) as it flows in a south north direction.

With this isolated evolution, a strong symbiotic relationship has developed between the river and the local flora and fauna. It is a very “boom bust” river with the majority of its flows occurring in a short period. These “freshies” (sometime minor and major floods) are vital triggers and carriers for breeding and seed dispersal. It also provides the perfect conditions for spawning and nesting.

Aquatic Flora

Most of the reaches in the catchment were rated by Mackay (2003) as having undergone moderate or major change from the natural condition with respect to the aquatic plants (macrophytes). In the Mary River from Moy Pocket to Yabba Creek, Mackay found that there was a relatively low diversity of macrophytes. Of the species present, 40% were exotic. Yabba Creek had moderate aquatic macrophyte growth with exotic species representing a small proportion of the species present. The Imbil Weir pondage was dominated by emergent and floating species with a low proportion of exotic species present.

There are two macrophyte species occurring in the Mary River catchments that are protected. Both are listed as rare under the NCA. *Vallisneria nana* is widely distributed throughout SEQ and *Aponogeton elongatus* may also be present in the proposed inundation area (Mackay, 2003). An aquatic plant survey was conducted by the Queensland Herbarium in 2001 (Stockwell *et al*, 2004). *Myriophyllum verrucosum* and *Vallisneria nana* were found to be the most common submerged macrophytes. Three weeds were present viz., Water Hyacinth, *Elodea* spp. and *Salvinia* spp. Water Hyacinth and *Salvinia* are recognised as priority weeds by the SEQ Environmental Weeds Management Group.

Terrestrial Fauna

Under the EPBC Act, nine vulnerable and nine endangered fauna species are listed as potentially occurring within the project area. Seventeen threatened species (viz, 2 amphibians, 10 birds, 2 mammals and 3 reptiles) are listed under the NCA within Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the project area. These include two endangered (viz., Giant Barred Frog and Mary River Cod), seven vulnerable and eight rare species. Many fauna species use the riparian communities as habitat. Fauna such as the Black Breasted Button Quail (*Turnix melanogaster*) require closed vegetation communities that provide cover and food sources, such as those provided by RE 12.3.1. The critically endangered Red Goshawk (*Erythrotriorchis radiatus*) and the endangered Richmond Birdwing butterfly (*Cyclopsitta diophthalma*) use riparian corridors particularly during winter (Stockwell *et al.*, 2004). All native terrestrial fauna is protected under the NCA. It is likely that there are rare and threatened species occurring within the project area.

Aquatic Fauna

There are at least three threatened aquatic fauna species under Commonwealth and State legislation that may potentially occur in Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the project area. These are Mary River Cod (*Maccullochella peelii mariensis*), Lungfish (*Neoceratodus forsteri*) and the Mary River Turtle (*Elusor macrurus*). A total of 39 species of fish have been recorded by the Queensland Museum as occurring within the Mary River in proximity of the proposed dam site and inundation area. One yet to be identified turtle species is also thought to be present only in the Mary River Catchment. The Mary River catchment is identified as having one of the highest levels of endemic turtle species in Australia (Stockwell *et al.*, 2004).

Mary River Cod

The Mary River Cod's distribution is limited to the Mary River having only recently been recognised as unique to the Mary River system. The Mary River Cod Recovery Plan highlights Yabba Creek (below Borumba Dam) and Obi Obi Creek as two of the three areas of concern for managing impacts on cod populations. These creeks are upstream and empty into the proposed dam. The population in Tinana Creek is restricted from interbreeding with cod from the rest of the Mary system by several reservoirs and the tidal barrage on the lower Mary River. Fishways on some of the impoundments are considered to be ineffective in passing fish (Hajkowicz and Kerby 1992 in Simpson and Jackson). The species can be bred in captivity and have been stocked in other south-east Queensland river systems. However, it is not yet known if Mary River Cod will breed in such impoundments. A negative impact on the habitat of the species in the Mary River Catchment may negatively affect the population of the species.

The Mary River Cod is listed as endangered under the EPBC Act, by the Australian Society for Fish Biology and in The Action Plan for Australian Freshwater Fishes (Simpson and Jackson, 1996). It is also listed as Indeterminate by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). Indeterminate is a class for taxa known to be Endangered, Vulnerable or Rare but for which there is not enough information to determine which of the three categories is appropriate.

The *Maccullochella peelii mariensis* (Mary River cod) is an endangered species (listed under the EPBC Act 1999) endemic to the Mary River system. *Maccullochella peelii mariensis* (Mary River cod) is at the top of the food chain of the Mary River system. Any adverse impacts on fisheries directly affect the recovery plan of the *Maccullochella peelii mariensis* (Mary River cod) (Simpson & Jackson, 1996, The Mary River Cod Research and Recovery Plan).

The proposed dam wall could severely impact on the *Maccullochella peelii mariensis* 's (Mary River cod) seasonal movements and breeding requirements. Radio tracking studies have shown that the Mary River cod migrate long distances along waterways, especially during spawning times (Simpson, 1994). There is no evidence of the Mary River cod utilising a fish-way in its natural habitat.

Although the Mary River Cod can survive in dams there is no research evidence showing that they are capable of breeding within dams (hatchery ponds can not be considered as dams due to their artificially controlled food supply). The Mary River Cod relies on deep, cool, shaded pools containing large woody debris (snags) for it to successfully breed (Simpson, 1998). The Traveston dam will flood several of these known habitats on the Mary River and is unlikely to provide any similar habitat once completed, especially considering the large water level fluctuations associated with operating impoundments that would eliminate the establishment of stable riparian vegetation (Mary Basin Technical Advisory Panel, 2005). Similarly downstream of the dam the expected effects of sedimentation during construction, reduced flows, channel contraction, decrease in large woody debris will all have a detrimental affect on the habitat requirements of the Mary River cod.

Dissolved oxygen depletion within the impoundment area due to the processes of stratification (deeper, cooler waters, with little dissolved oxygen turning over when surface waters heat up) and excessive algal and aquatic weed growth will also effect any surviving Mary River cod populations within the impounded area.

If water releases from the proposed dam are not managed correctly and multi-levelled releases are not incorporated into dam operations there will be impacts on the Mary River cod through thermal pollution and decreased dissolved oxygen levels. Water is often released from the bottom of a dam, where the water has a much lower temperature, and lower dissolved oxygen levels. Many studies have shown that cold water releases can be detrimental to many aquatic species spawning and life cycles (such as the Mary River Cod and Queensland Lungfish) and disrupt the availability of food throughout the food chain.

The Mary River cod may also be threatened by a large reduction in food sources due to the effects of releasing water from the impoundment during normally low flow periods, causing flushing of the natural epiphytic algae and phytoplankton that are an essential component of the food chain and important for juvenile Mary River Cod (Kennard, 2003). Downstream of the dam changes in stream flow processes may result in the loss of riffles that are very important breeding areas and habitat for many species of macro invertebrates, a very important food source for the Mary River cod.

It is well documented that an impounded dam environment is far more suited to many exotic fish species, such as Carp and Talapia (REF). The Mary River is one of the few remaining rivers in South East Queensland without an infestation of large exotic fish. If exotic fish species entered the proposed dam, they could be expected to proliferate in a short period of time and overwhelm any remaining native fish species, such as the Mary River Cod.

The proposed action will:

- fragment an existing population into two or more populations eg no evidence of *Maccullochella peelii mariensis* (Mary river cod) using fishways
- adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species; eg environmental flows in the Mary WRP insufficient to mitigate the affects on aquatic species abundance, biodiversity and loss of riparian habitat.

- disrupt the breeding cycle of a population; eg. Temperatures in spring are critical triggers for spawning. Water temperatures will be significantly changed below the dam and in the dam itself and interfere with the recovery of the species e.g. gene pool segregation

Lungfish

Australian Lungfish is listed as vulnerable under the EPBC Act and as a species of scientific interest under the NCA. The Australian Lungfish is restricted in its distribution, occurring naturally in the Burnett and Mary River systems. The Australian Lungfish is protected from fishing under the *Fisheries Act 1994*. The species is also listed on Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

The *Neoceratodus fosteri* (Australian lungfish) is a much older species than any of the other living lobe-finned fish. It was alive as it is today during the Cretaceous, along with the now extinct dinosaurs. *Neoceratodus fosteri* (Australian Lungfish) have an absolute requirement for shallow, slow-flowing, densely-vegetated riffles as spawning and nursery habitat. These environmental features are characteristic of both the Burnett and the Mary where it only occurs but it is exactly these features that are lost entirely by permanent flooding resulting from the construction of dam walls. The main channel of the Mary River will be inundated for a length of approximately 36.5 km at Stage 1 and 50.7 km at Stage 2. This section of the river is critically important for the spawning due to its pool/riffle habitat and aquatic plants to which the eggs are adhered.

Reduced flows downstream of the dam wall will also result in destruction of spawning and nursery sites as has occurred with impoundments recently constructed on the Burnett River. QDPI report by Brooks and Kind (2002) points out that increased pressure for spawning on a severely reduced number of spawning sites leads to a very much decreased success of recruitment to the population.

There is to date no scientifically researched data forthcoming from the State Government substantiating the effective application of the Paradise Dam fishway, in mitigating lungfish passage. Further there is also no data available which shows that the agreed mitigation measures for both lungfish and *Eelseya* sp, under the bilateral assessment process for Paradise Dam have been effective. To date no spawning habitat has been created for these species within the impoundments for both Paradise Dam or the Ned Churchward Weir (QEPA : Final Report : Operation of the Ned Churchward Wier between 1998-2005).

This is clear evidence that the State Government has a questionable past environmental record for successful and demonstrated application of environmental duty of care for species which are Matters of National Environmental Significance, and have been identified as requiring effective mitigation under the bilateral assessment process.

A fishway only addresses one of the provisions of the Act for *Neoceratodus fosteri* (Australian lungfish), ie. the impediment to natural migration caused by construction of the dam wall. The other requirement of the Act is that no significant impact is made on *Neoceratodus fosteri* (Australian lungfish) spawning and nursery habitat areas.

Although lungfish populations survive in impoundments, there is no evidence to support that they breed successfully in them. Lungfish populations in impoundments outside the Burnett and Mary catchments (e.g. Lake Samsonvale, Lake Wivenhoe and Enoggera Reservoir) are frequently used as examples of successful lungfish breeding in impounded waters. However Brooks and Kind (2002) found after closer examination of the available evidence, that these

claims may be misleading. Lungfish populations in these areas are poorly documented and have never been subject to rigorous survey. With the exception of Enoggera Reservoir, lungfish records from these impoundments have invariably been mature adults. While limited periodic recruitment of lungfish was previously evident in Enoggera Reservoir, there has been no evidence of spawning or recruitment since the control of water hyacinth commenced in 1974 (Kemp 1986). Water hyacinth is a declared pest plant and, therefore, is not suitable as an alternative spawning medium for lungfish in the Burnett or Mary Rivers. In addition, while successful lungfish recruitment has been recorded in the Brisbane River downstream of Wivenhoe Dam, there are currently no confirmed records of juvenile lungfish collected from within the impoundment. Relocation of a species to another catchment system should not be used as a mitigation solution or recovery plan due to intrinsic problems that can arise from a limited gene pool base and risk of problems associated with introducing a new species.

In addition, poor water quality especially low DO levels will put the surviving population in the inundation area at risk of being involved in a major fishkill event and affect its food supply that includes frogs, tadpoles, small fishes, snails, shrimp, earthworms and plant material.

All of the following impacts will occur:

- Reduced recruitment to critical levels (raising 'vulnerable' status on EPBC Act to critically endangered)
- which will lead to a long-term decrease in the size of the population,
- reduce the area of occupancy of the species,
- fragment an existing population into two or more populations,
- adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species,
- disrupt the breeding cycle of a population,
- modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline and
- prevent the recovery of the species.

Mary River Turtle

The Mary River Turtle's distribution is also limited to the Mary River and was only formally described in 1994. It has been recorded from Kenilworth south of the proposed project area through to the tidal reaches upstream from the saltwater barrage at Tiaro. Populations are known to occur in major tributaries and the main stream of the Mary River including Yabba Creek (Cann 1998, Cogger et al. 1993, Flakus 2002). A negative impact on the habitat of the species in the Mary River Catchment may negatively affect the population of the species. The turtle is listed as endangered under the EPBC Act.

The Mary river turtle lays its eggs on sandbanks during the spring period after sufficient rains and often returns to the same nesting sites. There are a limited number of breeding turtles in the lower reaches (estimated at 100). The population size has crashed by more than 50% since the 1960s/1970s. Surveys have found few immature turtles. Egg predation, habitat loss and changes to the riparian zones are thought to be the main causes of decline. Since 2001 Tiaro & District Landcare Group in partnership with Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service have been protecting nests in order to increase the survival of *Elusor macrurus* (Mary River Turtle) hatchlings. This is a long-term project and will take many seasons before survey work can be undertaken to assess impacts on populations.

The proposed pondage area would have a lot less oxygen and it will also be cooler because it's deeper. If this proposed action goes ahead it will completely inundate >30% of the Mary

River turtle banks and it's habitat. Turtles need riffle zones, which are shallow rocky areas that run into big pools keeping water oxygen levels high. Research on turtle performance in cooler and hotter temperatures found that they didn't adapt well to any temperature.

Significant impacts are likely on sandbank nesting sites downstream due to loss of sediment trapped back in the dam and increased bed scouring below the dam and may affect as much as 64% of nesting bank sites and habitat. Only 6% of the nesting banks and habitat would be secure upstream of the proposed dam to Kenilworth. We urge the Minister to apply the precautionary principle, particularly as *Elusor macrurus* (Mary River turtle) as it is only known to occur in the Mary River

The State Government announced mid 2006 that it will provide an additional \$50 000 a year for the next five years for the White faced Snapping Turtle (*Elseya albagula*) turtle hatchery at the Paradise Dam on the Burnett River, Bundaberg. The Government has announced previously that the turtle population of the Mary River, threatened by the proposed Traveston Dam, will be sustained by a similar turtle hatchery. What the Premier has not disclosed to the public is the failure of the Paradise Dam hatchery to produce a significant number of hatchlings. The hatchery was not functional until earlier this year and its success at producing turtles for release is yet to be determined. It was estimated that thousands of hatchlings were expected to be released; however, the Hon. Anna Bligh announced on 19 Nov 2006 that one clutch had been released and expect 11 clutches to be released this year from the Paradise Dam hatchery.

Five years worth of funding is insignificant in proving whether this approach will work to conserve and rehabilitate turtle populations especially with regard to the 20-25 year generational cycle of the turtle. For example, no one has looked at the survivorship of hatchlings or young turtles in the river. To be successful hatcheries must do more than release turtles into the wild. For a hatchery program to work effectively there must be suitable riverine habitat to release hatchlings into. *Elusor macrurus* has strong nesting site fidelity and it is unknown whether they will nest in replacement man made nesting banks.

With the building of dams comes a permanent change in the turtles' habitat through fluctuations in water levels and water flows both in the ponded area of the dam and downstream areas. The building of dam walls effectively divides the population, possibly causing a loss of diversity. Additionally, "traditional" nesting banks, correctly oxygenated water and food sources are destroyed. All the following impacts would occur:

- a long-term decrease in the size of a population;
- reduction in the area of occupancy of the species; eg nesting sites would be inundated.
- fragmentation of an existing population into two or more populations; eg Turtles don't use fish ladders.
- degradation of habitat critical to the survival of a species; eg loss of sand from the river system would affect downstream nesting banks.
- disruption of the breeding cycle of a population; eg limited sand for nesting banks
- modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline; about 30% inundated, 64% at risk, 6% protected for habitat and sand nesting banks.
- introduction of disease that may cause the species to decline; eg turtle hatchery not a mitigation success at Paradise and
- interference with the recovery of the species. eg limited number of breeding pairs in the catchment. about 100 at Tiaro nesting bank
- reduction in population due to fatal injuries from crashing over the 30m high dam wall during flood events

Mixophyes iteratus (Giant Barred Frog) Endangered:

The majority of known populations of *Mixophyes iteratus* in the Mary River catchment are known from lowland tributaries of the Mary River. Here they inhabit stretches of creek that are characterised by slow pools and stable creek banks with under-cuts for egg laying. Healthy riparian vegetation is essential for providing leaf litter, bank stability and detritus for tadpoles. Canopy closure is normally a feature of this frog's habitat as it provides cool temperatures, cover and abundant leaf-litter.

Significant populations have been recorded in recent years at Belli, Blackfellow, Happy Jack and Coonoongibber Creeks within the Traveston Dam footprint. These records contribute significantly to the core lowland populations of *Mixophyes iteratus* and constitute the lower limit of the frog's altitudinal range and also the North-easterly limit of its range (one record is known from the Burrum River catchment above Lenthalls Dam about 150 km to the north; its connectivity with southern populations is unknown but unlikely).

Other tributaries within the inundation area are currently being surveyed. Some of these; Kandanga and Yabba Creeks, are expected to contain populations of *Mixophyes iteratus*.

Construction of Traveston Dam will likely have significant impacts on the habitat and populations of *Mixophyes iteratus* by:

- Decreasing breeding areas
- Decreasing habitat areas for occupancy
- Decreasing population levels and
- Isolating the population leading to reduced genetic integrity and possible genetic depression

Other Turtles

There is an undescribed turtle *Elseya* sp .aff. *dentata* found in the Fitzroy, Burnett and Mary catchments. There are also at least five other freshwater turtle species present in the Mary River.

Other Fauna

Other fauna of interest that would be expected in the project area include the Platypus (*Ornithorynchus anatinus*). Cooloola Shire has collated sightings of Platypus upstream and downstream of the project area. Platypus may be found in a wide variety of habitats ranging from large riverine pools to fast flowing riffles (Werren and Arthington, 2003). The water rat is likely to occur in many streams in the project area.

Dasyurus maculatus (Spotted tail Quoll):

There is anecdotal evidence that there is a population of *Dasyurus maculatus* (Spotted tail Quoll) within or adjacent to the proposed inundation area.. Recent experiences in the Northern Territory show that when cane toads arrive in an area, they quickly send predator populations spiralling to extinction. Quolls, goannas and other predators try to eat toads and die from their poison. Researchers have studied what happens to *Dasyurus maculatus* (Spotted tail Quoll) when cane toads first arrive and have found that most die, and local populations become extinct. A shallow dam as proposed will have favourable conditions for cane toads to proliferate and it is likely the following significant impacts will occur:

- lead to a long-term decrease in the size of a population through poisoning;
- reduce the area of occupancy of the species;
- fragment an existing population into two or more populations – unclear of extent of population.

- adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species;
- disrupt the breeding cycle of a population;
- modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline; and
- interfere with the recovery of the species

General Impacts of Dams

- The negative environmental and economic impacts for the Mary River catchment and downstream receiving waters in the Great Sandy World Heritage Area are significant.
- Large scale water infrastructure will not only permanently affect the Mary River catchment but will degrade the fisheries of the Great Sandy World Heritage Area and will impact on the Great Sandy Straits Declared Ramsar wetland.
- There will also be significant impacts on aquatic and terrestrial animals that live along the Mary River.
- Reduced flows will affect the Mary River Cod (pictured) and Lungfish spawning areas, and the site at Traveston will destroy key primary habitat of the Mary River Cod, the Mary River Turtle and the Australian Lungfish.
-

Upstream Effects: -

Fish Passage:

- Although the knowledge and technology now exists to build suitable “fish transfer devices”, it is widely acknowledged that they are very hard to construct for dams with high dam walls (such as proposed at Traveston). It is also recognised that, even with a fish transfer device, fish passage movement, genetic distribution and migration for spawning will never be returned to its natural state after the construction of a dam. This impediment could severely impact on the Mary River Cod, Queensland Lungfish and the Mary River Turtle.

Flooding of Existing Habitat:

- The proposed dam site contains known habitat for the nationally endangered Mary River Cod, Queensland Lungfish and Mary River Turtle. Although these species are known to survive within impounded areas, these species cannot breed in these impounded areas. The Mary River Cod relies on deep, cool, shaded pools containing large woody debris (snags) for it to successfully breed. The Traveston dam will flood several of these known habitats on the Mary River and will not provide any similar habitat once completed. The Queensland Lungfish requires shallow flowing riffles containing aquatic plants to lay its eggs on. Again these habitats will be flooded by the dam and will not exist within the new dam. The Mary River Turtle utilises only sandy river banks to lay its eggs. The proposed dam will flood several known locations of this rare habitat. It is also believed that a process known to occur in dams, known as stratification (where deep, cooler waters, with little dissolved oxygen turn over when surface waters heat up) will also have dire effects on any Mary River Cod or Queensland Lungfish that may survive with the dammed area.

Aquatic Weed and Algal Growth:

- The Traveston dam site will create a large expanse of relatively shallow water, where the lack of flow, increased water temperature and stratification will create optimal growing conditions for aquatic weeds and algae. Excessive aquatic weed and algal growth create very unfavourable conditions for aquatic life (such as the Mary Cod, Lungfish and Mary River Turtle) by severely depleting the dissolved oxygen levels within the water. There are many sources of aquatic weeds already in the Mary Catchment (for example Cabomba, a weed of national significance, in nearby Lake McDonald) that will be very easily spread to the proposed dam. Once in the dam

these aquatic weeds and associated problems will be very easily transported downstream.

Exotic Fish Species:

- It is well documented that an impounded dam environment is far more suited to many exotic fish species, the best example being the Carp. If exotic fish species entered the proposed dam, they would likely soon out compete any remaining native fish species (such as the Mary River Cod and Queensland Lungfish). There would also be a high risk of these species spreading both up and downstream of the proposed impounded area.

Downstream Effects: -

Reduction in Flow:

- There are studies that have directly linked the decline in the health and productivity of fish species to a reduction in flow volumes. Reduced flows would negatively effect populations of the Mary River Cod and Queensland Lungfish and other native aquatic species.

Loss of Riffles and Pools:

- The combined effect the proposed dam will have of reduced mean annual flow and the loss of channel forming high flows will dramatically change the shape of the Mary River downstream of the dam. The major impact expected from the change in flows will be the loss of the riffles (shallow water rapids) and pools along the Mary River. Riffles and pools are essential habitat for the Mary River Cod and Queensland Lungfish, with the Cod relying on deep shaded pools to breed and spawn in and the Lungfish needing riffles with aquatic plants to lay their eggs on. Riffles also provide the river with dissolved oxygen through aeration of the water. A loss of riffles will mean a reduction in the dissolved oxygen levels directly affecting the Mary River Cod, Queensland Lungfish and Mary River Turtle. Riffles are also very important breeding areas and habitat for many species of macroinvertebrates (waterbugs), which are a very important food source for the Mary River Cod, Queensland Lungfish and Mary River Turtle.

Channel Contraction:

- The lack of high flows that will result from the proposed dam, will also result in channel contraction and bed scouring downstream of the dam. As the channel contracts and the bed deepens, vegetation will likely begin to encroach further towards the river. The Mary River Turtle uses the sandy banks of the Mary River to lay its eggs and, as the vegetation encroaches into the contracting river channel, these important sandy banks will be lost to the Mary River turtle, making reproduction impossible.

Loss of Floodplain Connectivity:

- The decrease in high flows downstream of the proposed dam will mean fewer events where the floodwaters breach the high banks of the Mary River. The breaching of these high banks is very important to many aquatic species that rely on an interaction between the river waters and the water of off stream wetlands.

Loss of Epiphytic Algae and Phytoplankton:

- The changes in flow caused by the proposed dam, especially release of water during normally low flow periods, will cause flushing of the natural epiphytic algae and phytoplankton that is essential food sources of juvenile Mary River Cod and Queensland Lungfish.

Sedimentation During Construction:

- The construction of the proposed dam will undoubtedly cause a large increase in sediment entering the Mary River. This will increase the river's turbidity downstream of the proposed dam site, and directly affect the health of the Mary River Cod,

Queensland Lungfish and Mary River Turtle, through decreased water quality and infilling of habitat pools.

Decrease in Large Woody Debris:

- The proposed dam will create a barrier to the transport of large woody debris downstream of the dam. Large woody debris is essential for the spawning of the Mary River Cod.

Release of Cold Water:

- If water releases from the proposed dam are not managed correctly and multi-levelled releases are not incorporated into dam operations there will be impacts on the Mary Cod, Queensland Lungfish and Mary River Turtle through thermal pollution. Water is normally released from the bottom of a dam, where the water has a much lower temperature. Many studies have shown that cold water releases can be detrimental to many aquatic species spawning and life cycles (such as the Mary River Cod and Queensland Lungfish) and disrupt the availability of food throughout the food chain

Decreased Riparian Seed Dispersal:

- The reduction in flows caused by the proposed dam may also decrease the natural ability of the Mary River to disperse very important creek-side (riparian) tree species (such as the Weeping Lilly Pilly). These tree species are essential in maintaining cool water temperatures and providing large woody debris essential habitat elements for the Mary River Cod.

Tributary Channel Incision:

- It is probable that the decreased flows caused by the proposed dam will cause channel incision (or stream bed erosion) as the normal flow of the tributaries enter the lower flows of the Mary River. Channel incision of the tributaries entering the Mary River will alter the habitats of the Mary River Cod, Mary River Turtle and Queensland Lungfish within these tributaries.

Increased Aquatic Weeds and Algal Growth:

- The low flows created by the proposed dams will create far more favourable conditions for aquatic weeds and algal growth. As already mentioned, excessive aquatic weeds and algal growth create very unfavourable conditions for aquatic life (such as the Mary Cod, Lungfish and Mary River Turtle) by severely depleting the dissolved oxygen levels within the water. With a very high likelihood that aquatic weeds and algal growth will become a problem in the impounded water above the dam wall, it is likely that the problems will be transferred downstream.

Fish Mortality from Spillway:

- There are many reported cases of fish species dying from dropping over dam overflows. The Mary River Cod and Queensland Lungfish are very susceptible to this threat.

Therefore I urge you to use the powers of the EPBC act to call in the proposed Traveston Dam for the issues mentioned above.

Yours sincerely,

Scott Alderson
Campaigner



Review of Water Supply-Demand Options for South East Queensland

Final Report

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This independent Review aims to assess the Queensland Government's proposed strategy for meeting the long-term water supply-demand balance for South East Queensland, of which the Traveston Crossing scheme is a major and controversial component. The Review, conducted by a team from the Institute for Sustainable Futures at the University of Technology, Sydney and Cardno, concludes that a diverse portfolio of options can ensure supply security for South East Queensland (SEQ) well into the future, certainly to 2050. Such options include: increasing water supply availability (supply-side options); decreasing the demand for water (demand-side options); and meeting water supply needs during deep droughts (drought response options).

A number of the elements of such a portfolio are already being implemented as part of the current Queensland Government strategy. With the extension and addition of low unit cost demand-side options and supply-side drought response 'readiness' options, a clear conclusion of this Study is that the proposed dam at Traveston Crossing on the Mary River is neither necessary nor desirable as a part of the portfolio for ensuring supply security to 2050. The increase in supply from this proposed dam will not assist in the short-term during the current severe drought in which water (from savings and supply) is needed over the next two to three years. Planned completion of the Traveston Crossing Dam Stage 1 is in 2012. Additional time will be needed for the Dam to fill, which could take an additional two years, resulting in the yield from this source only potentially being available in 2014. Neither is the Traveston Crossing scheme needed for supply-demand balance in the longer term with the suite of other more appropriate drought response measures being implemented by the Queensland Government and strategy being proposed as part of this Study. The proposed dam at Traveston Crossing on the Mary River represents a high total cost, high unit cost, high risk and high environmental and social impact option. Hence using key decision-making criteria the Traveston Crossing scheme should not be considered for implementation and human and financial resources currently allocated to this project should be re-allocated to dealing with the response to the current drought.

The objective of urban water planning is to ensure that supply availability (system yield) meets the demand for the planning period at the least economic, environmental and social cost. In the current planning for the SEQ system, estimates of system yield for SEQ have been significantly reduced from 635 GL/a to 450 GL/a. This is primarily as a result of recent changes in the way system yield is calculated and the assumptions regarding the level of restrictions (frequency, depth, duration) that are deemed acceptable by the community. The assumptions now being used are very conservative, and differ significantly from standards that apply in comparable cities. In addition there is no clear evidence that these changes have been based on any surveys or community engagement processes to determine what is deemed acceptable to the community.

The projections of business-as-usual (or reference case) water demand assume a residential demand (not including non residential and non revenue water) of 300 litres per capita per day for a period extending to 2050. Climate, lot size and the proportion of single detached households compared to flats and units and the associated number of occupants play a major role in how much water is used per person and per household. The figure of 300 litres per capita per day being used for projections is significantly higher than the demand in comparable eastern seaboard capital cities. This projection being used to forecast to 2050 is therefore likely to be a significant overestimate, as it does not adequately take into consideration expected downward pressure on water demand due to changes in land use (urban consolidation and the shift to more flats and units with the associated reduction in lawn and garden area) and the improving efficiency of water using equipment such as dual flush toilets and washing machines.

The Queensland Government estimate of the supply-demand gap is considered to be extreme and unjustified. The combination of these projections of reduced yield and elevated demand has implications for the supply-demand balance in 2050 of several hundred billion litres per year (GL/a). This difference in the supply-demand balance estimate is significantly greater than the yield of the proposed dam at Traveston Crossing on the Mary River. Nonetheless, for the analysis in this Study,

we have used the yield and demand projections as stated in SEQ planning documents to enable direct comparison with publicly available Queensland Government data.

The suite of supply and demand-side options currently being implemented by the Queensland Government to address the current drought, not including a dam at Traveston Crossing on the Mary River will mean that the long-term supply-demand balance will be met until around 2030, even using these extreme projections of yield and demand. These options range from groundwater, source renewal, desalination and demand management to reuse.

To meet the supply-demand balance beyond 2030, a diverse range of additional supply and demand-side options have been assessed, in order to develop a robust strategy. The package of options with the lowest economic, environmental and social cost, which is sufficient to meet the assumed supply-demand balance to 2050, comprises a diverse suite of extended and new demand management options. The most effective option, based on current experience in many places around Australia, including Pimpama Coomera on the Gold Coast, focus on improving the efficiency of water use and increasing recycling and rainwater capture in new developments. New developments are driving the increase in demand, so a strategy which directs attention towards this growth sector, is likely to be most effective at curbing the upward pressure on demand. Other options include water efficiency standards for water using appliances and fixtures, extending the existing rebate, retrofit and business water saving programs and outdoor water efficiency programs.

With the implementation of these demand-side options, in addition to the existing suite of supply-side and demand-side options proposed by the Queensland Government, there will be no need for a dam at Traveston Crossing on the Mary River, or other additional supply infrastructure, in order to meet the supply-demand balance over the period to 2050. Depending on how such demand-side options are implemented this suite of options has the potential to save over 180 GL/a of water by 2050 at an average unit cost of \$1.15 /kL. For comparison, the Traveston Crossing scheme will supply approximately 150 GL/a by 2050 at a unit cost of approximately \$3.00 /kL, which is likely to increase further as the cost estimates for this scheme are refined. Further, the proposed strategy will reduce greenhouse gas emissions relative to the Traveston Crossing scheme by approximately 1,000,000 tonnes per year.

In the event of a deep drought worse than the current drought (which is itself the worst on record for the Wivenhoe-Somerset system) or a worsening of the current drought, 'readiness' options, which are non rainfall dependent, offer a much lower risk and lower unit cost alternative to the Traveston Crossing scheme. The idea of readiness options is that the planning, design, land acquisition and approvals are all obtained. However, the construction is triggered only in the event of a deep and prolonged drought, thus offering effective insurance against a low probability event and the ability to adaptively respond to changed circumstances. The risk-weighted cost of such a strategy is a fraction of the cost of pre-emptively building new supply options, especially such a high cost, high-risk alternative as the proposed dam at Traveston Crossing on the Mary River. Suitable candidates for such a readiness strategy include indirect potable reuse in a range of locations, followed by scaleable desalination capacity at Bribie Island. Indirect potable reuse is preferable in terms of the greenhouse gas emission intensity and other environmental benefits, but is dependent on suitable community engagement processes. Indirect potable reuse was to be the subject of a plebiscite in March 2007. However, the plebiscite was cancelled as this report was being finalised and indirect potable reuse will now be used to assist in the current drought strategy as part of the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme.

This Study outlines a robust strategy for meeting the supply-demand balance within the planning horizon of 2050, without needing to construct a dam at Traveston Crossing on the Mary River. This is a strategy that has significantly lower costs, reduced greenhouse gas emissions and reduced environmental and social impact. It also offers an adaptive approach to changing circumstances in terms of yield and demand. This Study also makes a series of recommendations to improve the transparency and level of community engagement in water planning in SEQ.

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APPENDICES

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APPENDIX B NEW STUDY PROPOSED OPTIONS – FACT SHEETS

APPENDIX C CALCULATION OF UNIT COST

ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
BWEP	Business Water Efficiency Program
CARL	current annual real losses
DLGP	Queensland Department of Local Government and Planning
DNRM	Queensland Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Water (now DNRW)
DNRW	Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Water
EPA	Queensland Environmental Protection Agency
EPBC Act	Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)
FSL	full supply level
HNFY	historical no failure yield
GHG	greenhouse gas
GL/a	gigalitres per annum (billion litres per annum)
IPR	Indirect Potable Reuse
IROL	Interim Resource Operations Licence
IRP	Integrated Resource Planning
IWA	International Water Association
kL/a	kilolitres per annum (thousand litres = 1 cubic metre)
kL/hh/a	kilolitres per household per annum
kWh	kilowatt hours of electricity use
LCD	litres of water used per capita per day
LGA	Local Government Area
LOS	Levels of Service
ML/a	megalitres per annum (million litres per annum)
OESR	Queensland Office of Economic and Social Research
OUM	Queensland Office of Urban Management
PIFU	Queensland Population Information Forecasting Unit
QDC	Queensland Development Code
Qld	Queensland
QWC	Queensland Water Commission
SEQ	South East Queensland
SEQRWSS	South East Queensland Regional Water Supply Strategy
UARL	unavoidable annual real losses
WRP	Water Resource Plan
WSAA	Water Services Association of Australia

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

South East Queensland (SEQ) is one of the fastest growing areas in Australia. In response to growth, the Queensland (Qld) Government set up the SEQ Regional Water Supply Strategy (SEQRWSS) to focus on long-term water planning of the SEQ area over the next 50 years. A significant number of investigations have recently been conducted by the SEQRWSS including water demand forecasting, assessment of the yield from current supply sources and investigation into both demand and supply-side options to meet the future anticipated supply-demand gap.

The recent drought in SEQ has forced the Qld Government to turn its attention not only to long-term planning but to also consider short-term emergency drought response measures. Following the development of the drought strategy in 2005 (SEQWater, 2005) emergency legislation was passed in 2006 in the form of the Water Amendment Regulation No. 6. The purpose of this legislation is to facilitate implementation of a number of drought response measures in the Government's drought strategy. One option – the Traveston Crossing scheme Stage 1 – identified as a potential medium to long-term option (DNRW, 2006), but not originally included in the documented drought strategy, has now been included as a drought response measure in the Water Amendment Regulation.

Hence the Qld Government has identified that the Traveston Crossing scheme will be constructed as a major supply source for the SEQ region. The Traveston Crossing scheme aims to supply 150,000 ML/annum (prudent yield) once fully developed. The scheme is currently still under detailed investigation. From available information Stage 1 is planned for completion in 2012 and will supply 70,000 ML/a. With the raising of Borumba Dam on a tributary of the Mary River (known as Borumba Stage 3) in 2025 a further 40,000 ML/a of prudent yield will be available. The remaining 40,000 ML/a prudent yield is planned for 2042 with a significant portion of the land acquisition, dam wall construction, road modifications and pipeline connections included as part of Stage 1.

The Traveston Crossing scheme represents a major component of what the Qld Government have developed as their drought response and medium to long-term water planning strategies.

1.2 This Study

The Mary River Council of Mayors represents a community of half a million people to the north of the SEQ region. Due to:

- the direct and significant impact of the Traveston Crossing scheme on their area and community;
- the perceived deficiency in community consultation and the decision-making processes; and
- concerns that the Traveston Crossing scheme is inappropriate from economic, social, environmental and risk perspectives,

the Mary River Council of Mayors has commissioned an independent review of supply and demand-side options for the SEQ region.

This Study “*Review of Water Supply-Demand Options for South East Queensland*” (the Study) has been undertaken by the Institute for Sustainable Futures (ISF), part of the University of Technology, Sydney, and Cardno. Both organisations are well respected for their work in the water industry including ISF's recent work with the NSW Cabinet Office on the “*Review of the Metropolitan Water Plan*” for Sydney (White et al, 2006), which uses a similar approach to the one used for this Study.

The Study provides an overarching independent review of the supply-demand balance over the planning horizon, using the most recently available information¹. The review focuses on the medium to long-term supply-demand balance and aims to determine what portfolio of options are most appropriate from economic and social, environmental and risk perspectives. It takes into consideration the significant drought response measures already being implemented by the Qld Government and how the SEQ options will benefit the short, medium and long-term. During the review process the Study team has highlighted where there are opportunities to refine the analysis already undertaken and identified alternative options that could be implemented to meet the needs of the SEQ community.

The Mary River Council of Mayors believes that alternatives to the construction of the Traveston Crossing scheme are available and preferable. These alternatives will not only meet the water needs of SEQ but also be advantageous when the full costs (and where possible benefits) are considered. This will give the Qld Government the opportunity of providing the Qld community affected by this important decision with a better outcome (economically, socially and environmentally and from a risk perspective).

1.3 Approach

The Study team have reviewed and used data and information from publicly available reports. During the finalisation of this Study additional information has been released. Where possible such information has been incorporated. A significant number of additional reports have been undertaken by and for various Qld Government departments, which contain more detailed data/information and updates on the costs and yields of various options and the projected supply-demand balance. The Study team have requested these key documents from both the Department of Natural Resources and Water (DNRW) and the Qld Water Commission (QWC).

Unfortunately these reports have not been made available to the Study team. Hence the most recent publicly available information has been used to inform the Study team and for analysis purposes. This information has been combined with the professional knowledge of the Study team and of individuals involved in various aspects of water planning in SEQ.

Recommendation 1.1

Whilst it is acknowledged that in some cases water planning studies being undertaken in the SEQ region may contain information that is commercially sensitive, it is recommended that reports be structured in a way that allows analysis undertaken on behalf of the community of Queensland to be made publicly available as part of a transparent decision making process.

The approach used by the Study team as part of the review process is based on the principles of integrated resource planning (IRP) which is considered best practice internationally. The key principles of IRP include (Turner et al, 2007):

Water service provision – This principle recognises that water is a derived demand, and that customers require the service that water provides (e.g. clean clothes, sanitation, landscapes) rather than the water itself. This means that if the same level of service can be provided with differently sourced water, or through improved efficiency, then a kilolitre of water saved per year is equivalent to a kilolitre of water supplied per year.

¹ The majority of this Study was undertaken at the end of 2006. Additional information released in January 2007 has been added where possible during the finalisation of the Study report.

Detailed demand forecasting – Disaggregation of demand into end uses of water such as toilets, showers and outdoor use enables detailed demand forecasting but also the determination of the water conservation potential, which is the potential amount of water that can be saved from that end use.

Consideration of a broad range of options that can meet the water service needs - For water resources, this means that water efficiency, source substitution, reuse and supply options are all considered.

Comparison of options using a common metric, boundary and assumptions - In this way the economic analysis ensures that the water service provider supplies services at the lowest cost to society, considering the costs and benefits to all stakeholders including the water utility, customer and government. A common metric, such as the unit cost or net present value, can be used for comparison of options or portfolios of options. A common boundary for analysis (what is included and what is not) means decision-makers can consider benefits and externalities such as energy savings, greenhouse gases, social, environmental and risk issues for all options equally using the same basic assumptions including discount rate and timeframe.

A participatory process – This principle recognises that water service provision interacts with many other facets of natural resource management, urban development and citizen preferences. Hence the involvement of a diverse group of stakeholders, and strong community engagement at appropriate points of the planning process will be necessary to identify and respond to multiple needs and objectives and accommodate different values.

Adaptive management – Emphasis on iteration both within the IRP process and repeating the steps of the IRP process at regular intervals over time assists in providing outcomes and solutions to planning needs that can be modified over time. In this way short-term needs are addressed, at the same time as ensuring movement towards desirable long-term outcomes.

As part of the review process these principles have been used to assist in determining potential opportunities in how the current Qld Government approach to water planning could be improved.

The Study team have undertaken analysis and limited modelling within the feasible scope of the Study. The figures such as yield and costs provide indicative figures from available information and the knowledge and experience of the Study team. This analysis therefore provides a broad assessment of the key issues using the principles of IRP. It aims to provide this in one document for the community of SEQ affected by the construction of the dam at Traveston Crossing on the Mary River, the broader community of SEQ who will use and need to pay for augmentation of the current water supply system and decision makers alike that are grappling with large volumes of information from diverse sources.

1.4 Report Structure

- Section 2 provides an overview of the study area looking at population, water supplies and water demand.
- Section 3 reviews the SEQ proposed demand and supply-side options.
- Section 4 presents an alternative preferred strategy proposed by the study team.
- Appendices A and B provide fact sheets for each of the SEQ proposed options and new study proposed options. Each fact sheet describes costs and anticipated yields of each option as well as other key information.
- Appendix C provides further details on the calculation of unit cost.

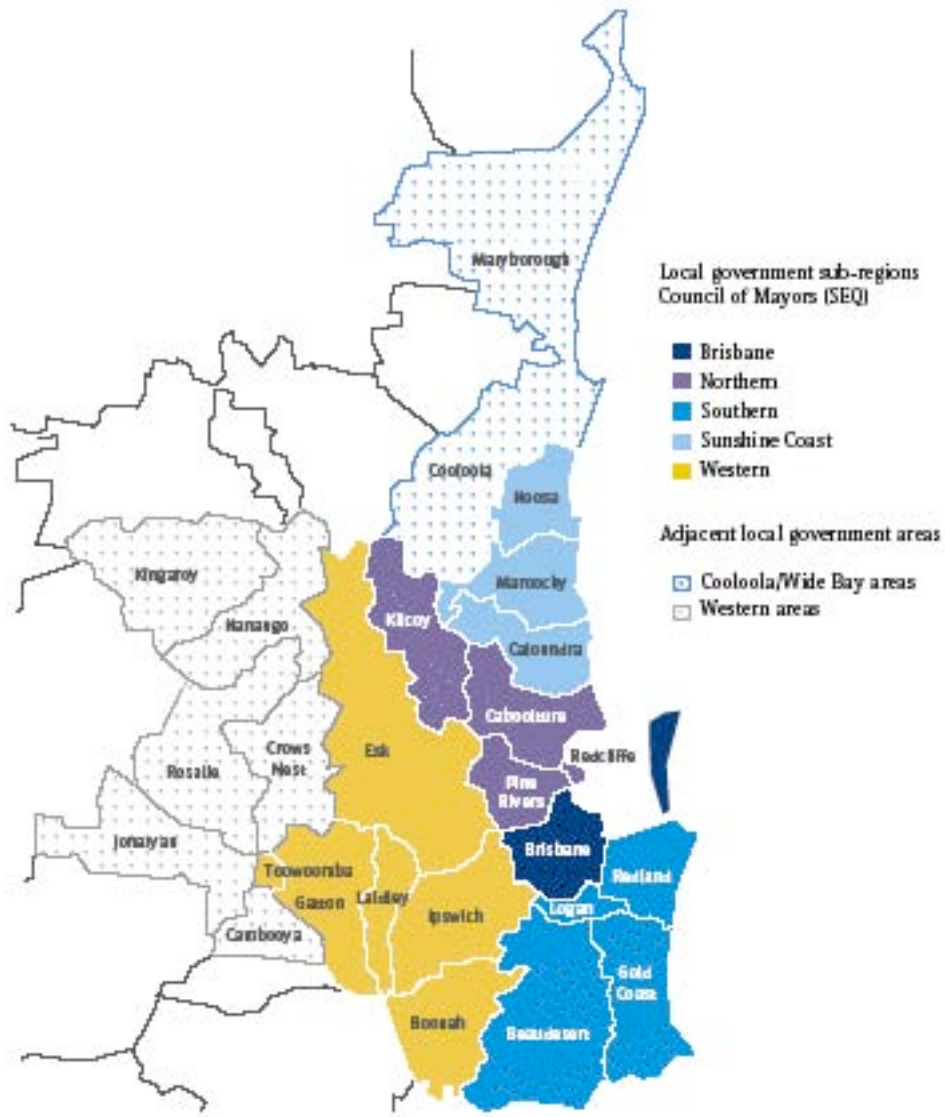
The executive summary and key findings and recommendations are provided at the front of the report.

2 THE STUDY AREA

2.1 Boundary of analysis

The analysis undertaken for this Study in terms of both supply and demand focuses predominantly on the 18 SEQ Local Government Areas (LGAs) identified in Figure 2-1. Other adjacent areas such as Cooloolo (affected by the proposed Traveston Crossing scheme) have been incorporated where necessary.

Figure 2-1 Study area



Source – DNRM, 2005

2.2 SEQ demographics

2.2.1 Current and projected population

During the preparation of various reports as part of the SEQRWSS, population projections have changed significantly. The Dept of Local Government and Planning (DLGP) and associated Population Information and Forecasting Unit (PIFU) provide these population projections at an LGA level to 2026 and at the state level between 2026 and 2050. Medium series population projections by LGA to 2026 are shown in Table 2-1.

Brisbane City and Gold Coast alone represent over 50% of the population in both 2001 and 2026.

Table 2-1 PIFU 2006 population projections by LGA (medium series)

LGA	2001	2026
Beaudesert Shire	53,977	133,149
Boonah Shire	8,387	10,125
Brisbane City	896,649	1,164,095
Caboolture Shire	114,338	210,231
Caloundra City	76,207	165,883
Esk Shire	14,773	19,652
Gatton Shire	15,579	21,967
Gold Coast City	423,719	762,523
Ipswich City	126,663	347,453
Kilcoy Shire	3,312	4,619
Laidley Shire	13,089	25,069
Logan City	167,507	210,233
Maroochy Shire	127,202	249,412
Noosa Shire	43,758	58,432
Pine Rivers Shire	122,303	215,700
Redcliffe City	49,891	62,673
Redland Shire	117,252	182,678
Toowoomba City	90,027	115,587

Source – PIFU 2006

The 2003, 2005 and 2006 population projections have been used in various reports, which have subsequently been used to project water demand. The latest projections used in publicly available SEQRWSS reports are based on PIFU 2006 projections (DNRW, 2006). The difference between 2005 and 2006 projections are shown in Table 2-2. The difference between the 2003, 2005 and latest 2006 PIFU projections are also shown in Figure 2-1. The latest PIFU population figures are significantly higher by 2050².

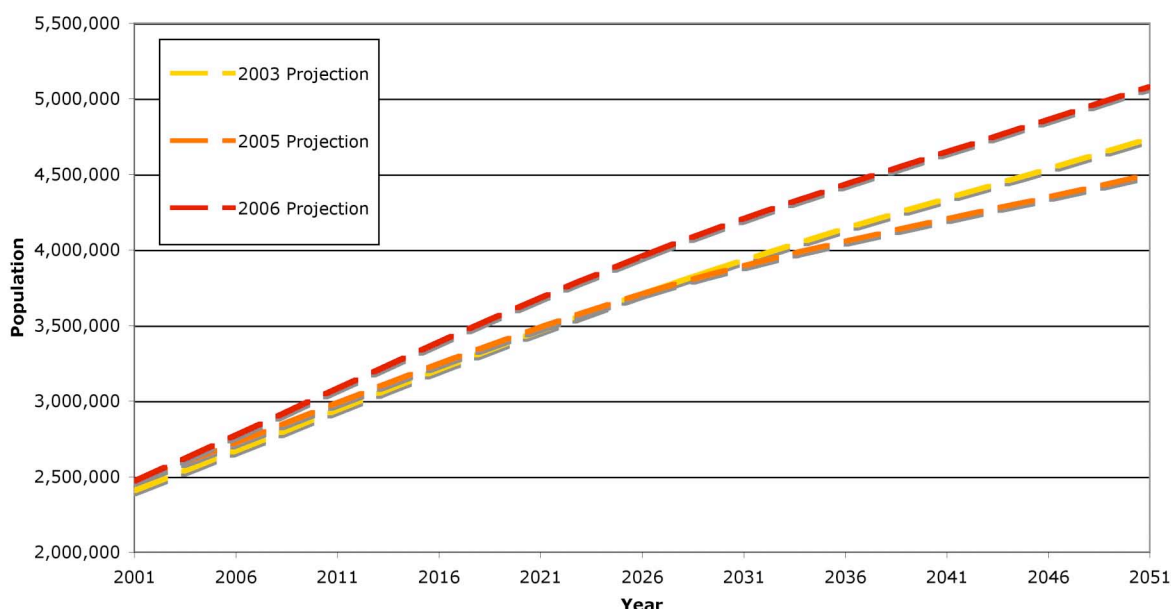
² It should be noted that a proportion of the existing and growing population may not be serviced by a reticulated water system (DNRW, 2004, p37).

Table 2-2 Population projections

Year	2005 Population projections	2006 Population projections
2001	2,470,000	2,470,000
2004	2,650,000	2,650,000
2006	2,780,000	2,780,000
2016	3,265,000	3,375,000
2026	3,709,000	3,960,000
2050	4,500,000	5,080,000

Source – DNRW (2006) “Water for Queensland: A long term solution”³.

Figure 2-2 Variation in population projections



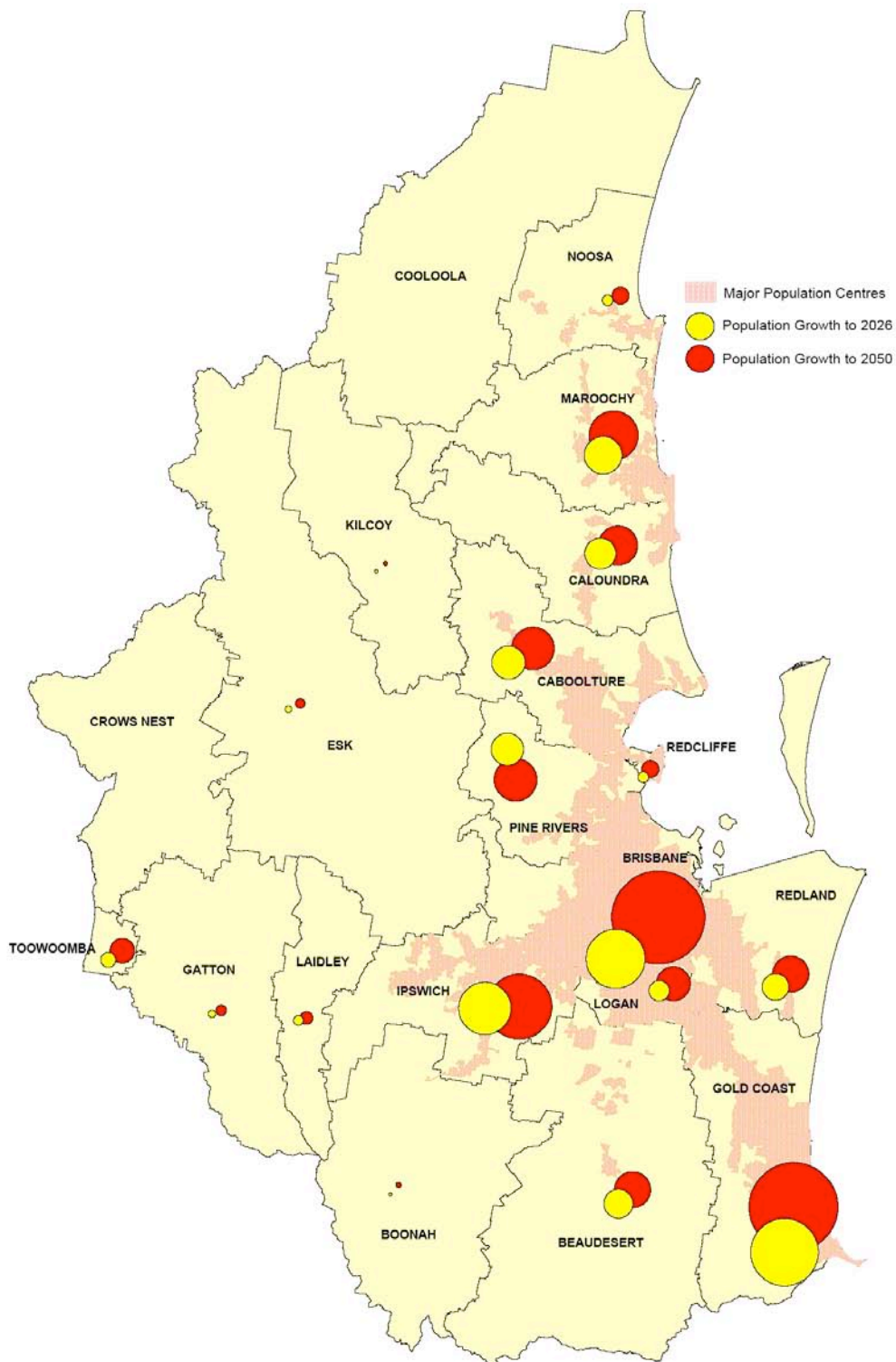
Source – DNRW 2004 and DNRW 2006 based on 2003, 2005, 2006 projections

These changes in population projections will have significant implications for projections of water demand. For example, for the residential sector alone a shift in assumed population in 2050 of 580,000 will result in an increase in demand of 64 GL/a (assuming a residential demand of 300 litres/capita/day). Associated non residential and non revenue water will increase this water demand further.

The significant increase in population will mainly be located in the southern end of the SEQ region as shown in Figure 2-3. This is a significant distance from the proposed Traveston Crossing scheme, in Cooloola to the north that is expected to supply approximately half of the SEQRWSS proposed additional water supply.

³ Note 2001 populations differ from PIFU 2003. This may be a typographical error.

Figure 2-3 Population growth areas



Source – Population figures based on PIFU 2006. Growth from 2026 to 2050 assumes proportional growth by LGA, in the absence of specific LGA data, to reach the total population of 5,080,000.

It should be noted that whilst population growth has the potential to increase water demand significantly it also provides major opportunities in terms of the potential to save water in new developments. The current number of households in the area is just over 1 million. This is predicted to double by 2050 according to current population projections.

Recommendation 2.1

Due to the significant growth in the southern area of the SEQ region it is recommended that demand and supply-side options to cater for this growth are concentrated, as far as possible, in close proximity to where the growth is occurring. This will minimise the costs and greenhouse gas emissions associated with transferring additional water across such a large region and take advantage of reducing demand in the key growth areas.

2.2.2 Current and projected water demand

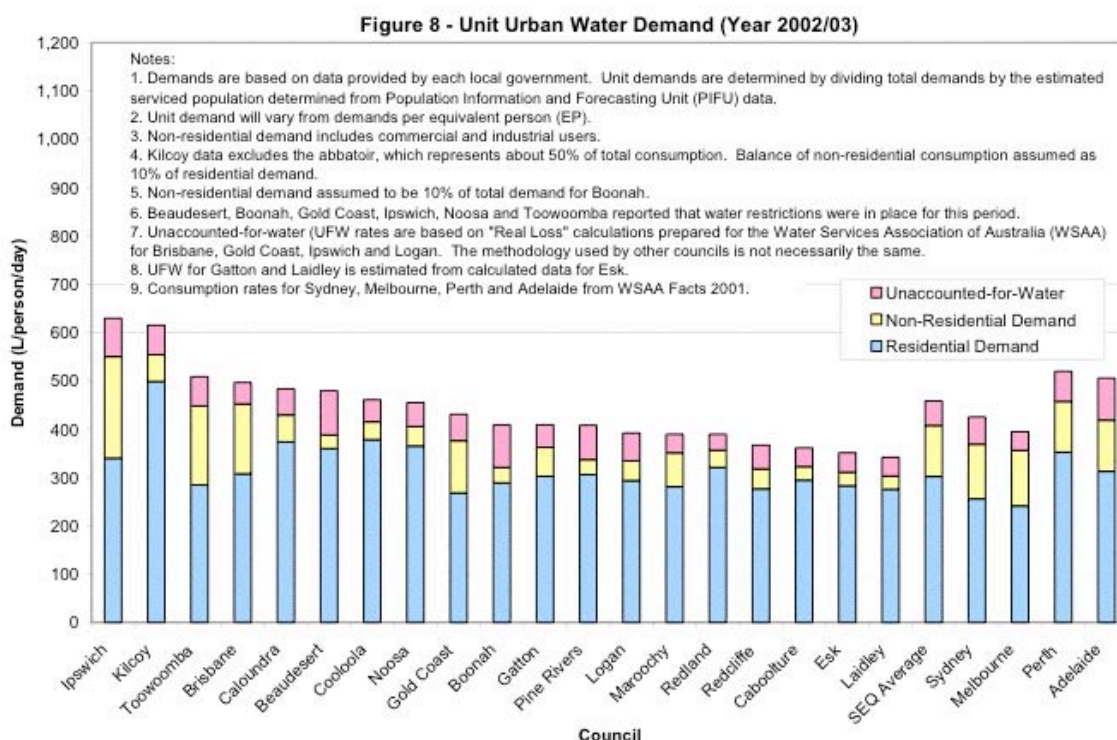
A significant body of work is being carried out by the SEQRWSS on water demand forecasting. The Study team understands that the demand forecasting that is being undertaken uses some form of detailed breakdown of water demand using a sector and end use based approach. Such an approach is considered international best practice. However, this detailed work associated with demand forecasting is not publicly available and has not been made available to the Study team. Hence the final assessment of the business as usual (or reference case) water demand has not yet been released to the public.

To obtain an understanding of the reference case demand, which will assist in determining the supply-demand balance, previously released SEQ demand data has been used by the Study team and assessed based on the team's extensive knowledge of sector and end use based approaches.

The reference case demand should be considered as the "do nothing" scenario assuming that no demand management interventions such as rebate schemes for water saving devices have been implemented. This reference case can then be compared against the system yield over time. The gap between the two can be filled either through demand-side or supply-side initiatives or a combination of the two. Clear definition of what is included in the reference case is extremely important to ensure that savings obtained through demand management initiatives are not double counted (i.e. the natural attrition of inefficient toilets and regulations that ensure that only water efficient toilets are used in all new and refurbished houses).

Figure 2-4 provides a useful snapshot breakdown of water demand per person per day by LGA in the residential, non residential and non revenue water sectors. Whilst this specific year may not represent an average year in terms of weather, a major influence on demand, it represents the most detailed publicly available snapshot of water demand by LGA and sector.

Figure 2-4 A snapshot of existing water demand by LGA and sector



Source - DNRM, 2004, p34

Current weighted average demand in the SEQ region is approximately:

- 300 litres/capita/day (LCD) in the residential sector,
- 100 LCD in the non residential sector, and
- 50 LCD in the non revenue water sector⁴

Hence total average demand is approximately 450 LCD.

Whilst the SEQ area is affected by high temperatures it also has relatively high rainfall compared to other major cities in Australia⁵. Hence the figure of 300 LCD in the residential sector appears high compared to other major cities such as Sydney approximately 250 LCD and areas such as Melbourne which on average have an even lower LCD (WSAA Facts 2005). If this high total LCD is accurate there is likely to be significant conservation potential in both the residential indoor and outdoor demand. Other investigations indicate that the per household demand for the period between 2001/02 and 2003/04 was impacted by hotter and dryer weather than average, and that weather-corrected demand may have been as low as 230 kL/household/annum (Beatty et al, 2005). This would make the average per capita residential demand closer to 250 LCD. Additionally, SEQRWSS documentation (DNRM 2004) states that a value of 270 LCD should be taken for projecting demand but that more

⁴ Over recent years it has become common practice to use the International Water Association (IWA) and Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA) term “non revenue water” rather than “unaccounted for water” to describe leakage and losses associated with current annual real losses (CARL), unavoidable annual real losses (UARL) and apparent losses. These are described in detail in WSAA Facts (WSAA Facts, 2004).

⁵ From WSAA Facts (2005), average maximum temperature and mean rainfall are Sydney (23 Deg C and 1,165 mm), Melbourne (21 Deg C and 571 mm) and Brisbane (25 Deg C and 995 mm).

rigorous demand forecasting will be conducted as part of the SEQRWSS investigations which is likely to result in a lower unit demand.

It is extremely important that demand projections are taken from average weather years, or from weather-corrected demand in the starting year. If indeed the reference case demand is closer to 250 LCD, then this has implications for total demand in 2050 of almost 100 GL/a.

Using publicly available data, the Study team have projected the business-as-usual (or reference case) water demand using conservative assumptions, including the following:

- PIFU 2006 population figures;
- current demand of 300 LCD for the residential sector;
- the current single residential/multi residential mix of dwellings (from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, ABS) and assumed that this proportion remains constant over the next 50 years (there is in fact a trend in all capital cities towards growth in multi residential dwellings and urban infill which tends to reduce water demand per person due to the reduced area of outdoor demand and associated irrigation);
- a decrease in overall occupancy ratio up to 2026, this is assumed to remain constant after 2026 as there is no available ABS information post 2026 on occupancy ratios;
- no allowance for the natural attrition and replacement of non efficient stock (e.g. showers, toilets and washing machines) which would tend to reduce demand;
- no allowance for recent regulations that require houses to become more water efficient or large estate scale developments that use less water such as Pimpama Coomera in the Gold Coast (these are considered later in Sections 3 and 4 as options rather than part of the reference case);
- that the current demand per non-residential property remains constant and the increase in the number of such properties increases at the same rate as population growth; and
- that the current leakage and losses associated with non revenue water per connection remain constant in the absence of active pressure and leakage programs (these are considered as a current SEQ demand-side initiative in Section 3).

Note that these assumptions are used to define the reference case, from which the impact on demand of the current programs being implemented by the Qld Government is subtracted. It is an important starting point for analysis, and one which requires as much rigour in estimation as is possible with the data and analytical methods available.

Most of the conservative assumptions listed above would over estimate the reference case.

Figure 2-5 provides a sector breakdown of the reference case. Figure 2-6 indicates how each LGA (grouped into the Sunshine Coast, Northern, Western, Brisbane and Southern regions) is expected to grow based on the assumptions identified.

Figure 2-5 Study team projected reference case demand by sector

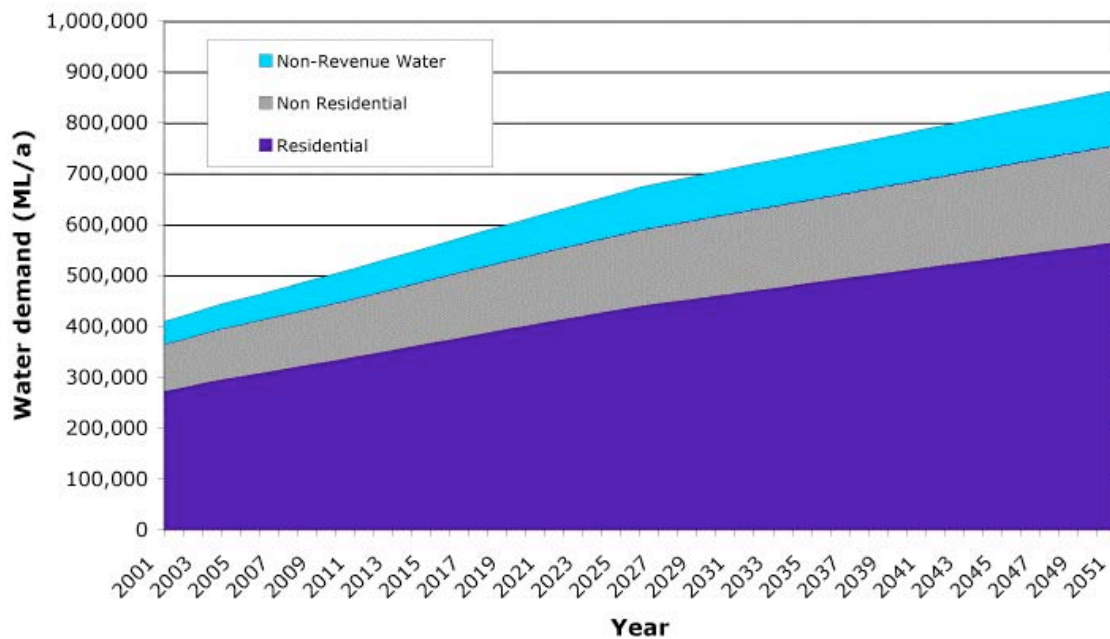
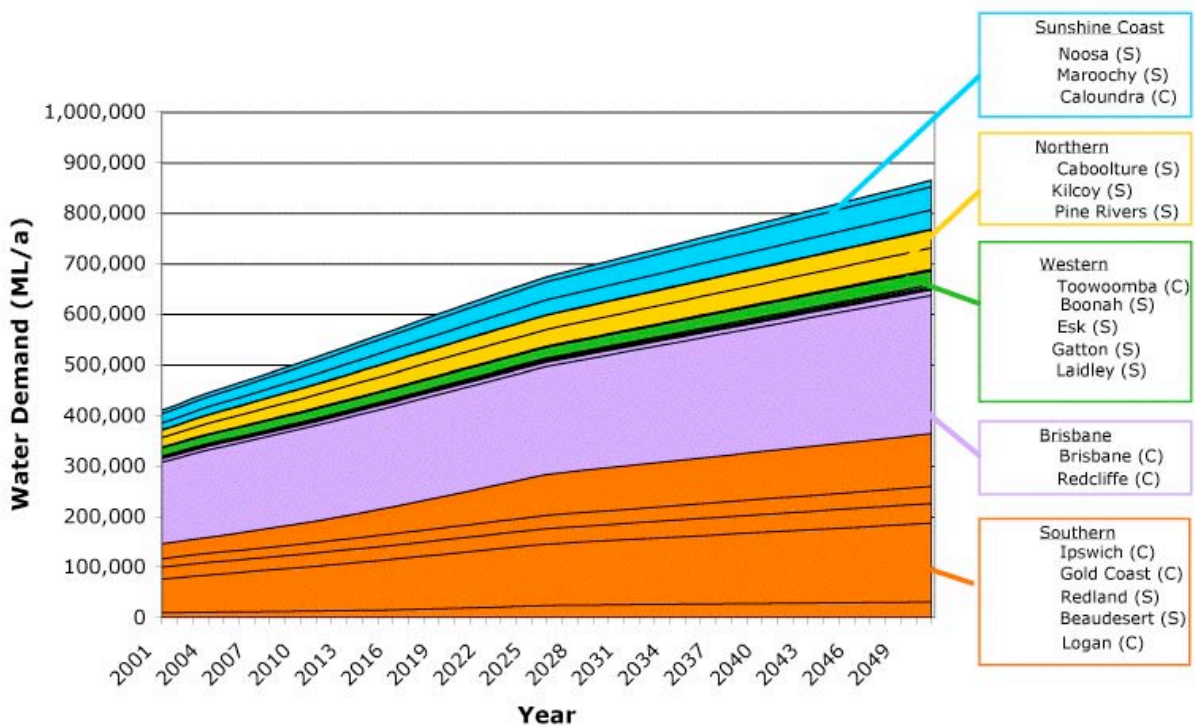


Figure 2-6 Study team projected reference case demand by LGA (grouped by geographical location)



The SEQRWSS has projected the reference case demand as 930 GL/a (DNRMW, 2006, p. 17) by 2050 using 300 LCD for the residential sector and the latest PIFU 2006 population projects. The Study team’s projected reference case, which uses conservative assumptions, only projects approximately 860 GL/a by 2050, a difference of 70 GL/a (the equivalent volume of water proposed by the Traveston Crossing scheme Stage 1). The assumptions used to achieve the DNRMW estimated 2050 demand,

such as occupancy ratio, trends in technology stock and size of the non residential and non revenue water sectors, are unclear. With the change in population projection assumptions (refer to Figure 2-2) producing a potential change in projected demand of more than 60 GL/a and other assumptions described above potentially meaning a difference in projection of more than 70 GL/a, this demonstrates the uncertainty in projecting demand out to 2050. It also shows the importance of transparency in assumptions and how these can change demand projections significantly.

Recommendation 2.2

The current SEQRWSS investigations into current and forecast water demand (including assumptions, limitations of data and levels of confidence) should be released to the public as soon as possible. This will assist in identifying how the reference case water demand component of the supply-demand balance has been determined, the associated levels of confidence in water demand projections and what additional information needs to be collected and analysed.

Recommendation 2.3

Even with the current SEQRWSS investigations into water demand forecasting, very little is actually known about how water is currently being used in the SEQ region on a per household or property basis and thus how it can be projected more accurately. In 2006 the Qld EPA released a Brief to investigate current water demand per household type in more detail to assist in forecasting water demand and determining the conservation potential available. It is recommended that such a study and collection of data during current demand management program implementation be undertaken as soon as possible to fill this knowledge gap and assist in refining the reference case demand.

The 930 GL/a reference case demand assumed by the SEQRWSS is considered very conservative. Coupled with the likely underestimate of yield (discussed in Section 2.4) this is likely to lead to an extreme estimate of the supply-demand gap in 2030, which is likely to increase by 2050.

Nonetheless, to assist in determining the supply-demand gap the conservative SEQRWSS reference case of 930 GL/a by 2050 has been used for this Study. To assist in determining the conservation potential available the more detailed split in water demand identified by the Study team has been used.

2.3 SEQ water supplies

Nineteen existing surface water storages in SEQ provide significant water supplies for urban use. There are other storages in the region that are predominantly used for irrigation purposes. There are also two currently developed groundwater supplies for urban use. The adopted yields for these water supply sources are listed in Table 2-3 (from DNRW 2006). The locations of significant water sources are shown in Figure 2-7.

Table 2-3 Existing Urban Water Supply Storages in SEQ

Supply system	Catchment	Existing System Yield (High Priority Urban Supply) (ML/a)	Owner	Storage Location by LGA	Comment
<i>Surface Water</i>					
Caboolture Weir	Caboolture River	3,000	Caboolture Shire Council	Caboolture	
Cressbrook/Perseverance	Brisbane River	10,000	Toowoomba City Council	Esk	
Cooby Dam	Condamine River	2,610	Toowoomba City Council	Crows Nest	
Lake Kurwongbah	Pine River	4,100	Pine Rivers Shire Council	Pine Rivers	
Moogerah Dam	Brisbane River	9,400	SunWater	Boonah	Irrigation supplies also sourced from this dam.
North Pine	Pine River	58,500	Pine Rivers Shire Council	Pine Rivers	
Wivenhoe/Somerset	Brisbane River	373,000	SEQWater	Esk	Main Supply is from Mt Crosby Weir
Baroon Pocket	Mary River	34,750	AquaGen	Caloundra	
Borumba	Mary River	11,689	SunWater	Cooloola	Irrigation supplies also sourced from this dam.
Lake MacDonald	Mary River	4,210	Noosa Shire Council	Noosa	
South Maroochy (Wappa, Poona, Cooloolabin)	Maroochy River	9,100	Maroochy Shire Council	Maroochy	
Ewan Maddock	Adlington Creek	3,800	AquaGen	Caloundra	Not utilised currently
Hinze/Little Nerang	Nerang River	69,800	Gold Coast City Council	Gold Coast	
Leslie Harrison	Tingalpa Creek	7,600	Redland Shire Council	Redland	
Maroon Dam	Logan River	9,900	SunWater	Beaudesert	Irrigation supplies also sourced from this dam.
<i>Groundwater</i>					
Bribie Island		2,000	Caboolture Shire Council	Caboolture	
North Stradbroke Island		21,900	Redland Shire Council	Redland	Supply piped to mainland
Total		635,359			

Figure 2-7 Existing water supply sources – SEQ



2.3.1 Urban Surface Water Supply Systems

The major water supply sources for the region are the Wivenhoe/Somerset System, Hinze Dam/Little Nerang Dam, North Pine Dam and Baroon Pocket Dam. The supplies from these storages account for over 80% of the total supply.

Over half of the region's urban water supply is sourced from the Wivenhoe/Somerset Dam system, owned by SEQWater. Somerset Dam is located on the Stanley River, a tributary of the Brisbane River. Water from Somerset Dam is released to Wivenhoe Dam - the region's major storage - and from Wivenhoe Dam water is released down the Brisbane River to Mt Crosby Weir from where it is pumped to adjacent water treatment plants (Mt Crosby East and West) and then to Brisbane and surrounding urban areas. The catchment area of Mt Crosby Weir includes Lockyer Creek. Water from this system supplies parts of Ipswich, Logan City, and the northern section of the Gold Coast, and can supply Pine Rivers, Redcliffe and Caboolture when North Pine Treatment Plant is not available (e.g. during major maintenance).

North Pine Dam (Lake Samsonvale) is owned by SEQWater and is located on North Pine River near Petrie. This dam supplies water to the northern suburbs of Brisbane, the Pine Rivers Shire Council area, Caboolture and Redcliffe. Pine Rivers Shire Council owns Lake Kurwongbah, a dam located on Sidling Creek, a tributary of North Pine River. Lake Kurwongbah supplies part of Pine Rivers Shire Council's urban water requirements.

Hinze Dam (on the Nerang River) and Little Nerang Dam (on Little Nerang Creek) comprise the major water supply system for the Gold Coast area. Water is piped from these dams to Molendinar and Mudgeeraba Water Treatment Plants from where it is reticulated within the Gold Coast City⁶.

Baroon Pocket Dam is located near Maleny on Obi Obi Creek, a tributary of Mary River. The dam is owned by Aquagen (Caloundra-Maroochy Water Supply Board). Water from the dam gravitates through a tunnel under the Blackall Range to the Landers Shute Treatment Plant where it is treated prior to distribution to Caloundra, and parts of Maroochy Shire. The Cooloolabin Dam-Wappa Dam-Poona Dam water supply scheme also provides urban supplies to the Maroochy Shire.

Toowoomba's main water supply is from the Perseverance Dam-Cressbrook Dam water supply system, located within the Brisbane River catchment. Other water sources for Toowoomba are Cooby Creek Dam and bores within the city area⁷.

2.3.2 Urban Groundwater Supply Systems

Water is drawn from shallow unconfined sand aquifers on Bribie Island for urban water use locally. Redland Shire draws water from North Stradbroke Island from a borefield with a maximum daily extraction rate of 22.5 ML/day⁸.

⁶ Construction of the Southern Regional Water Pipeline has commenced. This pipeline is being constructed by SWRP Co, an incorporated company with six major shareholders: Ipswich, Brisbane, Logan and Gold Coast city councils, Beaudesert Shire Council and SEQWater and will connect the Hinze Dam/Little Nerang Dam System, the Wivenhoe/Somerset Dam System, and ultimately the proposed Tugun Desalination plant water sources.

⁷ It is intended to construct a 47 km pipeline from Wivenhoe Dam to Perseverance Dam to supplement Toowoomba's water supply.

⁸ Water is also pumped from Herring Lagoon, part of the Eighteen Mile Swamp on the eastern side of North Stradbroke Island. Between 8 and 11 ML/day is drawn from Herring Lagoon, the amount depending on water quality and the level of water in the lagoon. Water from these sources is piped to the mainland for use in the Redland LGA. Combined surface water and groundwater allocations for town water supply purposes from the Island total 22,578 ML/a.

2.3.3 Irrigation and Surface Water Supply Sources

There are a number of water supply schemes, which supply both urban and irrigation water in the region. These are the Mary River Irrigation Water Supply Scheme, the Logan River Water Supply Scheme and the Warrill Valley Water Supply Scheme, all of which are owned and operated by SunWater. Details of the allocations are available from Interim Resource Operations Licences (IROL) for these schemes. Some details of the type of supply and the main consumers are listed in Table 2-4. Several small water supply schemes in the Lockyer Valley provide agricultural supplies only.

Table 2-4 Allocations for three SunWater Water Supply Schemes

Type of use	Priority	Allocation (ML)	Consumers
Mary Valley Water Supply Scheme			
Urban	High	11,224	Maryborough, Imbil, Noosa, Gympie, Tiaro
Industrial	High	465	Various industries
Agricultural	Medium	21,513	Riparian Irrigators along Mary River, upstream of Mary Barrage.
Agricultural	Medium	28,612	Irrigators in the Irrigation Area supplied from Mary Barrage and Tinana Barrage.
	Total	61,814	<i>(excludes loss allocation)</i>
Warrill Valley Water Supply Scheme			
Urban	High-A	890	Boonah, Aratula
Urban	High-B	1,560	Some Communities in Ipswich City Council area, Roadvale Water Board
Industrial	High-B	7,000	Swanbank Power Station
Agricultural	Medium	20,536	Irrigators along Warrill Ck, Reynolds Creek and other streams
	Total	29,986	<i>(excludes loss allocation)</i>
Logan River Water Supply Scheme			
Urban	High	8,960	Beaudesert, Jimboomba
Industrial	High	936	Various near Beaudesert
Agricultural	Medium	13,482	Irrigators along Burnett Ck and Logan River
	Total	23,378	

Due to the drought conditions prevailing over recent years, there have been severe restrictions on medium priority water from two of these schemes. Announced allocations for medium priority allocations have been less than 10% in the Logan Scheme and have been 0% in the Warrill Valley Scheme for the past four years.

In the Mary Valley Scheme, the lowest announced allocation in the upper section of the scheme in the last four years was 45% (2003/04 water year), while in the lower section the announced allocation has been 100% for that period.

2.3.4 Strategic Reserve – Water Resource Plan

The water available for consumptive use and the extent of water resources development is subject to the water resources planning process. Water resource plans (WRPs) provide a framework for the allocation and sustainable management of water resources in the area of the plan being developed, including the protection of natural ecosystems and the security of supply to existing water users.

WRPs have been finalised for the Gold Coast Area (which includes Pimpama, Coomera, Nerang, Tallebudgera Creeks), and for the Mary Basin (which includes the catchments of the Mary River, Burrum River, Maroochy River, Mooloolo River, and Noosa River). Draft WRPs have been prepared

for the Moreton Region (includes catchments of the Brisbane River, Pine Rivers, and Caboolture River), and the Logan (includes catchments of the Logan River, Albert River and Redlands Creeks).

These plans refer to strategic reserves, which are reserves of unallocated water to accommodate urban growth in the SEQ region. Access to the reserve for a WRP area is possible through the Resource Operations Plan or could be granted or reserved for infrastructure identified by the Coordinator-General for the SEQ regional plan.

Whilst WRPs aim to provide a consistent framework for the allocation and sustainable management of water resources in each area, these plans have been developed over time and with input from a number of different specialists. As such there is some question as to the consistency in approach, aims and assumptions across the WRPs, especially in relation to complex issues such as the calculation and subsequent allocation of environmental flows. Hence care needs to be taken in fully committing such strategic reserves without further validation.

From the available information the strategic reserves for each of the WRP areas are listed in Table 2-5 (DNRW 2006) together with the amount committed by SEQ proposed options (discussed in Section 3).

Table 2-5 Commitment of Strategic Reserve

Water Resource Plan Area	Strategic Reserve* (ML/a)	Amount Committed in SEQ Planning Study (ML/a)	Remaining Amount of Reserve (ML/a)
Mary Basin	150,000	150,000	0
Moreton	20,000	5,000	15,000
Logan	55,000	26,000	29,000
Gold Coast	30,000	16,000	14,000

Note - *The strategic reserve does not apply to recycled water or supplies from desalination plants.

The proposed Traveston Crossing scheme Stages 1, 2 (raising Borumba) and 3, commit the whole 150,000 ML/a of the strategic reserve for the Mary Basin. The reserves are not fully committed in the Moreton, Logan and Gold Coast areas, and a total of 58,000 ML/a remains in these areas.

Recommendation 2.4

There is some question as to the consistency of approach and assumptions used to identify the strategic reserve of Water Resource Plans in the SEQ area, especially in relation to complex issues such as the allocation of environmental flows. Hence it is recommended that full allocation of such reserves are not committed until further checking and validation across each of the Water Resource Plans developed for the SEQ region is undertaken.

Recommendation 2.5

Following validation of the strategic reserve of each of the Water Resource Plans it is recommended that further investigation is undertaken into the potential of utilising part of the 58,000 ML/a unallocated reserves in the Moreton, Logan and Gold Coast areas.

2.4 Levels of Service

The yields of the surface water supplies previously identified in Table 2-3 are historical no-failure yield (HNFY) estimates. The HNFY of a water supply storage is the maximum annual volume that could have been drawn over a past historical period for which climatic information is available, such that the minimum storage volume reached (during the worst drought period) approached but did not fall below the dead storage volume, that is, the supply did not fail.

Similar considerations apply to groundwater yield estimates. The maximum yield from a groundwater source should not exceed the average recharge rate, and should not result in drawdown during low recharge periods that would cause wells to dry up, intrusion of saltwater or damage to groundwater dependent ecosystems.

The yields of the individual urban water supply systems listed in Table 2-3 total 635,000 ML/a on an HNFY basis.

The report “*Water for South East Queensland – A Long Term Solution*” (DNRW 2006) includes a discussion of water yields determined by levels of service (LOS) criteria and contingency planning. The Water Services Association of Australia advocates the adoption of a LOS approach in the determination of yield by urban water providers in Australia (Erlanger and Neal 2005). LOS criteria are a set of performance targets for the reliability of water supply. The targets relate to the frequency, duration and severity of restrictions. The performance criteria ideally should reflect the community’s expectations of the reliability and security of its water supply.

For urban water supply planning purposes in the SEQ region, DNRW has adopted the following levels of service:

- annual probability of Level 2 restrictions is less than 2% (1 year in 50 on average);
- mean duration of restrictions is 12 months; and
- level 2 restrictions to achieve a demand reduction of 15% and apply for no more than 3% of time.

The above criteria have been applied to the Somerset Dam – Wivenhoe Dam water supply system. To allow for contingency planning, it was assumed that there would be at least two year’s supply in storage at the onset of Level 2 restrictions. Applying the foregoing criteria reduced the yield from the Somerset Dam – Wivenhoe Dam system from 373,000 ML/a (HNFY) to about 285,000 ML/a, which approximates the current unrestricted demand from the system. This represents a 24% downgrading of the available supply.

According to the planning report, the water yields for the other systems listed in Table 2-3 have also been downgraded, based on similar considerations, although details of reductions for individual sources have not been made available. The report states that the yields have been reduced by an average of 29%. The reduced or “prudent” yield of the combined sources in Table 2-3 totals 450,000 ML/a, a reduction of 185,000 ML/a over the aggregate HNFY estimates.

It is understood that water balance studies of the water supply network are currently being carried out by DNRW, and that there may be refinement of the estimates of prudent yield.

Small changes in the LOS criteria and contingency storage volumes (for example allowing restrictions to occur say 1 year in 25 on average rather than the 1 in 50 year adopted) may have the same effect on the overall yield as the development of a new water source, therefore it is important that the LOS and contingency storage volumes chosen strike a balance between risk of shortfalls in supply and acceptability and cost to the community.

There is no publicly available evidence that customer surveys, community engagement processes or other empirical analysis has been undertaken to set the LOS. The LOS that has been chosen assumes that the community are particularly averse to restrictions. This is not borne out by the evidence from surveys (see for example Taverner 2005, p44), which suggest strong support for restrictions in similar cities and regions, including in Gosford-Wyong where more severe restrictions have been in place for an extended period. A slight increase in the probability of restrictions is likely to significantly increase the prudent yield, which will reduce the supply-demand gap in 2030 and 2050. For example, in the Sydney water supply system, a small change in the frequency of restrictions, from an average of 3% of the time to 5% of the time, results in an increase of 50 GL/a in the yield from a base of approximately 600 GL/a.

A survey⁹ is currently being conducted on behalf of Queensland Water Infrastructure, the organisation established to build major infrastructure such as Traveston Crossing Dam Stage 1. This survey is investigating some of the questions that need to be asked concerning the appropriate LOS. However, the focus of the questions and information being provided to the participants appears to have a different focus and may in fact be providing participants with incorrect information upon which they will be making decisions. The media report indicates that information being provided to participants identifies that without major investment, Level 4 restrictions would be necessary every four years and would run for two years at a time. Depending on the assumptions being used this is highly unlikely with the level of infrastructure investment (excluding the Traveston Crossing scheme) which has already been committed by the Qld Government (refer to Section 3).

The issues associated with investment in infrastructure, which options should be implemented, how much they cost, who should pay, willingness to pay and how this relates to restrictions etc. are extremely complex and need to be very carefully presented to the community through the use of rigorous and transparent community engagement processes with an opportunity for participants to become well informed, rather than through the use of opinion polls or surveys.

Recommendation 2.6

The prudent yield of the existing supply system is highly dependent on the frequency and severity of restrictions that are deemed acceptable to the community. It is crucial that the community is involved in the decision making process for establishing the level of acceptability, through the use of rigorous and transparent processes for community engagement. It is recommended that such a process be undertaken in SEQ and the prudent yield of the system reassessed using the results of the process.

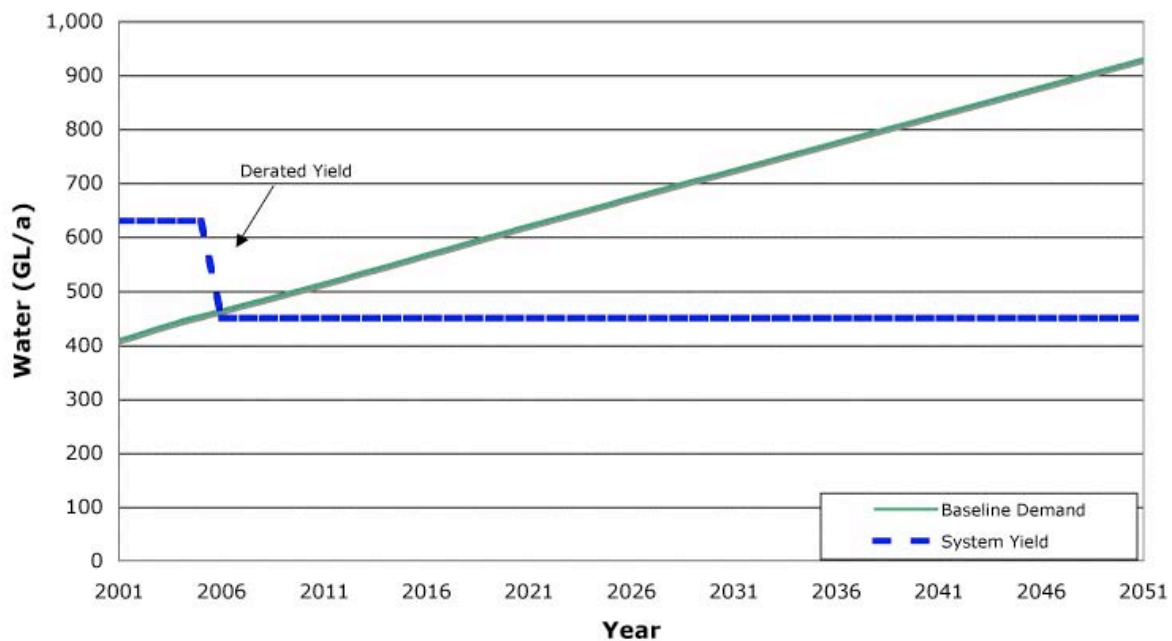
Even though there is uncertainty around the conservative assumptions behind the LOS estimates, for the purposes of this Study, the conservative prudent yield of 450,000 ML/a has been used for the aggregate supply available from the existing urban water supply schemes.

⁹ A recent article in the Courier Mail [<http://www.news.com.au/couriermail/story/0,23739,21189974-3102,00.html> – accessed 08/02/07]

2.5 The current supply-demand balance

Figure 2-8 shows the supply-demand balance in SEQ, that is, how the gap between the yield available from current supplies is being outstripped by the increase in demand being driven predominantly by the increase in population. The supply-demand balance shown assumes the SEQRWSS reference case demand (currently approximately 450 GL/a rising to 930 GL/a by 2050) and downgrading of the current supply system yield in 2005/06 (450 GL/a prudent yield instead of the HNFY figure of 630 GL/a). Both the reference case demand and the system yield are considered “worst case” and thus the supply-demand gap shown is likely to be an extreme scenario.

Figure 2-8 The supply-demand balance



Nonetheless, this extreme scenario for the supply-demand gap has been used as the basis of options assessment in Sections 3 and 4. Section 3 identifies the suite of SEQRWSS demand and supply-side options that have been developed to fill the supply-demand gap and discusses some of the concerns associated with this suite of options, which includes the Traveston Crossing scheme. Section 4 identifies a lower cost, more adaptive and risk averse strategy developed by the Study team that takes into consideration short, medium and long-term planning.

3 SEQ PROPOSED SUPPLY-DEMAND STRATEGY

Over recent years the Qld Government has taken leadership in setting up investigations into how much water is being used in the SEQ region, how much water is available from current supplies, what supply and demand-side initiatives need to be considered to fill the gap and how institutional arrangements should be changed to accommodate this.

This Section identifies and analyses the suite of demand and supply-side initiatives that have been developed and considers some of the gaps and opportunities for improvement in the current approach.

3.1 SEQ water management: drought response and long-term planning

Local Government has traditionally been responsible for water supply and planning in Queensland. More recently, the perceived need for regional coordination to respond to drought and to provide water security for the whole of the SEQ region in the longer-term has resulted in the establishment of two regional water management institutions: the South East Queensland Regional Water Supply Strategy (SEQRWSS) and the Queensland Water Commission (QWC).

The SEQRWSS is a partnership between the state government and the SEQ Council of Mayors. The objective of the SEQRWSS is to “*examine alternative water sources and demand management options, developing a strategic direction for water supply in the region through to 2050*” (SEQ Regional Plan, Office of Urban Management, p99). With this goal in mind, the SEQRWSS has been instrumental in developing a number of medium to long-term water infrastructure projects detailed in the key Qld water planning document “Water for Queensland: A long term solution” (DNRW, 2006).

The QWC, reporting directly to Deputy Premier Anna Bligh, was established in June 2006 by the *Water Amendment Act 2006*. The QWC is responsible for imposing water restrictions when required and for facilitating regional water supply programs including drought response measures. As such, the Commission has been instrumental in coordinating drought response measures for SEQ over recent months.

Drought response measures coordinated by the QWC are those provided for under the Water Amendment Regulation (No. 6) 2006. The Water Amendment Regulation (No. 6), made under the *Water Act 2000* is emergency drought response legislation designed to “*implement a strategy to secure the essential water supply needs of the region*” (Preamble, p2).

To facilitate the implementation of such a strategy, the Water Amendment Regulation (No. 6) provides for the development of a number of “measures, outcomes and works”, details financial contributions to be made by the Qld Government and sets target dates for implementation of each project. Water projects facilitated by the Regulation comprise a mixture of demand and supply-side initiatives (from Clause 3):

- Construction of the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme
- Construction of the Southern Regional Water Pipeline
- Construction of the Eastern Pipeline Inter-connector
- Construction of the Northern Pipeline Inter-connector
- Construction of the SEQ (Gold Coast) Desalination Facility
- Construction of Traveston Crossing Dam Stage 1
- Construction of Wyaralong Dam
- Raising Mount Crosby Weir

- Raising Hinze Dam and preparation for associated water harvesting
- Development of Bribie Island and Brisbane aquifers
- Demand management strategies including pressure and leakage reduction and domestic retrofits
- Provision of recycled water for industry
- Maximising the take of groundwater from North Stradbroke Island
- Construction of Cedar Grove Weir
- Construction of Bromelton Off-stream Storage

These drought response measures, as well as other longer-term water projects planned by the SEQRWSS, are discussed in more detail below as either demand or supply-side initiatives.

3.2 Demand side initiatives

The Regional Plan for SEQ (Regional Plan 2005) sets targets for reduced residential water demand per person per day. Existing residential water demand is approximately 300 LCD (DNRW, 2004) as indicated in Section 2, excluding non residential and non revenue water. Table 3-1 shows the residential water demand targets for 2010, 2015 and 2020, excluding consideration of non residential and non revenue water.

Table 3-1 Targets for residential water demand in SEQ

Year	2010	2015	2020
Per capita demand in litres/capita/day (LCD)	270	250	230

Source – South East Queensland Regional Plan Section F11

To reduce water demand in SEQ and achieve the targets a number of demand-side water saving initiatives have been developed by the Qld Government and are currently being implemented. These include:

The residential sector

- **Domestic rebate program** where rebates are offered for rainwater tanks, washing machines, dual flush toilets, efficient showerheads, greywater systems and swimming pool covers (DNRW WaterWise website¹⁰).
- **Domestic retrofit program** which aims to refit 150,000 houses with water efficient appliances. The retrofit program will be administered by local governments. Houses will be audited by a qualified plumber and where potential for water savings are identified, water saving devices such as showerheads and toilet displacement devices installed.
- **New sustainable building regulations** (Part 29 of the Queensland Development Code) requiring that all new houses are fitted with efficient toilets and showers. This regulation also applies to existing houses where bathrooms are renovated. Under the regulations, new detached and semi-detached houses are also subject to water pressure limitations.
- **New water saving building regulations** (Part 25 of the Queensland Development Code) which requires that all new detached and semi-detached houses are fitted with a rainwater tank, dual

¹⁰ DNRW WaterWise website <http://www.nrw.qld.gov.au/water/saverscheme/index.html> accessed 22/12/06.

reticulation system or stormwater reuse system to reduce demand on reticulated town water supply systems.

- **Other residential programs** such as Pimpama Coomera Smart Growth and targets for capped demand in Caloundra. The Pimpama Coomera (Gold Coast) model of Smart Growth requires homes to achieve an 80% reduction in the use of potable water (Gold Coast Water and Gold Coast City Council, 2004). Caloundra City Council is in the process of developing a similar scheme through the draft Local Growth Management Strategy (Caloundra City, 2006 p38). In the Strategy, a target of a possible 80% reduction in use of potable water is to be achieved for new developments through the implementation of water efficiency and demand management measures.

The non residential sector

- **The Business Water Efficiency Program (BWEP)** aims to reduce water use by assisting high water using businesses to adopt and implement water saving practices.
- **Water recycling** to supply large industrial water users and reduce demand on the potable supply. Water recycling initiatives are being undertaken in the Brisbane, Ipswich, Logan, Maroochy and Pine Rivers LGAs.

The non revenue water sector

- **Pressure and leakage reduction program** implemented by local governments requires all local governments in SEQ excluding Toowoomba to develop detailed plans for reducing pressure and leakage in water storage and supply systems.

Table 3-2¹¹ summarises demand management programs and anticipated associated water savings. More detailed information about each of the SEQ proposed demand-side options can be found in Appendix A¹².

¹¹ During the finalisation of this study an additional demand management program the “Home Garden WaterWise Rebate Scheme” was released. The program is “a package of new incentives designed to support householders throughout Queensland by making their gardens more water efficient during this time of severe drought” [http://www.nrw.qld.gov.au/water/saverscheme/pdf/garden_scheme.pdf, accessed 09/02/07]. The program provides a rebate of 50% (up to a maximum of \$50) off of the purchase price of defined products. The program commenced in mid December 2006 and will run to mid December 2008. \$5 M is being spent on the rebates which will help more than 100,000 householders across Qld. [<http://statements.cabinet.qld.gov.au/MMS/StatementDisplaySingle.aspx?id=49677>] [accessed 09/02/07]. This program will assist in reducing water over the drought period. The program has not been included in the modelling of savings. It may assist in changing the behaviour of a proportion of the householders participating resulting in medium to long term savings and thus contribute to the demand management targets and supply demand balance. This is likely to be small unless the program is augmented in the future.

¹² Note – Reference to unit cost in Appendix A for existing SEQ demand-side initiatives is likely to be low as the costs identified are only those identified by the Qld Government. A number of these options will require additional customer expenditure such as rainwater tanks.

Table 3-2 SEQ demand management programs and anticipated water savings

Code	Demand Management Initiative	Estimated savings ML/d	Estimated savings ML/a	Timing
SEQ-D1	Domestic rebates ²	8.15*	2,974*	Incremental 2007 to 2009
SEQ-D2	Retrofits	7	2,689	Incremental 2007 to 2009
SEQ-D3	Building regulations (Part 29 of QDC**)	55*	20,066* (average) 35,472 (by 2050)	Incremental from 2007 ³
SEQ-D4	Building regulations (Part 25 of QDC)	91*	30,019* (average) 53,066 (by 2050)	Incremental from 2007
SEQ-D5	Business Water Efficiency Program (BWEP)	12	4,380	Incremental 2007-2008
SEQ-D6	Capped Demand in Caloundra ²	12.36	7,382 (average) 12,209 (by 2050)	Incremental from 2007 ¹
SEQ-D7	Pimpama Coomera ²	16.2	5,913 (average) 10,512 (by 2050)	Incremental from 2007 ¹
SEQ-D8	Water recycling for industry - Brisbane	6.1	2,227	2008 ¹
SEQ-D9	Water recycling for industry - Gold Coast	0.3	106	2008 ¹
SEQ-D10	Water recycling for industry - Ipswich	3	1,000	Incremental 2006-2008
SEQ-D11	Water recycling for industry - Logan	unknown	unknown	2008 ¹
SEQ-D12	Water recycling for industry - Maroochy	unknown	unknown	2008 ¹
SEQ-D13	Water recycling for industry - Pine Rivers	4	1,460	2008 ¹
SEQ-D14	Pressure and leakage reduction	64	23,360	Incremental 2006-2012

* Yields marked with an asterisk have been determined by the study team (see Fact Sheets in Appendix A for assumptions). All other yields are from QWC Water Regulation (No. 6) October Progress Report (released 30 November 2006).

** QDC - Queensland Development Code

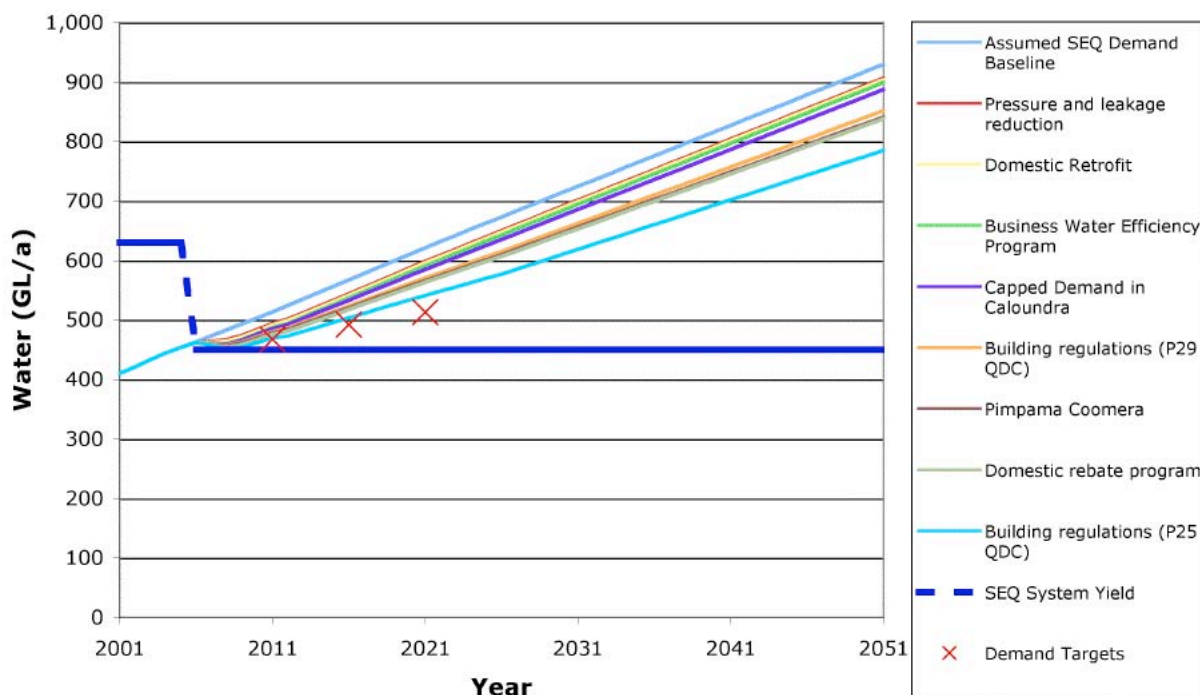
¹ Assumed date

² These initiatives are not part of the QWC Water Regulation (No.6) drought strategy.

³ This regulation also applies to existing class 1 and 2 buildings. There is limited experience on how effective the compliance of this form of regulation is. To be conservative only the savings associated with new households have been considered here. In Section 4 an option that uses a regulatory instrument that requires existing households "sold" to participate in an efficiency program, has been considered.

The Qld Government has committed significant investment in demand-side initiatives to assist in achieving the medium-term demand reduction targets. Figure 3-1 shows the savings anticipated by the SEQ demand-side initiatives relative to the targets, based on the assumed reference case of 930 GL/a by 2050.

Figure 3-1 SEQ demand-side initiatives



The targets specifically relate to the residential sector. The current suite of residential initiatives alone will not achieve the targets identified. However, the combination of initiatives currently being implemented will reduce demand to a level close to the targets. With additional investment these targets can be achieved.

The current suite of demand-side initiatives covers the residential (existing and new households), non-residential and non-revenue water sectors and includes both demand management and source substitution potential. Hence the current mix of initiatives is attempting to tap into conservation potential in all sectors. However, there is still significant opportunity to go further in terms of participation rates, end uses and reducing demand further in both existing and new properties. There is significant potential for savings in new properties as new properties are driving the increase in water demand.

Some demand-side options in the current suite have a relatively high unit cost when assessed from the combined perspective of the customer and the government, especially initiatives such as the rainwater tank rebates for existing households. Hence there is significant opportunity for the Qld Government to invest in demand-side initiatives that have a lower unit cost. Such options are considered in Section 4.

In addition a number of retrofits and rebates are being offered at regional and state levels. The potential disconnect in management of these retrofits/rebates is likely to mean that customers are obtaining higher incentives than necessary, may be participating in rebates and retrofits or missing the opportunity of maximum savings provided through the retrofit program. This may lead to the unit cost of achieving the savings being considerably higher than necessary or result in savings opportunities being missed. A more co-ordinated approach to the rebates and retrofits and careful accounting of who has participated and subsequent evaluation is essential if optimum savings both in the drought period and longer-term are to be obtained.

In addition a number of the initiatives are tapping into the non residential (business) sector and the potential for reuse. There is significant potential to both modify existing properties, design new properties to be as efficient as possible and for water reuse to be used in SEQ. Again these opportunities are explored in more detail in Section 4.

The demand-side initiatives being implemented are valuable in terms of providing both short (drought response) and medium to long-term savings. However, consideration of how to maximise savings, minimise costs and minimise the risk of decay in savings will be required. Again this is considered in Section 4.

In addition care will need to be taken not to double count potential savings or overlook conservation potential. For example, under the “sustainable building regulations” savings associated with efficient showers and toilets are identified for all new households (detached, semi-detached and multi-residential). However, if the business as usual or reference case demand has been calculated using an end use based approach then the savings associated with toilets may already be included in the reference case demand because only 6/3 and now 4.5/3 L dual flush toilets are available. In addition, savings associated with pressure reduction within new detached and semi-detached households will mean that assumed savings in showers would be reduced.

Recommendation 3.1

The Qld Government is currently investing in and implementing a diverse range of demand management initiatives that will provide benefits both in the short and long term. Care needs to be taken that the initiatives being implemented are the most cost effective and are implemented in such a way that they achieve the savings required. Ongoing evaluation of costs, savings and participation rates are recommended to ensure costs are minimised and estimated savings achieved.

Recommendation 3.2

Care needs to be taken that the estimated savings of each demand management, source substitution and reuse initiative are not double counted within the baseline or reference case demand or that opportunities for conservation potential are not overlooked. It is recommended that the assumptions of the demand forecasting and options analysis are provided in a transparent format and made publicly available.

3.3 Supply side initiatives

In addition to the demand-side initiatives outlined, SEQRWSS has developed a suite of supply-side options to provide for the increase in water demand in SEQ over the next 50 years. These include:

- **Bribie Island Groundwater** abstraction to substitute 10 ML/day¹³ (3,650 ML/a) from the existing water supply system with underground water sourced from Bribie Island.
- **Brisbane Aquifer** development to source 20 ML/day (7,300 ML/a) from groundwater from seven borefields in Brisbane City Council LGA.
- **Raised Hinze Dam** for dam safety, flood mitigation, and water supply purposes. An additional 8,760 ML/a is expected to be available from the raised structure.

¹³Yield estimates and project descriptions, unless otherwise stated, are from Queensland Water Commission Water Regulation (No. 6) October Progress Report (released 30 November 2006).

- **Water Harvesting to Hinze Dam** investigations have commenced on diversion of high flows (water harvesting) into Hinze Dam from adjacent catchments including the Coomera River, Mudgeeraba Creek, and Canungra Creek. DNRW estimates an additional supply of 10,000 ML/a (DNRW, 2006) would be available from water harvesting.
- **Cedar Grove Weir** to be located on the Logan River. The weir is estimated to supply approximately 3,000 ML/a.
- **Wyaralong Dam** to be located on Teviot Brook, a tributary of the Logan River. The dam is planned to have a capacity of 135,000 ML, and will provide a supply of 18,000 ML/a (prudent DNRW estimated yield, additional to supply from Cedar Grove Weir). The dam is estimated to cost approximately \$500 million.
- **Bromelton Off-stream Storage** to be located near the Logan River in the vicinity of Beaudesert. An off-stream storage of 8,000 ML capacity would yield approximately 5,000 ML/a.
- **Traveston Crossing Dam Stage 1** to be constructed on the Mary River 16 km south of Gympie near Traveston Crossing. Stage 1 has a planned capacity of 180,000 ML and an estimated prudent yield of 70,000 ML/a (DNRW, 2006). Costs for stage 1 of the dam are estimated to be \$1.7 billion. This does not include the delivery system (pump stations, pipelines, and balancing storages) from the dam to the Pine Rivers area. The cost of this connection is estimated to be of the order of \$900 million, giving a total cost for the stage 1 including delivery network of \$2.6 billion.
- **Traveston Crossing Dam Stage 2 (Raising Borumba Dam)** is situated on Yabba Creek which is a tributary of the Mary River. It is planned to construct stage 3 of the dam by 2025 to provide additional yield of 40,000 ML/a (DNRW, 2006) when operated in conjunction with Traveston Crossing Dam Stage 1.
- **Traveston Crossing Dam Stage 3** has a planned capacity of 660,000 ML, and an incremental yield of 40,000 ML/a (DNRW, 2006) in addition to stages 1 and 2. Stage 3 is planned to follow construction of Borumba Dam, and may not be completed until 2042.
- **SEQ (Gold Coast) Desalination Plant** to be located at Tugun. The plant will provide additional water to the order of 125 ML/day (45,000 ML/a) and is estimated to cost approximately \$1.13 billion.
- **Raising Mount Crosby Weir** to supply an additional yield of 15 ML/day (5,475 ML/a).
- **Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme Stage 1** involving the advanced treatment of sewage effluent to supply Swanbank and Tarong Power Stations. A yield of 100 ML/day (36,500 ML/a) is expected to be made available. The cost of the scheme is estimated to be \$1.7 billion.
- **Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme Stage 2** involving the construction of advanced water treatment plants at Luggage Point and Gibson Island. Estimated yield from Stage 2 is 110 ML/day (40,150 ML/a) bringing the total yield from the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme to 210 ML/day (76,650 ML/a). If the drought breaks prior to the construction of this scheme, it is assumed that the development of Stage 2 will depend upon Qld Government decisions regarding use of recycled water to supplement the Wivenhoe-Somerset system in the absence of drought. This has become unclear following the recent cancellation of the March 2007 plebiscite on indirect potable reuse (IPR) (Ministerial Media Statement 30 November 2006) and therefore this contribution to the total system yield has not been included in the figures for total system yield resulting from new SEQ supply projects.

- **Eastern Pipeline Inter-connector** project involving the construction of a new borefield at Dunwich on North Stradbroke Island and pipeline to enable transfer of water between reservoirs. Additional supplies amount to 22 ML/day (8,030 ML/a).

Table 3-3 summarises the proposed supply-side options noting the location and Water Resources Plan area within which each of the options is located. In addition the HNFY and prudent yields for each of the options considered as part of the “Water for Queensland: A long term solution” (DNRW 2006) is identified where applicable together with the more up-to-date yields identified in the Queensland Water Commission Water Regulation (No. 6) October Progress Report (released 30 November 2006). The majority of the options identified in Table 3-3 have been included as part of the Water Amendment Regulation (No.6) drought response measures.

More detailed information about each of the SEQ proposed supply-side options can be found in Appendix A. The location of each supply option is shown in Figure 3-2.

Table 3-3 SEQ proposed supply-side initiatives

Code	Water Source	DNRW Yields (2006)		QWC Yields (2006) (ML/a)	Location		Comment
		Historical No Failure Yield	Prudent Yield ¹⁴		LGA	WRP Area	
		(ML/a)	(ML/a)				
SEQ-S1	Bribie Island Groundwater*	NA	NA	3,650	Caboolture	Not part of WRP	Committed project Completion 2008
SEQ-S2	Brisbane Aquifer*	NA	NA	7,300	Brisbane	Brisbane	Committed project Completion 2007
SEQ-S3	Raised Hinze Dam Stage 3*	8,000	6,000	8,760	Gold Coast	Gold Coast	Committed project Completion 2010
SEQ-S4	Water harvesting to Hinze ¹⁵	14,000	10,000	NA	Gold Coast	Gold Coast	Target completion 2016
SEQ-S5	Cedar Grove Weir*	4,000	3,000	2,993	Beaudesert	Logan	Committed project Completion 2007
SEQ-S6	Wyaralong Dam (additional to Cedar Grove)*	23,000	18,000	not specified	Beaudesert	Logan	Target completion 2011
SEQ-S7	Bromelton Offstream Storage*	8,000	5,000	5,000	Beaudesert	Logan	Target completion 2011

¹⁴ Prudent Yield – See section 2.2 for definition.

¹⁵ Water harvesting to Hinze Dam is not included as a drought response project under the Water Amendment Regulation (No. 6) 2006, however the regulation requires that preparation for water harvesting be undertaken.

Code	Water Source	DNRW Yields (2006)		QWC Yields (2006) (ML/a)	Location		Comment
		Historical No Failure Yield	Prudent Yield ¹⁶		LGA	WRP Area	
		(ML/a)	(ML/a)				
SEQ-S8	Traveston Crossing Dam Stage 1*	80,000	70,000	not specified	Cooloola	Mary	Target completion 2011
SEQ-S9	Traveston Crossing Dam Stage 2 (Raise Borumba)	50,000	40,000	NA	Cooloola	Mary	Target completion 2025
SEQ-S10	Traveston Crossing Dam Stage 3	70,000	40,000	NA	Cooloola	Mary	Target completion 2042
SEQ-S11	Raised Mt Crosby Weir*	6,000	5,000	5,475	Ipswich	Moreton	Target Completion 2008
SEQ-S12	SEQ (Gold Coast) Desalination Plant*	45,000	45,000	45,625	Gold Coast	Not part of WRP	Target Completion 2008
SEQ-S13	Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme Stage 1*	30,000	30,000	36,500	Brisbane/Ipswich/Esk	Not part of WRP	Committed project Target completion 2008
SEQ-S13	Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme Stage 2* [†]	NA	47,000	40,150	Brisbane/Ipswich/Esk	Not part of WRP	Target completion 2008
SEQ-S14	Eastern pipeline inter-connector*	NA	NA	8,030	Redland	Logan	Target completion 2008

* Supply-side initiatives listed as drought response measures in the Water Amendment Regulation (No 6) 2006.

[†]Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme Stage 2 is included in the Water Amendment Regulation (No. 6) 2006 but has not been included in the figures for total system yield due to the recent announcement that the development of IPR, unless required due to worsening of the current drought, will be dependent on the outcome of the March 2007 plebiscite (Ministerial Media Statement 30 November 2006) and the subsequent cancellation of the plebiscite.

¹⁶ Prudent Yield – See section 2.2 for definition.

Figure 3-2 SEQ proposed supply-side initiatives



Note – Traveston Crossing Dam shows the location of proposed stages 1 and 3. Borumba Dam shows the locations of the Raising of the Borumba Dam (Traveston Stage 2).

Figure 3-3 shows the location of the supply-side initiatives together with their relative increase in yield and proximity to population growth areas. As indicated the Traveston Crossing scheme dominates the SEQ proposed yield yet is located a significant distance from the major growth areas in the south of the region. This will result in the need for significant pumping which will have major operating costs and greenhouse gas implications.

Figure 3-3 Relative yield from SEQ proposed supply-side initiatives compared to population growth areas

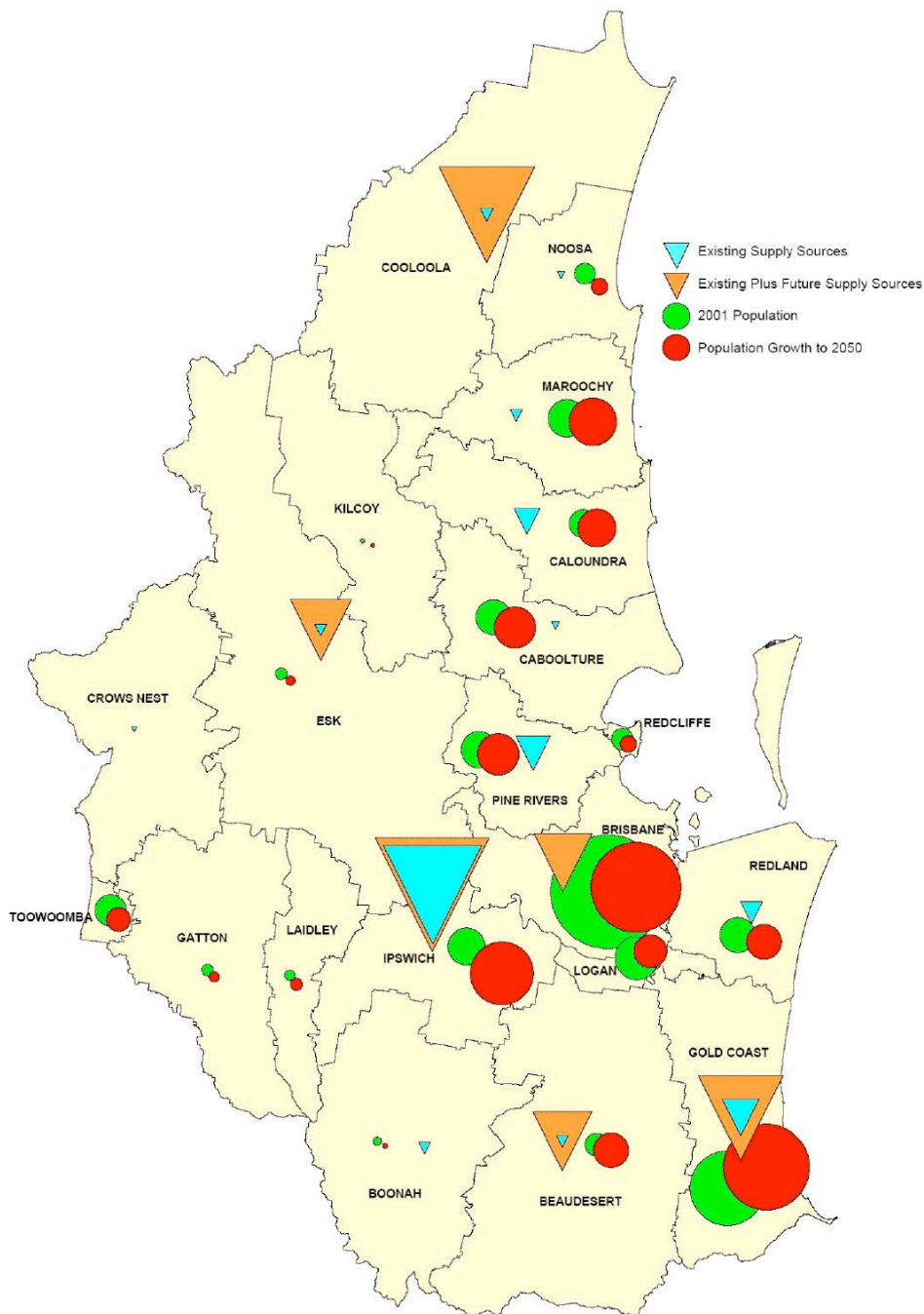
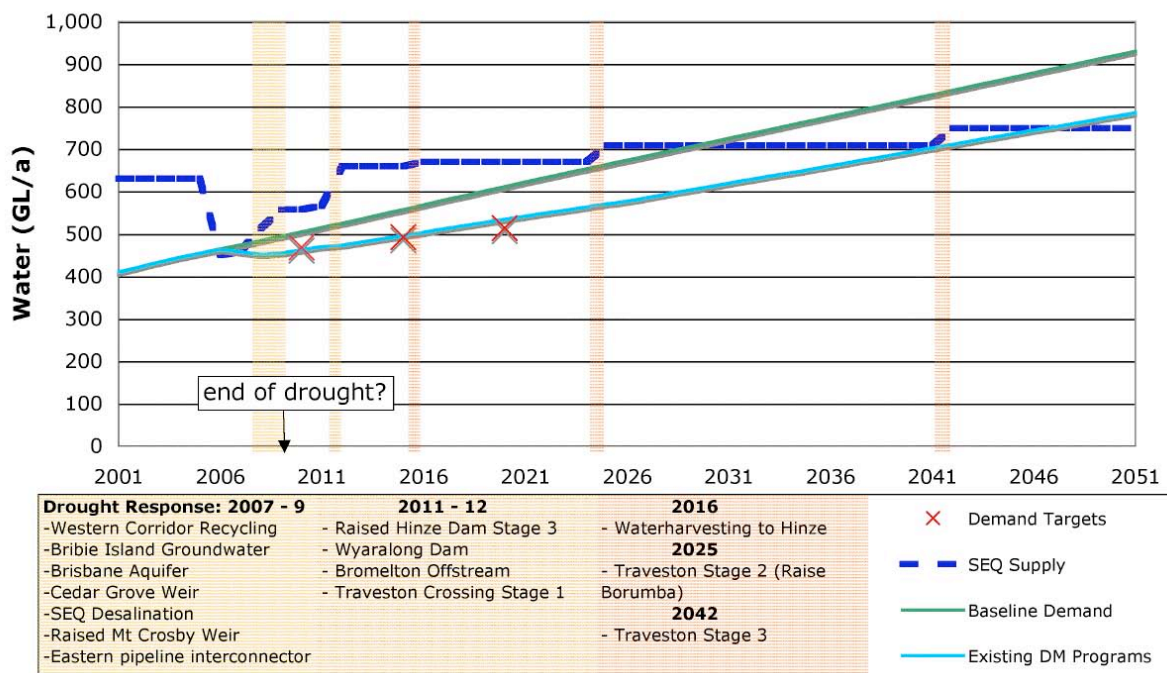


Figure 3-4 shows the SEQ proposed supply-demand balance. The figure illustrates how the increased yield from the supply-side initiatives will add to the down-rated yield of the existing supply system over time and how this compares to the reference case demand and anticipated demand after SEQ proposed demand-side initiatives are implemented.

Figure 3-4 The SEQ proposed supply-demand balance



Note – the indirect potable reuse component of the Western Corridor Recycling Scheme is not included due to uncertainty over its contribution to the medium to long-term supply-demand balance.

Figure 3-4 helps to illustrate the significant commitment that the Qld Government is making to both supply and demand-side initiatives. However, it also shows the significant “excess yield” that could potentially result if all the SEQ proposed supply-side initiatives are implemented. With the existing yield having already been down-rated to prudent yield and the yield of the new SEQ proposed supply-side initiatives taking into consideration the revised DNRW prudent yield assumptions, the combination of SEQ proposed supply-side initiatives provides an extremely conservative medium to long-term planning approach. In terms of short-term planning it is also difficult to justify a number of the SEQ proposed supply-side initiatives as part of a drought response. Hence, the SEQ proposed planning approach “as a whole” is considered inappropriate for several reasons as described below. A lower cost, lower risk strategy is proposed in Section 4.

In terms of short-term drought response planning a number of the demand and supply-side options will provide relief within a timeframe that could assist in slowing the rate of drawdown from storages to such an extent that the probability of the system “failing” in the current drought is significantly reduced. The exact timing that such options would need to be brought on-line needs to be assessed as part of a complex modelling exercise and the use of drawdown curves of the existing and modified (i.e. existing plus new sources) supply system. With the current drought and existing surface water storage levels being so low it is highly unlikely that options implemented after the next 2 to 3 years (i.e. post 2009) could assist in the current drought situation.

On Figure 3-4 this would mean that several of the SEQ proposed supply-side initiatives might be considered “too late” for the current drought situation. This includes all stages of the Traveston Crossing scheme, included as part of the Water Amendment Regulation (No.6) drought response

measures and represents just under half of the yield of the SEQ proposed supply-side initiatives identified in Table 3-3.

The SEQ proposed 2007 to 2009 supply-side initiatives are a mixture of smaller surface water, ground water, reuse and desalination. Considering these options as a whole (without considering the economic, social or environmental perspectives in detail) they represent a diverse mixture of sources that are less affected by climate variability than the existing predominantly “rain fed” SEQ supply sources currently affected by the drought. As such the suite of SEQ proposed 2007 to 2009 options, that will provide approximately 110 GL/a, will be useful in terms of providing water for both the short (drought) and medium to long-term and assist in diversifying the supply source portfolio.

Considering the medium to long-term planning, if these 2007 to 2009 SEQ proposed supply-side options are implemented and the SEQ proposed demand-side initiatives are also implemented the prudent yield of the system (which allows for worst case scenarios associated with drought) would return to over 560 GL/a providing excess yield to around 2025.

If the additional supply-side options post 2009 (including all stages of the Traveston Crossing scheme, Wyaralong Dam, both modifications to Hinze Dam and Bromelton Offstream) were also constructed this would potentially increase supply by approximately an additional 190 GL/a. This suite of options would rely predominantly on a single large “rain fed” storage (the Traveston Crossing scheme) and mean that the Qld Government would be investing in excess yield now that may not be required until 2050 if at all (i.e. dependent on the assumed water demand associated with the assumed population projections and the assumed prudent yields). As indicated earlier in Section 3.3, Stage 1 of the Traveston Crossing scheme alone is anticipated to cost over \$2.6 billion. Hence this approach is considered risky in economic terms as it is committing public funds now to a high cost single “rain fed” source that may not actually be required. A more risk averse approach would be to use an adaptive management approach, as discussed further in Section 4.

To assist in determining which options should be considered further as part of the Study team “proposed strategy” detailed in Section 4, the existing SEQ proposed options need to be clearly separated into those that are effectively “committed” and thus will contribute to filling the SEQ supply-demand balance and those that will be considered further in Section 4. Three basic criteria have been used to determine this:

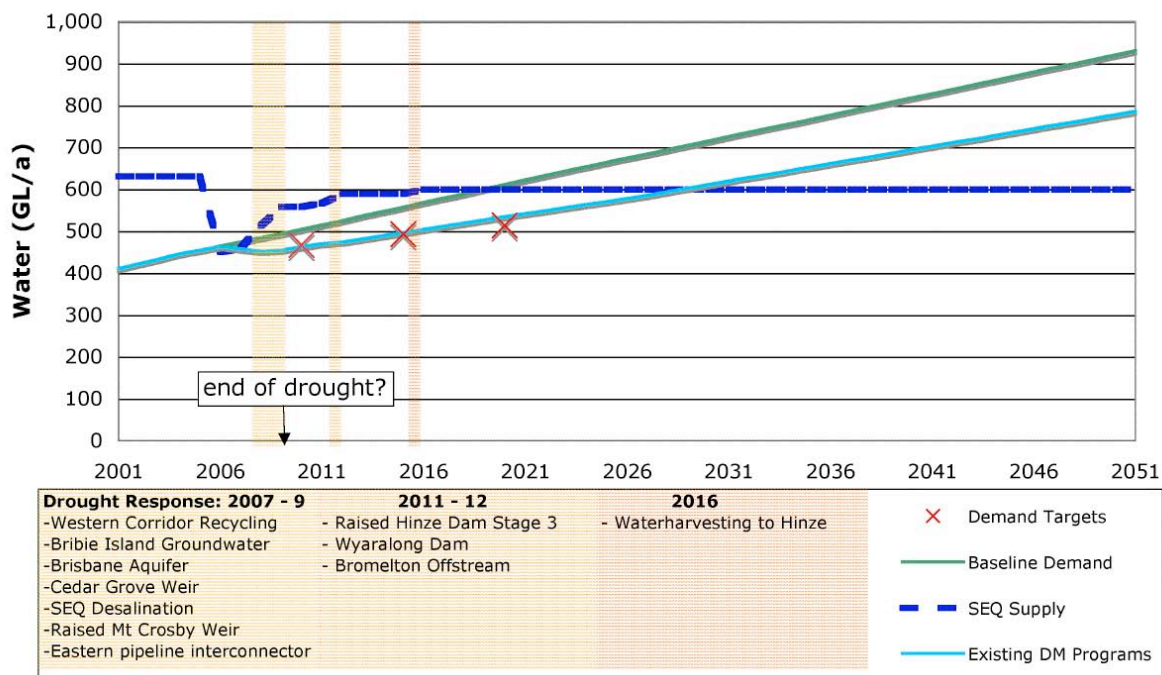
- **Drought relief potential**
The extent to which the measure can deliver water during the critical drought period this has been assumed to be over the next 2 to 3 years (2007 to 2009).
- **Level of commitment**
The extent to which the decision to proceed with implementation/construction is irreversible such as approvals obtained or construction commenced.
- **Level of risk**
The risk associated with each measure in economic terms, for example a high risk option has high (up front) capital expenditure and some uncertainty that it may not deliver anticipated safe yield within the required timeframe whereas a low risk option has relatively low capital expenditure and high probability that it will deliver anticipated water in the required time.

When the SEQ proposed supply-side options are assessed according to these criteria it is evident that the large dam projects such as Traveston Crossing and Wyaralong Dam fail such criteria. For example they will not provide additional water in the critical drought period, cannot be considered committed as requisite Commonwealth approvals have not yet been obtained (i.e. both projects require approval under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*) and are high risk due to their high upfront costs and the fact they are “rain fed” adding to the vulnerability of the current predominantly rain fed supply system.

Due to the scope of this Study only the Traveston Crossing scheme has been considered further in Section 4.

Figure 3-5 shows the supply-demand balance removing all three stages of the Traveston Crossing scheme. With the remaining mixture of supply and demand-side initiatives being implemented by the Qld Government the supply-demand balance can be met until approximately 2030.

Figure 3-5 Supply-demand balance



Recommendation 3.3

Due to the scope of this Study only the Traveston Crossing scheme has been compared against a new suite of demand and supply-side options. However, it is recommended that at least Wyaralong Dam, with a capital cost alone of approximately \$500 million and unit cost of over \$2.00 /kL (without taking into consideration operating costs) should also be considered in more detail from an economic and risk perspective. This should be undertaken as soon as possible before implementation to ensure that this SEQ proposed supply-side option is appropriate economically, socially, environmentally and from a risk perspective.

3.4 Gaps and opportunities in current planning

Assessment of the SEQ proposed demand and supply-side options reveals significant potential for improvements in planning for both drought relief and medium to long-term water security.

Despite significant investment in demand management initiatives and the setting of targets for reduced per capita water consumption, there remains significant opportunity to tap into additional water savings. Many of these additional demand-side options are likely to have lower unit costs than those currently being implemented by the Qld Government.

On the supply-side, there is potential to re-visit the SEQ-proposed strategy and develop a suite of options that are more risk-averse, lower in unit cost and provide more security for both drought response and medium to long-term supply security, if these additional supplies are found to be required.

As the Traveston Crossing scheme fails to meet any of the criteria identified in Section 3.3 and represents nearly half of the yield associated with the SEQ proposed drought and medium to long-term planning this option is considered “not committed”. It has therefore been assessed in greater detail along with other potential additional demand and supply-side options (within the framework of an adaptive management approach) in Section 4 – The Study Team Proposed Strategy.

In addition, due to the uncertainty of whether indirect potable reuse will be accepted by the community as part of medium to long-term planning, the indirect potable reuse component of the Western Corridor Recycling Scheme has also been removed from the SEQ committed supply-side initiatives and considered further in Section 4 together with additional indirect potable reuse opportunities.

Recommendation 3.4

The Traveston Crossing scheme is geographically disconnected from the high growth areas in the south of the SEQ region, is rain fed and therefore augments an already vulnerable rain fed dependent supply system and has a high upfront cost. It is therefore considered to be a high risk in economic terms. In addition assuming the drought response measures are needed over the next 2 to 3 years, to alleviate the current drought situation, Traveston Crossing Dam Stage 1 cannot provide assistance in the current drought (even though it has been included in the emergency drought response legislation) as it is due to be completed by 2012 and will then need time to fill to provide yield. Hence on these criteria alone the decision to build the Traveston Crossing scheme is not recommended and should be reconsidered by the Qld Government.

4 STUDY TEAM PROPOSED STRATEGY

4.1 Overview of approach

As identified in Section 1.3 this Study has used the principles of integrated resource planning (IRP) as the basis for the review. IRP is considered a best practice approach to urban water planning and management internationally (Turner et al, 2007). As part of this approach a suite of additional demand and supply-side options have been developed to complement those already committed as part of the SEQ proposed supply-demand strategy (excluding the Traveston Crossing scheme).

In addition to the use of IRP a number of criteria have been used to assist in reviewing the existing SEQ proposed supply-side options and those proposed by the Study team.

The criteria identified in Section 3.3 include:

- drought relief potential (i.e. to what extent can the option assist in the current drought)
- level of commitment (i.e. to what extent are the costs of the option ‘sunk’)
- level of risk (i.e. does the option involve a large upfront capital cost, or increase the reliance on rain fed supply sources)

The “level of commitment” criteria are not relevant when considering new options. However, the following additional criteria have been considered (to the extent possible within the scope) when developing options:

- economic – low unit cost and the avoidance of options with a high upfront cost
- social impacts
- environmental impacts

To minimise risk and cost, a portfolio of options should be developed that as closely as possible matches the demand and supply over the planning period. This favours low unit cost, modular options combined with options that can be developed rapidly during severe droughts. The risk of historical droughts occurring is built into the prudent yield, therefore for yield to exceed demand represents an over-investment in water supply infrastructure at the expense of other public services.

Sections 4.3 and 4.4 outline the suite of additional demand-side and supply-side options that have been analysed as part of this Study and their associated yields and costs. These are used to develop a strategy that addresses medium to long-term planning as well as response to severe drought.

Before this the economic analysis method used is briefly explained in Section 4.2 below.

4.2 Economic analysis

As indicated in Section 1.3 comparing options using a common metric is key to IRP. Hence to assist in obtaining a first cut ranking of the suite of demand and supply-side options the total cost to society (the total resource cost), estimated yield and resulting unit cost (\$/kL) have been identified for each option over the 2050 planning horizon.

The total costs include all capital and ongoing operating costs to all stakeholders including customers, each utility and the Qld Government over the 2050 planning horizon. The yield in terms of water supplied or saved is similarly considered over the same period. Appendix C provides an explanation of how the unit cost (\$/kL), which is considered for each option, is calculated.

4.3 Demand-side options

As indicated in Sections 2.2.2 and 3.2, there is still significant conservation potential that can be tapped into in both existing and new properties in the residential and non residential sectors and in non revenue water. By tapping into this potential the demand can be further reduced to not only achieve but exceed the demand reduction targets, thereby reducing the supply-demand gap further.

Additional demand-side options have been investigated by the Qld Government. Unfortunately, this information has not been released publicly or made available to the Study team and therefore a high level independent assessment has been undertaken to provide an “**indication**” of the level of additional savings available and “**what it might take**” to achieve such savings for example in terms of various instruments (i.e. regulations). In addition, unit costs have been determined to enable comparison with supply-side options.

To assist in identifying potential savings in the residential sector a summary of the efficiency of the current stock of appliances has been compiled as shown in Table 4-1.

Table 4-1 Efficiency levels in the residential sector

End Use	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Showers (efficient)	36.9%			43.9%	
- people taking shorter showers	14.2%			15.4%	
Toilets (dual flush)	62.1%			74.7%	
Front loading washing machines sales*	9.1%	12.6%	19.8%	23.6%	25.4%
Front loading washing machines in households		6.6%			10.3%
- people using full loads	13.3%			13.7%	
- < 3 loads per week		25.0%			24.6%
- 3 to 5 loads per week		37.1%			42.6%
Households with evaporative air conditioners		4.5%			5.7%
use < 1 month per year		13.6%			18.2%
use < 1 month per year to < 3 months per year		27.5%			31.7%
Households with rainwater tanks	17.5%			17.4%	
Households with rainwater tanks in Brisbane				4.8%	

Sources – ABS 2004 and ABS 2005 and *GFK 2006

This information is provided at a state level and is therefore only used to provide an indication of efficiency of stock in the SEQ area.

Table 4-2 provides a summary of the options considered. Appendix B provides a more detailed description of each option and the associated assumptions. It should be noted that additional conservation potential is still available but can only be assessed with more detailed data and modelling.

Table 4-2 Study team proposed new demand-side options

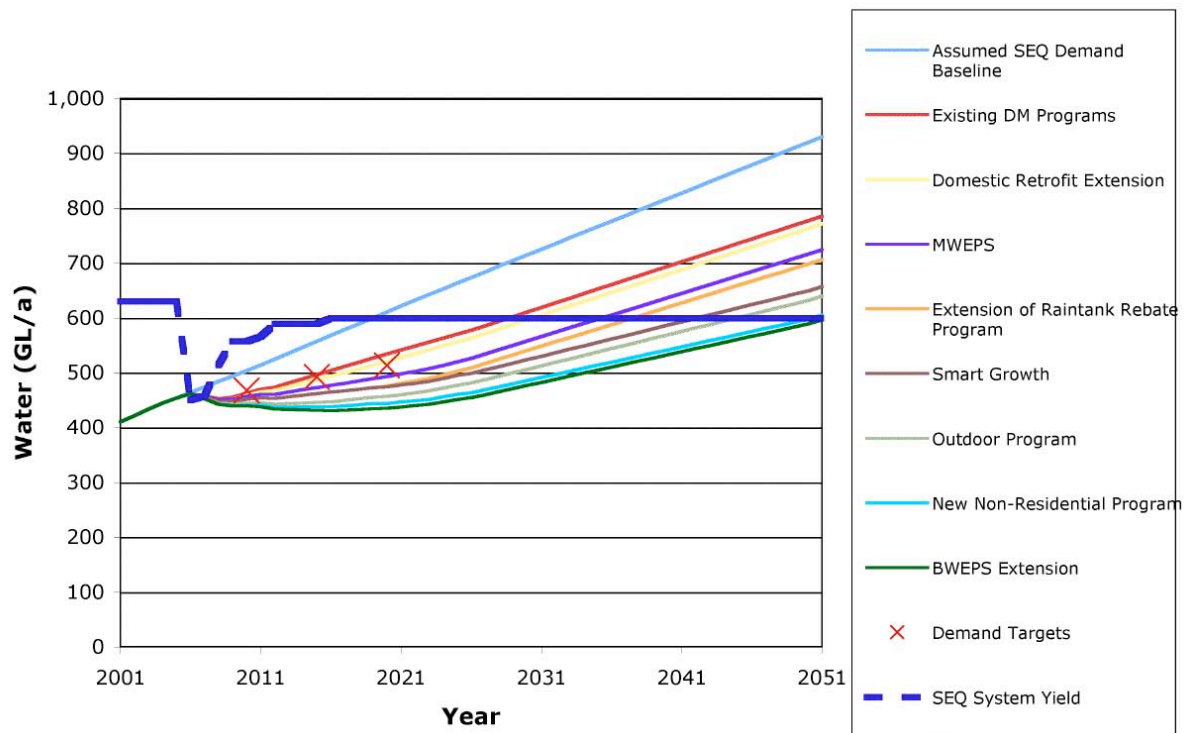
No.	Option
Residential sector	
SP – D1	Retrofit program (extension) - Extension of the current retrofit program on existing households to 75% of existing households, over a long period and based on the turnover (sales) of housing stock. To achieve this high level of uptake regulations would be used to ensure that at ‘point of sale’ all existing households need to be certified that they have undertaken a retrofit. It is assumed that the majority of the cost of this service would be provided by government or the water service provider, therefore providing a minimum financial barrier to the house owner and reducing community resistance to the scheme. This option assumes a saving of 21 kL/household/annum (Turner et al, 2005).
SP – D2	Rainwater tank (extension) – Extension of the rainwater tank program for existing households. This program would require connection of the tank to outdoor and selected indoor end uses to optimise the rainwater tank savings. In some locations in (for example) Brisbane there are localised constraints experienced by the stormwater system or peak water supply. Rainwater tanks in such areas could reduce costs associated with upgrading stormwater or water reticulation systems (Turner et al, 2003). This is very area-specific and requires further research, but it can be assumed that such opportunities will reduce the unit cost of rainwater tank retrofits, which would otherwise be very high. It is assumed that a high uptake could be achieved in this option if it were linked to regulations that affect specific zones that would benefit from avoided stormwater infrastructure upgrading and mains upgrading associated with fire fighting. Savings of 70 kL/household/a have been assumed (Coombes & Kuczera, 2003).
SP – D3	Mandatory Water Efficiency Performance Standards (MWEPS) – This option assumes savings in existing and new households by introducing minimum efficiency standards on appliances such as washing machines, showers and toilets. To minimise double counting only savings associated with washing machines have been assumed, a saving of 24 kL/household/annum (pers com Spaninks, 2006). An additional benefit of this option would be to assist in locking in the savings associated with other programs such as the retrofit program though mandatory efficiency standards on showerheads and taps.
SP – D4	Outdoor garden program – This option assumes an outdoor ‘tune up’ program involving an inspection, assessment, advice and hardware support, would be implemented for existing households and could obtain 20% savings of the outdoor component of demand. Such a program would be implemented in a similar way to the retrofit program. To ensure the high level of uptake and the maintenance of savings the use of regulations would be used to ensure that at point of sale all households must undertake the outdoor garden program inspection and service. To maintain these savings it is assumed that such households would participate in the program several times over the 2050 planning horizon as they are re-sold. ¹⁷
SP – D5	Smart growth (new) – Significant savings are already being assumed as part of the SEQ requirements for new developments. However, the practical experience in, for example, Pimpama-Coomera on the Gold Coast, and proposed requirements in Caloundra has gone much further, assuming an 80% reduction in demand compared to current household use. This is achieved through ultra-high efficiency fixtures and appliances, maximising the capture of rainwater on site, and maximising the reuse of treated effluent. Costs are reduced through integration of the water supply

¹⁷ This program would effectively be a significant extension of the Home Garden Waterwise Rebate Scheme recently released by the Qld Government [http://www.nrw.qld.gov.au/water/saverscheme/pdf/garden_scheme.pdf - accessed 09/07/02].

No.	Option
	components and infrastructure and the use of ‘smart sewers’ and localised treatment to reduce water and effluent reticulation and transport costs. For modelling purposes the date for implementation of such a requirement for all new developments has been deferred until 2020 and care has been taken not to double count with the existing SEQ demand-side initiatives. This option is particularly powerful as it deals with the main driver for growth in demand in the SEQ region – new developments.
	Non residential sector
SP – D6	Non residential high water users (BWEPS – extension) - Extension of the high water users program to additional customers, assuming a 25% saving is available. This option is rolled out over a longer period than the current program to increase the probability of adoption and also assumes that sufficient incentives are provided to attract customers to implement the results of audit and assessment recommendations. Regulatory instruments could be used to increase the uptake of this option.
SP – D7	Non residential users (non residential - smart growth) – This option assumes a 40% saving could be achieved in new non residential properties. This option would be supported by regulations (development consent conditions) to ensure uptake.
	Non revenue water
	Pressure and leakage – The existing SEQ demand-side initiative on pressure and leakage management is extensive. Without more detailed information on the current annual real losses and unavoidable annual real losses an extension of this option is difficult to model. With more detailed information further savings and additional investment would be available. No additional savings have been assumed.

Figure 4-1 illustrates the existing SEQ demand-side initiatives and the additional savings that could be obtained from the new proposed demand-side options developed by the Study team. These options have assumed high participation rates could be achieved because a combination of economic, regulatory and communicative instruments would be used to “break barriers” to their implementation. These options are not exhaustive and additional conservation potential is still available but requires more detailed modelling.

Figure 4-1 SEQ and new study team proposed demand-side options



Note – Care needs to be taken in interpreting the savings of the existing SEQ demand management and new study team proposed options when comparing these to the reference case. The reference case demand used in this study is considered conservative, as it does not take into consideration the natural attrition of inefficient appliances or urban consolidation. In assessing the demand management options care has been taken to avoid double counting potential savings.

Figure 4-1 shows the combination of the suite of committed SEQ demand-side initiatives and Study team new proposed demand-side options would exceed the identified demand reduction targets and assist in capping the increase in demand being driven by population growth. In addition if the SEQ proposed supply-side options (except those associated with the Traveston Crossing scheme) are also considered, the supply-demand balance could be maintained until approximately 2050.

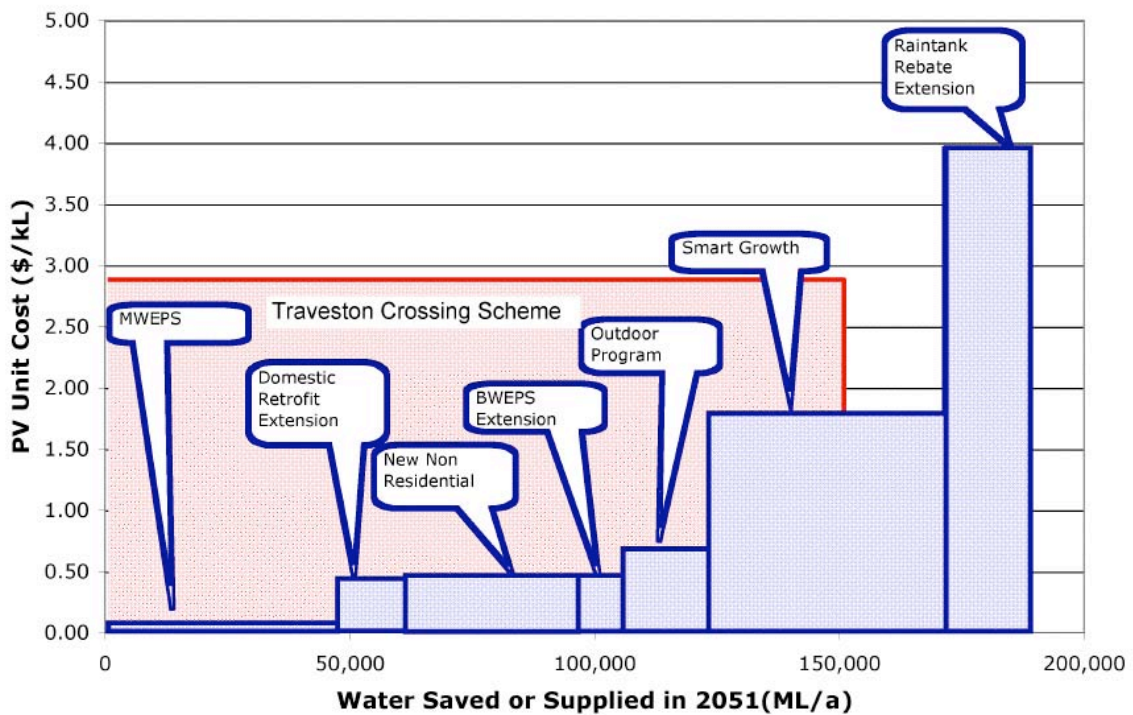
The total costs, unit costs and potential savings of each of these options are summarised in Table 4-3. Figure 4-2 shows a supply curve for the options, which illustrates the unit cost and estimated volume of water saved by 2050. The assumptions used to obtain the costs, savings and unit costs are summarised in Appendix B.

The unit costs and cumulative savings have been compared against the Traveston Crossing scheme. All options except the rainwater tank rebate extension program have a significantly lower unit cost than the Traveston Crossing scheme, they can provide more yield and in many cases are related to the main driver of the increase in water demand – growth.

Table 4-3 Summary of costs and savings of new study team proposed demand-side options

No.	Option	Total costs present value (\$M)	Unit cost present value (\$/kL)	Savings in 2010 ML/a	Savings in 2030 ML/a	Savings in 2050 ML/a
SP – D1	Retrofit (extension)	59	0.47	4,000	14,000	14,000
SP – D2	Rainwater tank (extension)	615	3.96	5,000	17,500	17,500
SP – D3	MWEPS	2	0.01	1,708	38,770	47,696
SP – D4	Outdoor (existing households)	125	0.71	7,014	17,535	17,535
SP – D5	Smart growth (new households)	1,076	1.85	0	16,582	49,137
SP – D6	BWEPS (extension)	44	0.50	1,774	8,870	8,870
SP – D7	Non residential smart growth (new properties)	76	0.50	3,464	20,626	34,780
	Totals	1,997		22,960	133,813	189,518

Figure 4-2 Supply curve of new study team proposed demand-side options (2050)



4.4 Supply-side options

A number of new supply-side options have also been considered. These are summarised in Table 4-4 together with their estimated additional yield that could be used to increase the yield of the system. Costs of each of these options are provided later in this Section. For full details and assumptions of each option refer to Appendix B. Figure 4-3 shows their locations.

Table 4-4 Study team new supply-side options

No.	Option	Estimated Additional Yield ML/a
Desalination		
SP – S1	Bribie Island Desalination (125 ML/day)	45,600
SP – S2	Bribie Island Desalination (250 ML/day)	91,250
SP – S3	Bribie Island Desalination (400 ML/day)	146,000
Indirect potable reuse (IPR)		
SP – S4	Western Corridor IPR	40,000
SP – S5	Sandgate to North Pine Dam IPR	5,620
SP – S6	Brendale to North Pine Dam IPR	1,680
SP – S7	Murrumba Downs to North Pine Dam IPR	4,230
SP – S8	Merrimac to Hinze Dam IPR	7,330
SP – S9	Noosa to Lake MacDonald IPR	2,040
SP – S10	Maroochy to Wappa Dam IPR	6,170
SP – S11	Caboolture to Moodlu Storage IPR	2,550
SP – S12	Kawana to Ewan Maddock Dam IPR	6,600
Surface water		
SP – S13	Glendower Dam & Albert River Barrage	18,000
SP – S14	Amamoor Dam to Narrangba	20,000
SP – S15	Cambroon Dam to Stanley River	32,000
SP – S16	Borumba-Coles-to North Brisbane	31,000
SP - S17	Borumba-Narangba	15,000
SP – S18	Wappa-Landershute	8,500
Other options		
SP – S19	System optimisation (benefits)	10,000

Figure 4-3 Potential Water Supply Sources in SEQ



There are a significant number of new supply-side options that can be considered. Many of these options have been investigated in past water resources planning studies described in reports such as:

- *Water Supply Sources in South East Queensland Volume 2 – Main Report*, by Water Resources Commission, DPI, Brisbane, 1991;
- *An Appraisal Study of Water Supply Sources for the Sunshine Coast and the Mary River Valley – Main Report*, Water Resources, Dept of Primary Industries, Brisbane 1994; and,
- *South East Queensland Water and Wastewater Management Study, Final Report for Phase 1 – Water Services and Infrastructure Needs, Volume 1*, Kinhill and GHD, 1999.

Options investigated as part of this Study have included:

- further development of groundwater sources
- new surface water sources, or modifications to the proposed sources
- desalination both as a pre-emptive option for growth and as a readiness option
- recycled water, in particular, indirect potable reuse both as a pre-emptive and readiness option
- recommissioning of existing sources
- purchase or trading of water allocation from irrigation
- transfer of water from other catchments
- benefits from system optimisation due to interconnection
- supply-side readiness options

The following sections describe these potential water sources, while Appendix B contains Fact Sheets on selected options. The fact sheets include capital and operating costs of the various options. Figure 4-3 shows the locations of these potential sources.

4.4.1 Groundwater Sources

There has been a significant amount of investigation recently of potential groundwater sources in the SEQ region with an aim to develop additional groundwater supplies for short-term drought emergency measures and long-term supply. Most of these sources are assumed to be included in the existing system yield, or as additional yield being developed as part of the drought response. None of the potential groundwater sources have been included in this Study. The Brisbane Aquifer Project, Bribie Island Groundwater Project and North Stradbroke Island (part of the Eastern Pipeline Interconnector) are all included as part of the SEQ supply-side initiatives.

Other Groundwater Sources.

Other potential sources, which have been investigated, are the Cooloola Sand Mass, Moreton Island, and aquifers in the coastal area between Brisbane and Caloundra. The Cooloola Sand Mass and Moreton Island are capable of yielding significant supplies, however significant areas of these sand masses are National Park, or high value conservation areas, and the amount of borefield development would be very limited.

It is understood that groundwater investigations in the coastal areas between Brisbane and Caloundra have failed to find any significant potential supplies.

Investigation, drilling and development of bores are occurring in Toowoomba, with the aim of increasing the supply from Toowoomba's bores to its full water entitlement from this source.

4.4.2 Surface Water Sources

The surface water sources proposed for construction as part of the current SEQ proposed supply-side initiatives are listed in Section 3.3. There are many other options that have been put forward as part of earlier water resource planning studies. A small number of options have been selected and proposed in this study as potential medium to long-term supply options, should they be required. These are described briefly in the following sections. Summaries of the options including yield, capital cost, operating cost, energy requirements and a brief description of the option with references are contained in Appendix B.

Glendower Dam – Albert River Barrage.

Glendower Dam which is located on the Albert River had been proposed as a future water source for SEQ in earlier planning studies. Consequently the Qld Government resumed land for this storage. In conjunction with Glendower Dam, it was planned also to construct a barrage on the Albert River at 18.7 km (near Yatala). Water would be drawn from the barrage. The advantage of this water supply system is its proximity to the Southern Regional Pipeline and the land acquisition that has already occurred for the Glendower Dam. A recent review by DNRW has identified impacts of this development on the riparian zone of the Albert River downstream of the dam.

The supply from this option is estimated as 18,000 ML/a at Albert River barrage for a Glendower Dam with a full supply level of RL 79.17 m AHD and capacity 111,800 ML.

Costs in the appendix include a pump station, treatment plant and pipeline to treat and deliver the supply to the Stapylton balancing storage on the Southern Regional Pipeline, as well as the cost of the dam itself.

Amamoor Dam

Amamoor Dam was proposed as a future water supply for the Mary Valley and North Coast area in past planning studies. Subsequently the Qld Government acquired all privately owned property that would be required for the development of this site. Development of this site however has been rejected in favour of the proposed Traveston Crossing scheme.

Amamoor Dam site is located on Amamoor Creek, a tributary of the Mary River. Costs for a dam with a full supply level of RL 135 m AHD and capacity of 220,000 ML were taken from the GHD 2006 Desk Top Study Report (GHD 2006). The yield from a dam of capacity 200,000 ML has been re-estimated recently by DNRW as 21,500 ML/a.

Treatment and delivery costs assume delivery of the supply from this dam by pipeline to the Narangba area.

Cambroon Dam

Cambroon Dam site is located on Mary River upstream of Kenilworth. This was investigated as one of the potential future water supply sources in the Mary Valley, but rejected in favour of the Traveston Crossing scheme. The dam is located 67 kilometres further upstream than the Traveston Crossing Dam, and development of this site would have much less impact on the Mary River than development of the Traveston Crossing Dam.

A storage with full supply level of RL 130 m AHD and capacity 120,000 ML has been assumed. A storage with this full supply level may affect parts of Conondale township, although most of the town is sited above 135 metres elevation. The yield of this dam has been recently re-estimated by DNRW. For a storage of 100,000 ML, the HNFY is estimated as 32,000 ML/a, exclusive of high flow and low flow compensation releases necessary to comply with the Mary Basin WRP.

The costing has included a pipeline and tunnel to convey the supply from this dam to Somerset Dam. A tunnel of 5.5 km length would be required.

The supply from this dam would supplement the supplies extracted from the Wivenhoe Dam - Somerset Dam system at Mt Crosby Weir, and also for the proposed pipeline to Perseverance Dam for Toowoomba's water supply.

Borumba Dam plus Coles Crossing Weir.

Borumba Dam is included as one of the proposed storage developments for SEQ, but as a storage constructed after Traveston Crossing Stage 1 and operating in combination with Traveston Crossing Stage 1.

There remains an option for Borumba Dam to be constructed independently of the Traveston Crossing Dam. The option of Borumba Dam to be constructed in conjunction with Coles Crossing Weir on the Mary River has been included in this report. Borumba Dam with a full supply level of RL 169.9 m AHD and capacity of 460,000 ML has been assumed. Releases would be made to Coles Crossing Weir, from where supply from this system would be drawn. The yield (at Coles Crossing Weir) of this storage system has recently been revised by DNRW as 31,000 ML/a exclusive of existing commitments.

The cost for the dam has been taken from the GHD 2006 Desktop study, and adjusted to conform with the revised DNRW costs for a smaller capacity dam from the report "*Water for South East Queensland – A Long Term Solution*". Treatment and delivery costs to the north Brisbane area have been included in the cost estimates.

Borumba Dam

This option considers the supply directly from Borumba Dam without any weir on the Mary River. The yield directly from a 460,000 ML capacity dam is estimated to be 15,000 ML/a exclusive of existing commitments.

The cost for the dam is as described above. Delivery and treatment costs have also been included assuming that the supply would be treated and delivered as far as the Narangba area.

Raised Wappa Dam

Raising of Wappa Dam is one of the options that has been considered in past planning studies. Recent advice from DNRW is that for compliance with the WRP there are fairly severe environmental flow releases required from Wappa Dam that result in very little additional yield for storage sizes above about 30,000 ML. For a storage capacity of 30,000 ML (Full Supply Level 63 m), the yield is estimated to be 8,500 ML/a in excess of the existing entitlements from the storage (16,500 ML/a).

The dam costs have been taken from the GHD 2006 Desktop Study. Treatment and delivery of the additional supply to the Landershute area has been assumed in the costing of the delivery system.

The raised Wappa Dam could be considered in conjunction with the indirect potable reuse option for supply from Maroochy Wastewater Treatment Plant.

4.4.3 Desalination

A desalination plant is currently being constructed at Tugun as one of the Water Supply Emergency Projects included in the QWC projects. The plant will deliver 125 ML/day.

A similar type of plant could be constructed on the middle to northern part of Bribie Island on the ocean side. This appears to be a suitable location as the inlet and outlet works could be constructed in

an area where there would be good dispersion of the reject brine. Suitable State owned land appears to be available in this area. This location appears preferable to other locations in SEQ.

Preliminary costs have been prepared for three plant sizes: 125 ML/day (45,600 ML/a), 250 ML/day (91,200 ML/a) and 400 ML/day (146,000 ML/a). The location appears to be suitable for plant sizes to 400 ML/day.

For the 125 ML/day, a delivery system has been assumed to as far as the Pine Rivers area. For the larger capacity plants delivery has been assumed to go as far as the north Brisbane area. The estimated costs of the three plants are contained in Appendix B.

The desalination plant costs are Cardno preliminary estimates, based on cost information for Tugun Plant, Kwinana Plant, and approximate costs provided by suppliers. Supplier costs are significantly lower than these costs. For example desalination capital cost estimates provided by suppliers are around \$1.5 million/ML/day supply (excluding inlet and outlet works). The figure estimated by Cardno is \$3.2 million/ML/day (excluding inlet and outlet works). The Tugun Plant (excluding inlet and outlet works) is \$4.8 million/ML/day. The Kwinana plant cost is approximately \$3.0 million/ML/day including auxiliary infrastructure. A major supplier of desalination equipment has quoted \$1.10/kL sale price for desalinated water. For comparison, it is understood that the sale price for desalinated water at the port of Singapore is approximately \$1.70 AUD per kL.

Costs of the pump stations, and pipelines for delivery to significant areas of demand are included in the total plant costs.

4.4.4 Recycled Water (Indirect Potable Reuse)

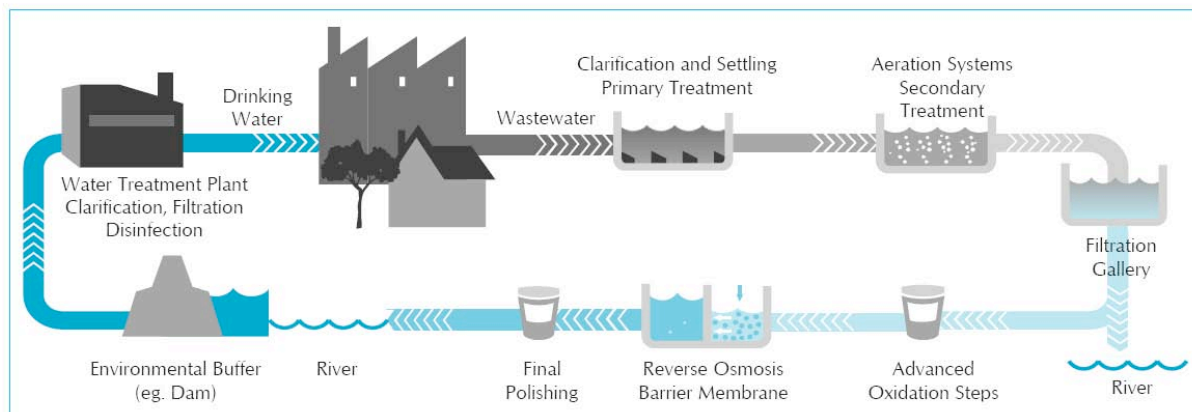
Any set of water supply options must include consideration of the use of recycled water, in particular indirect potable reuse (IPR). Indirect potable reuse is where highly treated recycled water is placed in an environmental buffer such as a river, storage, aquifer, or other water body and mixed with the existing water source before extraction, re-treatment, distribution and potable use.

The Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA) has recently released a position paper "*Refilling the Glass – Exploring the Issues Surrounding the Use of Recycled Water in Australia*". This position paper explores the issues surrounding use of recycled water including IPR.

Any advanced treatment process for IPR will require multiple barriers. Several physical and chemical barriers are required for pathogens, which can cause problems even if they are present only for a short time. Figure 4-4 shows a diagram from the WSAA position paper, which illustrates the multiple barrier treatment approach.

Figure 4-4 Diagram Illustrating Multi-Barrier Treatment Processes in IPR

(Source: WSAA Position Paper)



There are at least 12 IPR schemes in operation around the world, and in Australia, IPR is being considered for Goulburn. IPR was proposed for Toowoomba, but was rejected in a plebiscite in July 2006.

Advantages of IPR include security of supply, and a supply that can utilise existing water distribution infrastructure, rather than needing a separate pipe network for non-potable supply.

The IPR options presented here all involve the advanced treatment of treated wastewater from secondary or tertiary wastewater treatment plants by a number of processes including microfiltration, reverse osmosis, and disinfection, then placement in or upstream of a water supply storage, for mixing, exposure to sunlight, and re-treatment before potable use. The component recycled in most cases will constitute less than 15% of the total supply.

The potential IPR schemes are listed in the fact sheets in Appendix B, and the summary table in this section. Brief descriptions of the potential schemes are as follows.

Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme

Recycled water of a standard suitable for IPR is to be produced by this scheme. Some of the supply will be used at Tarong and Swanbank Power Stations to substitute for potable supply passing to these power stations. Additional recycled water will be available beyond these uses and supply and it is proposed that this be placed in Somerset or Wivenhoe Dams. A total of approximately 40,000 ML/a will potentially be available for IPR. If all of this were used for IPR, the recycled component of the supply would make up approximately 12% of the total supply from the Wivenhoe Somerset water supply system.

Sandgate to North Pine Dam

A major upgrade of the Sandgate wastewater treatment plant to tertiary treatment standard is underway. A further advanced treatment stage could be added, and the recycled water piped to North Pine Dam for storage, re-treatment and reuse. If 5,600 ML/a were produced (the approximate maximum volume which could be produced from the plant with its current loading), the recycled component would represent less than 10% of the total supply from the dam.

Brendale to North Pine Dam

A tertiary wastewater treatment plant is located at Brendale. This option involves further advanced treatment of the effluent and piping it to North Pine Dam for storage, re-treatment and reuse. The recycled component would be approximately 1,700 ML/a, or about 3% of the total supply from North Pine Dam.

Murrumba Downs to North Pine Dam

A tertiary wastewater treatment plant is located at Murrumba Downs. This option involves further advanced treatment of the effluent and piping it to North Pine Dam for storage, re-treatment and reuse. The recycled component would be approximately 4,230 ML/a, or about 7% of the total supply from North Pine Dam. If recycled water from Sandgate and Brendale plants is also pumped to North Pine Dam, the recycled component of the total supply from North Pine dam will be about 16% of the total supply from the dam.

Merrimac to Hinze Dam

Merrimac treats wastewater from the Gold Coast area to tertiary standard. This option is to treat water to a higher standard and pipe it to Hinze Dam for reuse. The quantity recycled would be approximately 7,300 ML/a (the amount potentially available from the existing plant), and the recycled component would make up approximately 9% of the total supply from Hinze Dam.

Noosa to Lake MacDonald

The Noosa plant is a tertiary treatment plant. With this option, further advanced treatment of the wastewater would occur, then the recycled water would be piped to Six Mile Creek upstream of Lake MacDonald. If all the output of the Noosa Wastewater Treatment Plant (less currently re-used fraction and the process waste stream) were treated, then the recycled component would represent approximately 33% of the current supply from Lake MacDonald.

Maroochy to Wappa Dam

The Maroochy Wastewater Treatment Plant is currently being upgraded to tertiary treatment with the capacity to produce Grade A recycled water. With this option, further advanced treatment of the wastewater would occur, then the recycled water would be piped to North Maroochy River upstream of Wappa Dam. If all the output of the Maroochy Wastewater Treatment Plant (less currently re-used fraction and the process waste stream), then the recycled component would represent approximately 40% of the current supply from Cooloolabin-Wappa Dam-Poona water supply system. The recycled component would be less if Wappa Dam were to be raised.

Caboolture to Moodlu Storage

The South Caboolture Wastewater Treatment Plant has advanced water treatment processes that are able to treat recycled water to standards suitable for IPR. Currently, most of this recycled water is discharged to the river although 1 to 2 ML/day is currently being reused. An option is to pump the remaining available recycled water (approximately 7 ML/day) to the Moodlu Storage. Water could be released from the storage into Wararba Creek to be captured and re-treated in the water treatment plant for potable use, or drawn directly from the Moodlu Storage.

Kawana to Ewan Maddock Dam

With this indirect potable reuse option, tertiary treated effluent from the Kawana Wastewater Treatment Plant undergoes further advanced treatment by reverse osmosis and other processes, then is

piped to a point just upstream of Ewan Maddock Dam to be mixed with runoff from its catchment and recycled for urban use.

There are plans to recommission Ewan Maddock Dam as a water supply storage. The water yield from this storage is estimated to be 3,800 ML/a.

The recycled component will represent approximately 63% of the total supply available from Ewan Maddock Dam. The supply from Ewan Maddock Dam (including the recycled component) could possibly be mixed with the supply from other water sources.

General

The potential IPR schemes described above are not an exhaustive list of the IPR options in SEQ, but include ones that will offer significant recycled water supplies. There are approximately 60 wastewater treatment plants in SEQ many of which are small capacity plants. An additional option offering a significant recycled water supply and worthy of further investigation is IPR from Loganholme Wastewater Treatment Plant. Treated wastewater from the Loganholme wastewater treatment plant could be purified and piped to a storage in the Logan River catchment such as the proposed Bromelton Off-stream Storage or the proposed Wyaralong Dam for IPR.

The recycled component of each of the supply sources mentioned above is a time-averaged figure. The recycled component will increase during drought periods, and reduce during periods of high runoff and overflows.

Some of the above IPR options may require upgrading of the downstream water treatment plants to include ozonation and BAC filtration processes as additional measures of protection against possible failure of the advanced wastewater treatment plants due to such events as lightning strikes.

IPR options will be affected by demand management initiatives. In future detailed modelling both the yield and costs of such options will need to take this into consideration.

4.4.5 Recommissioning of Existing Inactive Water Sources

Enoggera Dam and Lake Manchester are water storages owned by Brisbane City Council and were originally used for Brisbane's water supply. Following the construction of other major water sources including Wivenhoe Dam, these storages ceased being utilised as water sources. In response to the current drought situation, Brisbane City Council is reactivating them.

Lake Manchester is located on Cabbage Tree Creek, a tributary of the Brisbane River upstream of Mt Crosby Weir. Releases of up to 30 ML/day are now being made from Lake Manchester to Mt Crosby. The HNFY of this storage has recently been re-estimated by DNRW as 5,800 ML/a, although this yield will be revised downwards, as the current drought is the critical period in the historical simulation period for this storage. The prudent yield estimate for this storage is of the order of 5,000 ML/a.

Enoggera Dam is located on Enoggera Creek and is one of Brisbane's earliest water storages, being constructed in 1866. The water treatment plant at this storage is being re-commissioned, and it is expected that 6 to 8 ML/day will be drawn from this source. The HNFY of this storage has recently been estimated by DNRW to be 1,700 ML/a.

Assuming that these two storages will remain active supplies, an additional 6,700 ML/a will be available for urban water supply. These water sources are not included in the lists of supplies from the existing and proposed water sources in the report "*Water For South East Queensland – A Long Term Solution*". The supplies from these storages also are not included in the QWC Water Supply Emergency Projects.

Ewan Maddock dam is an urban water supply storage located on Adlington Creek, constructed in 1975, which provided water supply for the Caloundra area. Because of the condition of delivery mains and water treatment facilities, this storage has been inactive as a supply source in recent years. There are plans to reconstruct the treatment and delivery system and bring this storage on line as part of the drought management strategy. This storage has been included in the list of existing supplies in the SEQRWSS planning study, therefore cannot be considered as an additional supply.

4.4.6 Acquisition of Rural Water Allocation

There are a number of water supply schemes that provide water for rural uses within the SEQ area. These schemes are owned by SunWater and are:

- Central Lockyer Valley Water Supply Scheme
- Logan River Water Supply Scheme
- Lower Lockyer Valley Water Supply Scheme
- Mary River Water Supply Scheme
- Warrill Valley Water Supply Scheme

There have been proposals to acquire some of this rural allocation for urban use, either as a seasonal assignment (temporary transfer) of interim water allocation or a permanent transfer of water allocation. Seasonal assignment is possible under the Interim Resources Operations Licences (IROL) for these schemes but permanent transfer is not possible until Resource Operations Plans (ROP) have been prepared for the particular schemes.

As no ROPs have been prepared for areas encompassing these schemes, seasonal assignment of water allocation appears to be the only current avenue for acquisition of water for urban water supply purposes.

There is virtually no scope in all these schemes except the Mary River Water Supply Scheme for seasonal assignment of interim water allocation, as the announced allocations for medium priority interim water allocations in these schemes have been zero or close to zero for a number of years recently, because of the continuing severe drought conditions.

The Mary River Water Supply Scheme has three sub-schemes: Lower Mary River Water Supply Scheme; Mary Valley Water Supply Scheme; and Cedar Pocket Water Supply Scheme. Potential for transfer of allocation in the Lower Mary Water Supply Scheme is very limited because of its distance from the centres of demand. Potential is also limited in the Cedar Pocket scheme because it has a very small allocation relative to the other schemes.

Noosa draws part of its supply from Mary River at Coles Crossing, and its allocation is from the Mary Valley Water Supply Scheme. Some potential may exist for seasonal assignment of water from this sub-scheme. There is 21,513 ML/a of medium priority interim water allocation for agricultural purposes in the Mary Valley Scheme, 3,000 ML/a of which is held by SunWater as unallocated water (according to the IROL). The announced allocation for this scheme is currently 82%. It has been as low as 45% during the 2003/04 water year.

Seasonal assignment of the medium priority water would be subject to the price offered and the willingness of holders of medium priority water to make their allocations available for temporary transfer. The quantity potentially available would be subject to the announced allocation, which historically has been as low as 45%, but could be even lower during more severe drought periods. There may be potential for up to approximately 9,000 ML/a water to be seasonally assigned for urban use, but infrastructure would have to be in place to convey this water to the urban demand areas. It is unlikely that pipelines and pump stations would be constructed without some assurance of this quantity being available on a regular basis.

Permanent transfer of water allocation will not be possible until a ROP is completed. The ROP will contain rules, which will most likely:

- limit the transfer of water allocation from the lower sections of the scheme (Lower Mary) to the mid and upper sections of the scheme (Mary Valley) for hydrological reasons;
- limit the amounts to be transferred from medium priority to high priority for protection of rural industries; and
- specify conversion factors for conversion of medium priority allocation high priority allocation.

These factors will be determined as an outcome of hydrological modelling. It is understood that a conversion factor of 4 ML of medium priority allocation for 1 ML of high priority allocation has been suggested. With that conversion factor, 5,000 ML/a of high priority water allocation could potentially be available from the Mary Valley Water Supply Scheme.

The maximum quantum of allocation potentially available for permanent transfer and conversion to high priority allocation suitable for urban water will not be known until the ROP is released. A very preliminary assessment of the maximum amount potentially available is of the order of 5,000 ML/a.

4.4.7 Transfer of water from Northern New South Wales rivers

Transfer of water from northern New South Wales catchments to SEQ for emergency or permanent urban water supplies is another possibility that is being investigated.

The National Water Commission has recently commissioned a desktop feasibility study of the interstate transfer of water from northern NSW catchments (including the Clarence River and Tweed River catchments) to southern Qld.

The purpose of the study is to determine if there are under-utilised water resources in north-eastern NSW, the feasibility of transfer of water to SEQ, and the relative costs and benefits of transfer schemes. Within these overall objectives, the sub-objectives are to supply a large quantity of water (in excess of 50,000 ML/a) while protecting the environment, water quality and supply security for existing users. The study is being undertaken for NWC by SMEC, with a report due early in 2007. At this stage no outcomes of the study are available.

Some preliminary enquiries have been made to the NSW Department of Natural Resources regarding its policies on additional allocation from the Tweed River, and interstate transfer of water from the Tweed River. It is understood that no new water allocations from the Tweed are permitted except to Local Governments that currently have allocations from the river or its tributaries for urban use, and who can demonstrate that additional supplies from the Tweed River are necessary to satisfy increasing demand from population growth, provided there are no other options available including demand management. It is also understood that the current state legislation does not allow the transfer of water from the Tweed River into Qld.

The Tweed and Clarence catchments have significant runoff, and have relatively insignificant storage development. On hydrological grounds there appears to be significant potential for further water resources development, but there are a number of factors, which may limit the opportunities for short or long-term utilisation of these resources for urban use in SEQ. These include:

- Environmental impacts;
- NSW State Government policies on granting additional allocation of water from these catchments;
- NSW State Government legislation regarding interstate transfer of water from these catchments;
- The distance of the potential sources from the demand centres in SEQ (the proposed Tugun Desalination Plant has the capacity to provide all of the urban demands for the southern part of the

Gold Coast area, therefore any additional supply would need to be piped north as far as the areas south of Brisbane); and

- The rugged topography separating the northern NSW catchments from the coastal SEQ catchments, which would mean high pumping heads and energy costs for the most direct routes.

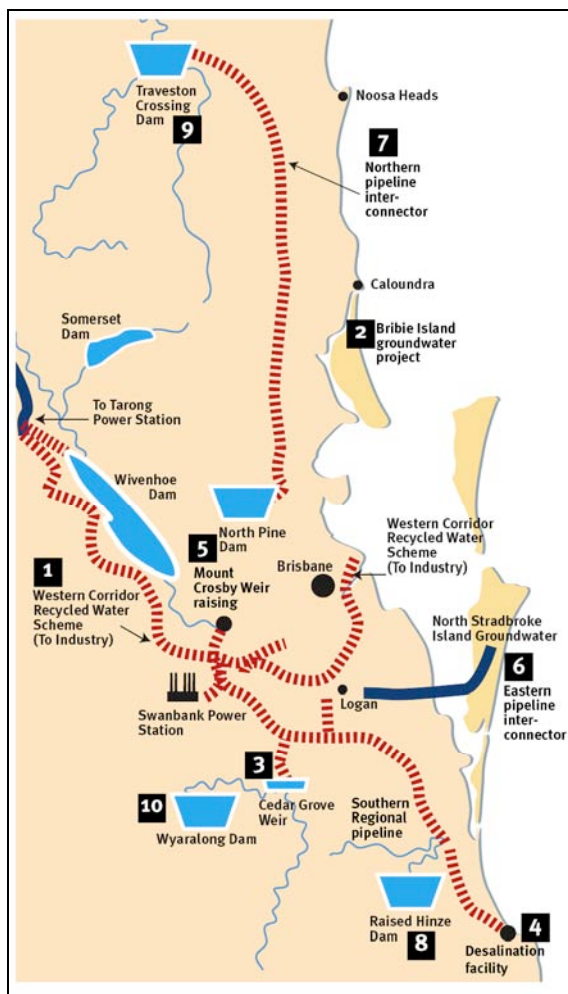
In consideration of these factors, no option for transfer of water from northern NSW catchments has been proposed in this Study. If the desktop study referred to above finds there is potential for transfer of significant quantities then some transfer options may be considered and costed.

4.4.8 Benefits of Interconnection of Sources

As part of the drought emergency measures, as well as for long-term water management, a number of pipelines are being constructed to provide multiple potential water sources for urban water demand areas. This project has been described as the “SEQ Water Grid”

A diagram showing the proposed major water pipeline network is shown as Figure 4-5.

Figure 4-5 Diagram of Proposed SEQ Water Grid



Source: DNRW website <http://www.nrw.qld.gov.au/water/water_infrastructure/pdf/seq_water_grid.pdf>

The main elements in the SEQ water grid are as follows:

The Southern Regional Pipeline.

This pipeline will convey treated water, and link Molendinar Water Treatment Plant (which treats water from Hinze Dam) with the water treatment plants at Mt Crosby Weir. Ultimately the Tugun desalination plant and the proposed Cedar Grove Weir will be linked into this pipeline. The pipeline will pass through a number of residential development areas including the Pimpama Coomera area and Springfield. This pipeline will provide the ability for many residential areas from Brisbane to the Gold Coast to be supplied from a range of water sources, namely:

- Wivenhoe Somerset Water Supply System;
- Hinze Dam – Little Nerang Dam Water Supply System;
- The Tugun Desalination Plant; and
- The proposed Wyaralong Dam - Cedar Grove Weir water supply system.

Construction of the Southern Regional Pipeline has commenced, with pipe laying and pump station earthworks underway.

The Northern Pipeline Interconnector.

This pipeline will link AquaGen's coastal mains near Eudlo to Caboolture and then to North Pine Dam. The pipeline will be able to transfer water northwards or southwards depending on the demands. It will have a transfer capacity of 65 ML/day. A pipeline is also planned linking the Noosa and Maroochy water distribution systems. With this interconnector, it will be possible to provide water to urban areas in north Brisbane, Caboolture and the North Coast area to a greater or lesser extent from the following sources:

- Baroon Pocket Dam;
- North Pine Dam;
- Cooloolabin-Wappa-Poona Water Supply System; and
- Mary River.

The Eastern Pipeline Interconnector.

This pipeline will connect the North Stradbroke Island water sources, which currently supply parts of the Redland Shire to the Logan City water distribution network. The intent is to make available some or all of the additional supply from the proposed central borefield on North Stradbroke Island to the Logan City area. The capacity of the system is 22 ML/day, and the target completion date is December 2008.

These pipelines will enable interconnection of water sources, subject to limitations on transfer capacity. The total water supply available from water sources within the SEQ region as reported in the *“Water for South East Queensland – A Long Term Solution”* has been estimated as the sum of the supplies available from the individual water supply schemes.

With interconnection of the water supply systems, the total yield of the interconnected system is expected to be somewhat greater than the sum of the yields of the individual systems, due to the critical drought periods occurring at different times. When one supply is near failure, other sources can be substituted. The amount of this increase in supply due to interconnection will depend on the spatial

variability of the climate in the SEQ region. It is understood that DNRW is carrying out hydrological modelling of the interconnected water supply system to make an estimate of the combined yield, and the increase in yield due to interconnection. Until results of this study are available only a preliminary estimate of the additional supply available can be made.

Cardno carried out a preliminary estimate of the additional yield available through interconnection of the Hinze Dam and the Wivenhoe Somerset Dam system. The results indicated that an additional yield of at least 5,400 ML/a would have been available over the sum of the yields of the two systems operating independently, on a HNFY basis. With the inclusion of other water supply systems including North Pine Dam, and Baroon Pocket Dam, covering a larger geographic area, it is estimated that the additional yield for conjunctive operation of the storages in the SEQ region may be of the order of 10,000 ML/a over the sum of the yields of the individual systems.

For the purposes of this study, a benefit of 10,000 ML/a of additional yield has been assumed through interconnection of the urban water supply sources in the SEQ region.

4.4.9 Supply-side Readiness Options

The intrinsic uncertainty associated with water supply systems means that there is a strong advantage in having options available which allow adaptation to changed circumstances. The major uncertainty is the incidence of drought, and while the historical incidence of drought is factored into the yield estimates for a supply system, it is possible that severe droughts occur that are outside of this experience (as is indeed currently the case for the Wivenhoe-Somerset system). In terms of supply-side options, there are two possible responses to this uncertainty. The first is to try and build sufficient capacity to cope with even less likely droughts, capacity which will be needed less than once per hundred years on average.

The second approach is to have supply options available, which are not constructed, but are ready to build within sufficient time when storages are low during such extreme droughts. These 'readiness options' have a very low cost, since it should be calculated as the risk-weighted (i.e. probabilistic) cost of the option. The costs of planning, design, approvals, land purchase and maintenance of a site are relatively low compared to the cost of construction. This logic is based on the principles of real options analysis (see McDonald and Siegel 1986). These principles make it clear that it is preferable to delay investment in large irreversible capital works until the very last point at which it is needed. These principles have been used in a recent review by ISF and ACIL Tasman of the Sydney Metropolitan Water Plan (White et al. 2006).

Groundwater resources, inter-basin transfers, desalination and IPR are all options that are suitable as readiness options. In fact, this suite reflects the approach of the Qld Government to the existing drought. For future planning this Study has assumed that there is limited future scope for further increases in groundwater resource extraction and inter-basin transfers. As far as supply-side options are concerned, this leaves desalination capacity and IPR.

On the basis of results obtained in this Study, there is no need for additional supply capacity to replace the Traveston Crossing scheme. However, should there be in the future, a drought that exceeds the worst drought on record, there is the option available to construct desalination capacity at that time, and in a sufficiently timely way depending on the trigger level. In the case of the Bribie Island options, the lead time, once approvals were in place is likely to be of the order of 24 months.

The estimated costs of establishing readiness for the three desalination options are shown in Table 4-5.

Table 4-5 Estimated set-up costs for Bribie Island desalination capacity

Item	Set Up Costs (\$M)		
	Bribie 125 ML/d	Bribie 250 ML/d	Bribie 400 ML/d
Land acquisition – plant and land easements	2.6	3.1	3.1
EIA	1.0	1.2	1.2
Planning/Design	22.4	37.1	48.0
TOTALS	26.0	41.4	52.3

Even more promising may be the idea of IPR readiness. The Qld Premier has already stated that IPR would be employed for the Wivenhoe-Somerset system during the current drought should it be required. As indicated in Section 4.4 there are several other IPR options available in SEQ that could be considered in addition to Wivenhoe-Somerset. The timescales and readiness costs would be similar for IPR. The key factor would be social acceptance.

4.4.10 Summary of costs and yields

The yield, costs and unit costs for each of the supply-side options considered are summarised in Tables 4-6 and 4-7. Note that these yields and costs assume that the options are constructed to deal with growth rather than as a drought response ‘readiness’ option. In the case of the potential readiness options shown in Table 4-6 for desalination capacity and IPR the risk-weighted costs would be a fraction of those shown, typically less than 1% of these costs.

Table 4-6 Summary of costs and yield of study team new proposed supply-side “readiness” options

No.	Option	Total costs present value (\$M)	Unit costs present value (\$/kL)	Yield in 2050 ML/a
	Desalination			
SP – S1	Bribie Island Desalination (125 ML/day)	1,104	2.55	45,600
SP – S2	Bribie Island Desalination (250 ML/day)	2,030	2.34	91,250
SP – S3	Bribie Island Desalination (400 ML/day)	2,865	2.06	146,000
	Indirect potable reuse (IPR)			
SP – S4	Western Corridor IPR	352	0.65	40,000
SP – S5	Sandgate to North Pine Dam IPR	96	1.93	5,620
SP – S6	Brendale to North Pine Dam IPR	25	1.68	1,680
SP – S7	Murrumba Downs to North Pine Dam IPR	61	1.62	4,230
SP – S8	Merrimac to Hinze Dam IPR	116	1.79	7,330
SP – S9	Noosa to Lake MacDonald IPR	37	2.07	2,040
SP – S10	Maroochy to Wappa Dam IPR	116	2.12	6,170
SP – S11	Caboolture to Moodlu Storage IPR	15	0.65	2,550
SP – S12	Kawana to Ewan Maddock Dam IPR	219	2.44	6,600

Table 4-7 shows the costs and yield of a suite of potential options that could provide additional yield for the system for growth, if found necessary in the future. These supply-side options are modular and spread across the SEQ region and thus can be used to take advantage of adding to the supply system over time, in close proximity to where it is needed and in varying climatic rain fed areas.

Table 4-7 Summary of costs and yields of study team new growth supply-side options

No.	Option	Total costs present value (\$M)	Unit costs present value (\$/kL)	Yield in 2050 ML/a
	Surface water			
SP – S13	Glendower Dam & Albert River Barrage	235	1.48	18,000
SP – S14	Amamoor Dam to Narangba	490	2.77	20,000
SP – S15	Cambroon Dam to Stanley River	356	1.26	32,000
SP – S16	Borumba-Coles-to North Brisbane	732	2.67	31,000
SP – S17	Borumba-Narangba	475	3.58	15,000
SP – S18	Wappa-Landershute	152	2.03	8,500
	Other options			
SP- S19	System optimisation (benefits)	71	0.75	10,000

Table 4-8 provides similar information for the various stages of the SEQ proposed Traveston Crossing scheme.

Table 4-8 Summary of costs and yields of various stages of the Traveston Crossing scheme

No.	Option	Total costs present value (\$M)	Unit costs present value (\$/kL)	Yield in 2050 ML/a
	The Traveston Crossing scheme			
SEQ-S8	Traveston Crossing Dam - Stage 1	2,250	3.38	70,000
SEQ-S9	Traveston Stage 2 (Raise Borumba)	69	0.49	40,000
SEQ-S10	Traveston Crossing Dam - Stage 3	122	4.65	40,000
	Combined Traveston Crossing scheme	2,440	2.93	150,000

Note – For each stage the capital, operating and yields vary over time therefore the combined unit cost needs to be calculated taking this into consideration and is not merely an average.

When just considering unit cost, often used as the first indicator of an options screening process in terms of ranking, all of the supply-side options proposed (except Borumba-Narangba at \$3.58 /kL) have a lower unit cost than Traveston Crossing Dam Stage 1 (\$3.38 /kL). This is also the case when considering the combined Traveston Crossing scheme as a whole (\$2.93 /kL). Hence, using the first economic indicator used in a decision making process, the Traveston Crossing scheme should be one of the last supply-side options considered.

Assumptions for all the options considered are presented in the Fact Sheets in Appendix B. The methodology used to obtain unit costs is identified in Section 4.2 and Appendix C.

4.5 Options Comparison

As indicated in Section 4.1 the options need to be considered using a number of criteria based on integrated resource planning.

In the first instance the Study has identified that with the current SEQ committed demand and supply-side options (excluding the Traveston Crossing scheme) no additional supply is needed until approximately 2030. This takes into consideration the Qld Government estimated supply-demand gap, which is considered extreme and therefore requires further justification before investment in additional demand and supply-side options for the medium to long-term.

Any new demand or supply-side options not only need to consider the factors already discussed such as geographical proximity to growth areas, assistance in addressing the cause of increased demand (predominantly population growth) and ability to assist in drought, but also factors such as:

- economic indicators (i.e. unit cost);
- level of risk (i.e. large upfront cost, reliance on a single rain fed supply source thereby adding to the vulnerability of the current supply system); and
- social and environmental impacts.

These can be assessed in terms of quantifiable and non quantifiable costs and benefits. These have been addressed as far as possible within the scope of this Study and using publicly available information.

4.5.1 Quantifiable indicators

Table 4-9 summarises the supply and demand-side options considered by the Study team, together with the Traveston Crossing scheme. It also shows:

- the present value of the options (i.e. the present value of the combination of all capital and operating costs over the 2050 period considered);
- the unit cost of the option which assists in ranking options from an economic perspective;
- the total capital cost spent at any point in time (excluding the operating costs) which in the case of the supply-side options gives some indication of the associated risk of capital commitment;
- the estimated yield from each option; and
- the net greenhouse gas emissions.

Further details and assumptions are provided in the Fact Sheets in Appendices A and B.

Table 4-9 Summary of quantifiable criteria considered

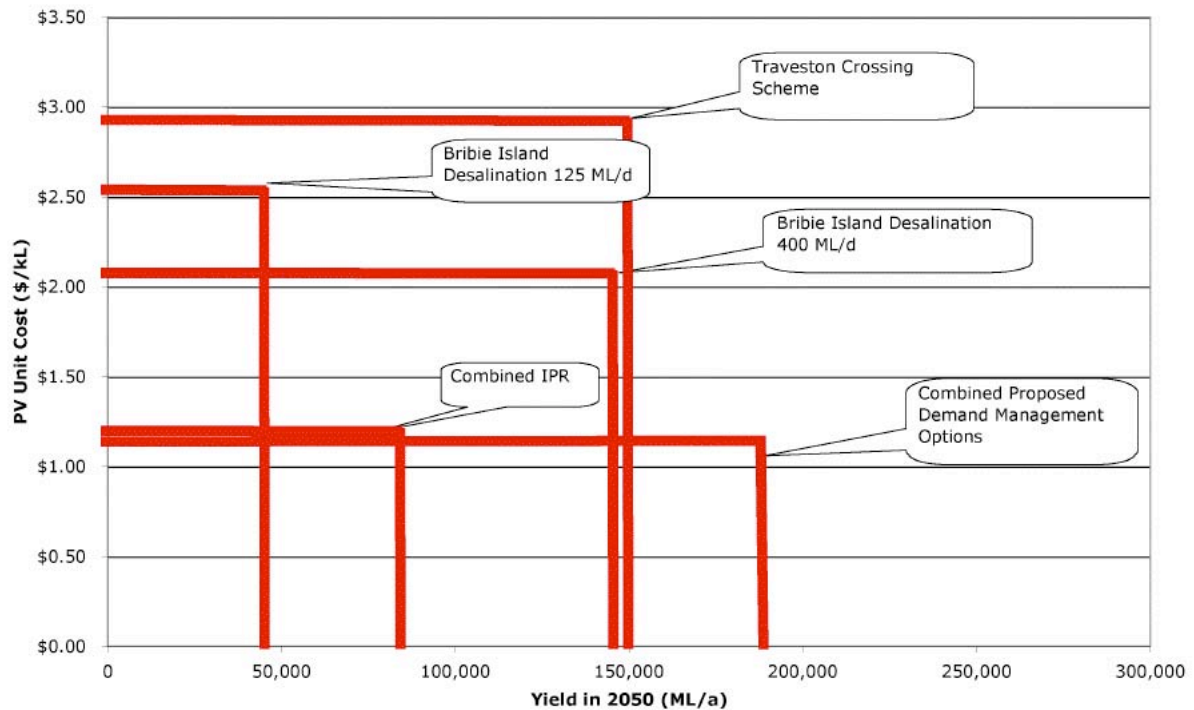
No.	Options	Total costs present value (\$M)	Unit cost present value (\$/kL)	Capital cost (\$M)	Savings in 2050 (ML/a)	Net GHG* (tonnes/a)
Demand management options						
SP – D1	Retrofit (extension)	59	0.47	n/a**	14,000	-420,000
SP – D2	Rainwater tank (extension)	615	3.96	n/a	17,500	17,500
SP – D3	MWEPS	2	0.01	n/a	47,696	-388,800
SP – D4	Outdoor (existing households)	125	0.71	n/a	17,535	-4,384
SP – D5	Smart growth (new households)	1,076	1.85	n/a	49,137	0
SP – D6	BWEPS (extension)	44	0.50	n/a	8,870	-5,322
SP – D7	Non residential smart growth (new properties)	76	0.50	n/a	34,780	-10,226
Desalination						
SP – S1	Bribie Island Desalination (125 ML/day)	1,104	2.55	947	45,600	289,047
SP – S2	Bribie Island Desalination (250 ML/day)	2,030	2.34	1,643	91,250	584,139
SP – S3	Bribie Island Desalination (400 ML/day)	2,865	2.06	2,184	146,000	922,405
Indirect potable reuse (IPR)						
SP – S4	Western Corridor IPR	352	0.65	0	40,000	159,829
SP – S5	Sandgate to North Pine Dam IPR	96	1.93	96	5,620	7,718
SP – S6	Brendale to North Pine Dam IPR	25	1.68	24	1,680	1,933
SP – S7	Murrumba Downs to North Pine Dam IPR	61	1.62	55	4,230	5,796
SP – S8	Merrimac to Hinze Dam IPR	116	1.79	106	7,330	11,884
SP – S9	Noosa to Lake MacDonald IPR	37	2.07	38	2,040	2,936
SP – S10	Maroochy to Wappa Dam IPR	116	2.12	113	6,170	10,907
SP – S11	Caboolture to Moodlu Storage IPR	15	0.65	8	2,550	2,907
SP – S12	Kawana to Ewan Maddock Dam IPR	219	2.44	134	6,600	8,547
Surface water						
SP – S13	Glendower Dam & Albert River Barrage	235	1.48	314	18,000	3,728
SP – S14	Amamoor Dam to Narrangba	490	2.77	576	20,000	45,375
SP – S15	Cambroon Dam to Stanley River	356	1.26	457	32,000	25,807
SP – S16	Borumba-Coles-to North Brisbane	732	2.67	873	31,000	62,550
SP – S17	Borumba-Narangba	475	3.58	609	15,000	26,281
SP – S18	Wappa-Landershute	152	2.03	205	8,500	3,210
Traveston Crossing Scheme						
	Traveston Crossing Dam - Stage 1	2,250	3.38	2,600	70,000	143,804
	Traveston Stage 2 (Raise Borumba)	69	0.49	250	40,000	55,354
	Traveston Crossing Dam - Stage 3	122	4.65	1,280	40,000	55,354

* In some cases the energy and associated GHGs for options increase over time and in these cases an average figure has been used.

** Costs associated with demand management options are small and incremental over time, rolled out on a customer-by-customer basis

Figure 4-6 shows the unit cost and associated yield in 2050 of the smallest and largest desalination plants, an aggregate of the IPR options and an aggregate of the study team demand-side options. It also shows the aggregate of the Traveston Crossing scheme to enable comparison.

Figure 4-6 Unit cost and yield of various options versus the Traveston Crossing scheme (2050)



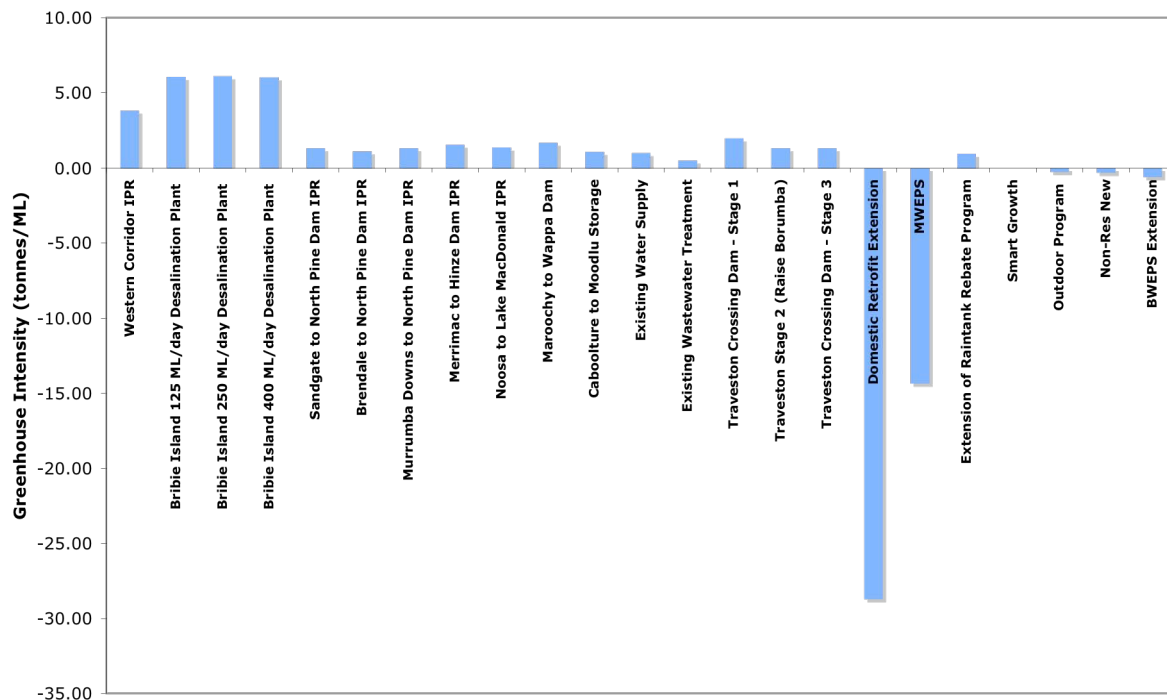
From high level analysis the combined suite of demand management options, which is an extension of the demand-side options being implemented by the Qld Government, can provide a significant additional yield of approximately 180 GL/a at a low unit cost of \$1.15 /kL. As discussed in Section 4.3, if managed well and making good use of a combination of regulatory, economic and communication instruments to maximise participation and avoid the risk of savings decay, these savings can be achieved and potentially more. As indicated in Section 4.4 there is also a significant volume of water available from a suite of additional supply-side options. Virtually all of the additional demand and supply-side options considered have a lower unit cost than the Traveston Crossing scheme. In addition, when considering the upfront capital cost all of the options (except only the larger desalination options) the Traveston Crossing scheme would be considered the highest economic risk. Hence from an economic perspective virtually all the options identified in Table 4-9 should be considered in preference to the Traveston Crossing scheme.

4.5.2 Greenhouse Gas Impacts

One of the important quantifiable externalities associated with the water supply industry is the associated energy use and GHG emissions. As shown in Figure 4-7 some options have a particularly high energy intensity, including desalination plants, advanced wastewater treatment or those that involve pumping water long distances. In some cases, such as demand management options, there is a net reduction in energy use and a consequent reduction in GHG emissions. For options which improve the efficiency of hot water use, this can be very significant. When the relative intensity of GHG¹⁸ emissions for the options are compared, again the majority of the options have less impact than the Traveston Crossing scheme.

In many cases, such as the Kwinana desalination plant in Western Australia, GHG impacts are “off-set” by the construction of, for example, wind turbines to effectively reduce energy impacts. Such an “off-set” approach can be considered for virtually any of the supply-side options but can add significantly to the capital costs of such options. To maintain consistency in the boundary of the analysis undertaken as part of this Study “off-setting” has not been considered. Of all the options considered only the demand management options actually reduce GHG without the need for “off-setting”.

Figure 4-7 Greenhouse intensity of options

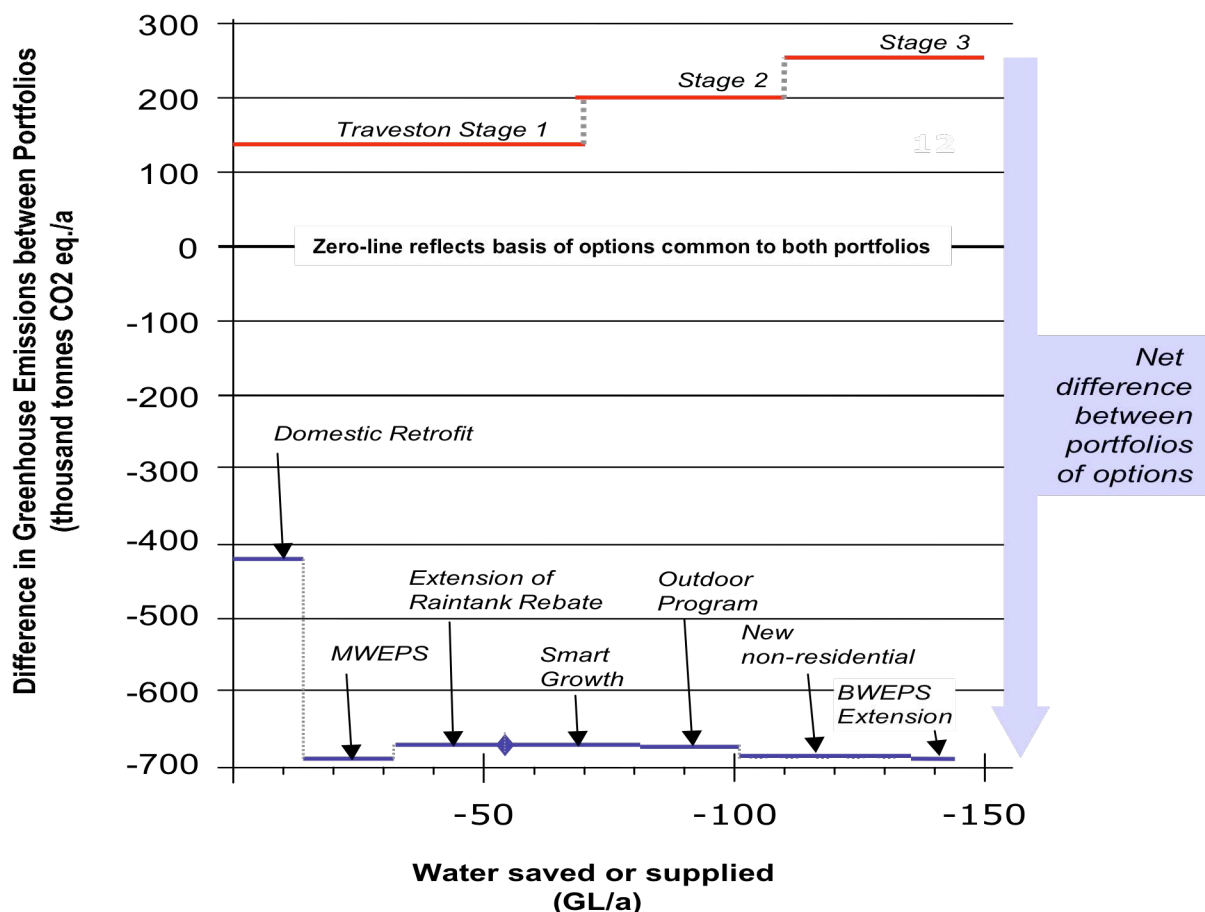


¹⁸ The Australian Greenhouse Office have recently published data for the greenhouse intensity of states within Australia (DEH, 2006). Greenhouse intensity is a measure of the quantity of emissions resulting from a particular activity, in this instance the generation of electricity for the state of QLD. Greenhouse intensity for direct and indirect emissions is 1.046 tonnes/MWhr. Direct emissions are the carbon dioxide equivalent emitted per unit activity at the point of emission release, while indirect emissions are those physically produced by the burning of fuels at the power station or facility.

There is a significant GHG emission benefit from adopting a least cost, low risk strategy for water supply-demand balance for SEQ, which does not involve the construction of the Traveston Crossing scheme and includes a suite of demand management options. This is due to the avoided energy consumption that would otherwise be required for water and wastewater treatment, pumping and water heating or process energy that results from reducing demand. For example, the indoor retrofit program avoids the emission of 30 tonnes/ML of GHGs due to reduced hot water use. By comparison the Traveston Crossing scheme results in increased emissions of approximately 1.7 tonnes/ML as a result of significant pumping energy required, not including the GHG implications of flooding the valley.

A strategy that relies on the current Qld Government committed supply and demand-side options (excluding the Traveston Crossing scheme) and takes advantage of reducing demand further by augmenting the Qld Government strategy with additional demand-side options identified as part of this Study would assist in surpassing the demand management targets set by the Qld Government. This would be at a low unit cost to the community. While still meeting the supply-demand balance out to approximately 2050, the net reduction in GHGs resulting from such an alternative strategy amounts to approximately 1,000,000 tonnes/a, which is equivalent to taking approximately 230,000 cars off the road, or about 15% of the cars in SEQ (refer to Figure 4-8).

Figure 4-8 Greenhouse impacts of option portfolios



Recommendation 4.1

From assessment of quantifiable costs and benefits and from an economic perspective the Traveston Crossing scheme is one of the highest cost and risk options that have been considered. It is recommended that the Qld Government assess the suite of options identified in this Study in more depth with all the latest information to assist in making a more informed decision. This will enable the Qld Government to identify which options are least cost and have least energy and GHG impact and thus should be used for both drought response and medium to long-term planning in the future as the need arises.

4.5.3 Other externalities and impacts

To assist in deciding which options and portfolios of options make most sense in a region other non quantifiable externalities should also be considered such as social and environmental impacts. This should be undertaken with a broad group of stakeholders as part of a transparent deliberative and participatory process (White et al, 2006). A brief summary of some of the non quantifiable social and environmental issues that affect the suite of options considered are summarised in Table 4-10.

Table 4-10 Brief summary of non quantifiable externalities

No.	Option	Social impacts	Environmental impacts
Demand management options			
SP-D1	Retrofit (extension)	Neutral impact. Demand management options are designed to meet the same level of service or amenity as the reference case, unlike restrictions which curtail the level of service.	Neutral impact. Many demand management options also reduce wastewater discharge, and in some cases (eg through the use of rain water tanks) have stormwater benefits. While the quantifiable components of these can be included in the net cost, many benefits are harder to quantify.
SP-D2	Rainwater tank (extension)		
SP-D3	MWEPS		
SP-D4	Outdoor (existing households)		
SP-D5	Smart growth (new households)		
SP-D6	BWEPS (extension)		
SP-D7	Non residential smart growth (new properties)		
Desalination			
SP-S1	Bribie Desalination 125ML/d	Minor negative impacts. Some resumption along pipeline route.	Neutral impact. No significant impacts known, although inlet and outlet works will need to traverse a narrow strip of national park along Bribie Island foreshore. Potentially high energy impact is considered separately above.
SP-S2	Bribie Desalination 250ML/d		
SP-S3	Bribie Desalination 400ML/d		
Indirect potable reuse			
SP-S4	Western Corridor IPR	Minor negative impacts due to possible resumptions for pipeline installation. Rigorous community engagement process essential.	Neutral/positive impact. Possible benefit to environment with respect to reduction of discharge of nutrients to Moreton Bay, Broadwater etc.
SP-S5	Sandgate to North Pine Dam IPR		
SP-S6	Brendale to North Pine Dam IPR		
SP-S7	Murrumba Downs to North Pine Dam IPR		
SP-S8	Merrimac to Hinze Dam IPR		
SP-S9	Noosa to Lake MacDonald IPR		
SP-S10	Maroochy to Wappa Dam IPR		
SP-S11	Caboolture to Moodlu Storage IPR		
SP-S12	Kawana to Ewan Maddock Dam IPR		
Surface Water			
SP-S13	Glendower Dam & Albert River Barrage	Minor negative impacts. 98% of the land for the Glendower Dam has been purchased. No (or very minor) resumptions would be expected for the Barrage.	Negative impact. Potentially significant impacts on fish passage and riparian habitat along the Logan River. Development would trigger EPBC Act.
SP-S14	Amamoor Dam to Narangba	Minor social impact. All the privately owned land required for this dam has been purchased, although some popular campsites would be affected.	Negative impact but not expected to be significant in comparison with Traveston Crossing Stage 1. Some native forests would be inundated. Development would trigger EPBC Act.

No.	Option	Social impacts	Environmental impacts
SP-S15	Cambroon Dam to Stanley River	Some social impact expected. A dam with FSL 130m should not affect Conondale, but around 121 properties would be affected.	Negative impact but not expected to be significant in comparison with Traveston Crossing Stage 1. Development would trigger EPBC Act.
SP-S16	Borumba-Coles-North Brisbane	Minimal negative social impact as, few if any properties affected.	Negative impact but not expected to be significant in comparison with Traveston Crossing Stage 1.
SP-S17	Borumba2_Narangba	Minimal social impact as land required is unoccupied.	Negative impact but not expected to be significant in comparison with Traveston Crossing Stage 1.
SP-S18	Wappa raised - Landershute	Negative impact. Some social impact expected. Resumption costs are a significant part of total costs of dam.	Negative impact. Some high conservation value vegetation may be affected. Dam is in riparian corridor.
Other options			
SP-S19	System optimisation (benefits)	Neutral impact – assuming that the pipelines are already constructed.	Neutral impact assuming that the pipelines are already constructed. The potentially high energy and greenhouse gas emissions impact from pumping is considered separately above.
Traveston Crossing Dam			
SEQ-S8/S9/S10	Traveston Crossing Dam	Negative impacts. Significant impacts in the inundation area including loss of homes and properties (approximately 900). Stress associated with the planned dam has resulted in social problems including depression (Robson, 2006). Economic impacts including loss of livelihood in the agriculture (10% of the local dairy industry production), fishing and tourism industries are likely to negatively impact Mary River communities.	Negative impacts. Significant potential impacts in the inundation area and downstream of the dam including impacts on threatened species (the lung fish), sedimentation, increase in nutrients, erosion, impact on Ramsar listed wetland (Great Sandy Straits). Environmental impacts of the proposed dam have warranted referral to the Commonwealth Government for assessment under the EPBC Act 1999.

From a brief assessment virtually all of the options considered have less social and environmental impacts than the Traveston Crossing scheme. The scheme is likely to have major social and environmental implications at a local, state, national and international level if it proceeds. For example the inundation will not only directly affect 900 properties but the Queensland Dairy Organisation reports it will also cause major milk production loss, approximately 20 million litres of milk production or 10% of local production¹⁹. From an environmental perspective threatened species of national importance such as the Mary River lungfish, cod and tortoise will be directly affected and the internationally recognised Ramsar listed wetland the Great Sandy Straits. The threat of such environmental impacts have warranted referral to the Commonwealth Government for assessment under the EPBC Act 1999.

Recommendation 4.2

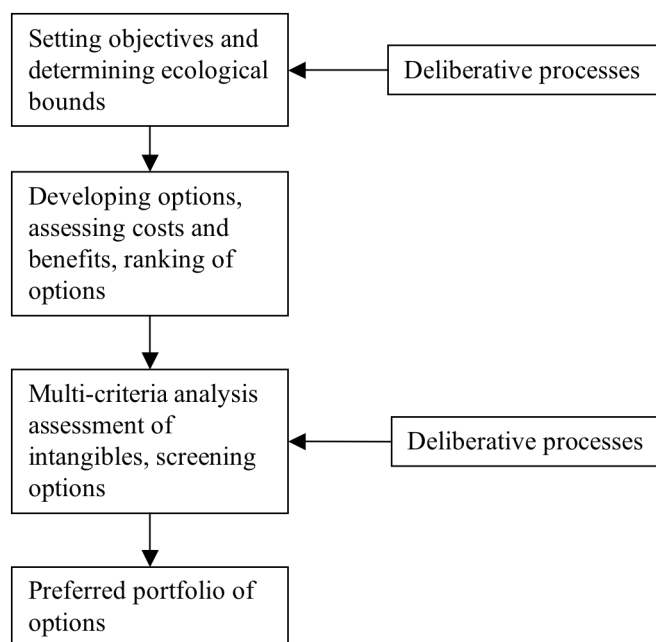
The Traveston Crossing scheme has the potential to cause significant social and environmental impacts at a local, state, national and international level. These potential impacts must be considered alongside other potential options as part of a transparent decision making process and not in isolation. It is recommended that the Qld Government carry out a more detailed social and environmental assessment of the suite of demand and supply-side options proposed by this Study using a consistent boundary of analysis. This will assist in assessing fairly the opportunities and barriers of a broad suite of options available. If such assessment already exists this must be released to the public as part of a transparent decision making process.

4.5.4 Community engagement

To determine an appropriate portfolio of options requires a consistent, logical, rigorous and transparent process, which takes account of the relative cost of options, as well as their relative risk and social and environmental impact. Deliberative processes of community engagement are required at various stages of this process, as shown in Figure 4-9 below.

¹⁹ <http://www.abc.net.au/widebay/stories/s1625767.htm> [accessed 09/02/07]

Figure 4-9 The role of deliberative processes for community engagement in water supply-demand planning (from White et al. 2006b).



Following the assessment of costs, benefits and yield, and GHG impacts, processes such as multi-criteria analysis can be used to assist in the process of assessing options and portfolios of options in terms of the less tangible criteria²⁰. This kind of analysis can be enhanced through the use of deliberative processes. However, as distinct from many multi criteria analysis (MCA) processes, it is preferable not to use the MCA to rank options, but rather to interactively screen or filter options and to test the impact of such filtering on the total cost of the portfolio which meets the supply-demand balance over the planning horizon. The cost or the yield of individual options, or any criteria that is strongly correlated to the cost or yield, should be excluded as criteria from the MCA assessment exercise. This avoids the risk of double counting, and the inevitable potential for informed participants to ‘game’ the process. The process is an iterative cost-effectiveness exercise. It asks the question ‘what portfolio of options will meet the supply-demand balance at least cost, while *considered acceptable* in relation to an agreed set of non-cost criteria?’.

The definition of *considered acceptable* is at the heart of the appropriate choice of deliberative processes for community engagement. The question stated above can be informed by scientific and technical knowledge, and can be subject to suasion by stakeholder or interest group preferences, but the acceptability should ultimately be determined or informed by the collective judgement of a representative group of citizens engaged in informed dialogue. There are now many excellent examples of the application of appropriate community engagement processes which do embody the principles of:

- representativeness (using random selection and a stratified sample of participants);
- deliberation (dialogue between participants with sufficient time to move toward consensus—minimum 2 days—with a skilled, neutral moderator, and access to experts and resources); and
- influence (a clear ‘charge’ for the participants to address, and a contract with the organisers regarding the fate of the outcome of the process).

Some of these example processes are described by Carson and Hart (2005) and Carson and Hartz-Karp (2005).

²⁰ The following paragraphs are substantially drawn from White et al. (2006b).

Recommendation 4.3

The determination of an appropriate least cost portfolio of options which minimise risk and social and environmental impacts is a process that requires analytical assessment as well as robust community engagement with representative participants and well designed deliberative processes as part of a community engagement strategy. Such methods should be implemented as soon as possible in planning Qld's future water strategy.

4.6 The Strategy

The suite of supply and demand-side options currently being implemented under the Water Amendment Regulation (No. 6) 2006 to address the current drought (excluding the Traveston Crossing scheme) will mean that the long-term supply-demand balance will be met until around 2030, even using the extreme combined projections of yield and demand based on the SEQ planning documents.

To meet the supply-demand balance beyond 2030, there are a range of options available, including extending the demand-side options beyond those currently in place. These options have the lowest cost and risk and the lowest social and environmental impacts and should be prioritised. The demand-side options should focus on both existing properties, which have significant conservation potential, but especially focus on new properties, which are driving the projections in the reference case water demand. By concentrating on such options, this will take advantage of the growth in new properties, lock in water savings in both existing and new properties and utilise low unit cost and environmentally and socially beneficial options.

To accommodate unforeseen circumstances, such as a future drought more severe than the worst on record, the lowest cost and lowest risk options are those that are based on "readiness" principles, that is, those that are not constructed but are able to be constructed during a severe drought. The best available options for this adaptive strategy include IPR at various sites as outlined in Section 4.4, and desalination at Bribie Island.

If additional water for growth is needed post 2050 there is a suite of additional supply-side options available that have lower unit cost and risk and less social and environmental impacts than the Traveston Crossing scheme. These options must be considered in more detail now using the process identified in Section 4.5.4 before any further action is taken on the Traveston Crossing scheme.

Recommendation 4.4

The individual demand and supply-side options, that represent lower unit cost, less risk and reduced social and environmental impact, should be considered as an alternative to the Traveston Crossing scheme. It is recommended that these options are taken forward by the Qld Government as part of a transparent decision making process before any further action is taken on the construction of the Traveston Crossing scheme.

5 FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Throughout this report findings have been identified and a series of recommendations made. These are summarised below for each section.

1 Introduction

Findings

The Study team has reviewed and used data and information from publicly available reports. During the finalisation of this Study additional information has been released and where possible incorporated. A significant number of additional reports have been undertaken by and for various Qld Government departments, which contain more detailed data/information and updates on the costs and yields of various options and the projected supply-demand balance. Unfortunately these reports are not publicly available and have not been made available to the Study team. Hence the most recent publicly available information has been used to inform the Study team and for analysis purposes. This information has been combined with the professional knowledge of the Study team and of individuals involved in various aspects of water planning in SEQ. The lack of publicly available information on urban water supply planning in Qld is a major barrier to transparency and good decision-making.

Recommendations

- 1.1 Whilst it is acknowledged that in some cases water planning studies being undertaken in the SEQ region may contain information that is commercially sensitive, it is recommended that reports be structured in a way that allows analysis undertaken on behalf of the community of Queensland to be made publicly available as part of a transparent decision making process.

2 The Study Area – Current Demand and Supply

Findings

There are significant differences between the 2003 and 2006 Population and Forecasting Information Unit population projections for SEQ. Changes in population projections will have significant implications for projections in demand. For example, for the residential sector alone the shift in recent estimates of population in 2050 of 580,000 will result in an increase in demand of 64 GL/a (assuming a residential demand of 300 litres/capita/day). Associated non residential and non revenue water will increase this water demand further.

The significant increase in population will mainly be located in the southern end of the SEQ region. This is a significant distance from the proposed Traveston Crossing scheme, in Cooloola to the north, which is expected to supply approximately half of the SEQRWSS proposed additional water supply.

Available Qld Government documentation on the projections of business-as-usual (or reference case) water demand assume a residential demand of 300 litres per capita per day for a period extending to 2050. Whilst the SEQ area is affected by relatively high average temperatures it also has relatively high rainfall compared to other major cities in Australia. The figure of 300 litres per capita per day is significantly higher than the demand in comparable eastern seaboard capital cities. This projection is likely to be a significant overestimate, and does not appear to adequately take into consideration expected downward pressure on water demand due to changes in land use (urban consolidation and the shift to more flats and units with the associated reduction in lawn and garden area) and the improving efficiency of water using equipment such as dual flush toilets and washing machines.

Water Resource Plans (WRP) have been finalised for the Gold Coast area and Mary Basin. Draft plans have been prepared for the Moreton and Logan regions. The strategic reserve identified for the Mary

Basin has been fully allocated (i.e. the Traveston Crossing scheme of 150 GL/a). In the other three regions a total of 58 GL/a still remains unallocated. Whilst WRPs aim to provide a consistent framework for the allocation and sustainable management of water resources in each area, these plans have been developed over time and with input from a number of different specialists. As such there is some question as to the consistency of approach in the development of WRPs, especially with respect to complex issues such as the allocation of environmental flows. Hence care needs to be taken in fully committing such strategic reserves without further validation.

Estimates of system yield for SEQ have been significantly reduced from 630 GL/a to 450 GL/a. This is primarily as a result of changed assumptions used to model the existing yield. In the past a historical no-failure yield approach has been used. Now DNRW are using criteria relating to prudent yield and the level of service (LOS), which consider the level of restrictions (frequency, depth) that are deemed acceptable to the community. However, there is no evidence that these changes were based on any community engagement processes that seeks input from the community. A survey is currently being conducted on behalf of Queensland Water Infrastructure, the organisation established to build major infrastructure such as Traveston Crossing Dam Stage 1. This survey is investigating some of the questions that need to be asked concerning the appropriate LOS. However, the focus of the questions and information being provided to the participants appears to have a different focus and may in fact be providing participants with incorrect information upon which they will be making decisions. The issues associated with LOS, restrictions and investment in infrastructure etc. are extremely complex and need to be very carefully presented to the community through the use of rigorous and transparent community engagement processes.

Recommendations

- 2.1 Due to the significant growth in the southern area of the SEQ region it is recommended that demand and supply-side options to cater for this growth are concentrated, as far as possible, in close proximity to where the growth is occurring. This will minimise the costs and greenhouse gas emissions associated with transferring additional water across such a large region and take advantage of reducing demand in the key growth areas.
- 2.2 The current SEQRWSS investigations into current and forecast water demand (including assumptions, limitations of data and levels of confidence) should be released to the public as soon as possible. This will assist in identifying how the reference case water demand component of the supply demand balance has been determined, the associated levels of confidence in water demand projections and what additional information needs to be collected and analysed.
- 2.3 Even with the current SEQRWSS investigations into water demand forecasting, very little is actually known about how water is currently being used in the SEQ region on a per household or property basis and thus how it can be projected more accurately. In 2006 the Qld EPA released a Brief to investigate current water demand per household type in more detail to assist in forecasting water demand and determining the conservation potential available. It is recommended that such a study and collection of data during current demand management program implementation be undertaken as soon as possible to fill this knowledge gap and assist in refining the reference case demand.
- 2.4 There is some question as to the consistency of approach and assumptions used to identify the strategic reserve of Water Resource Plans in the SEQ area, especially in relation to complex issues such as the allocation of environmental flows. Hence it is recommended that full allocation of such reserves are not committed until further checking and validation across each of the Water Resource Plans developed for the SEQ region is undertaken.

- 2.5 Following validation of the strategic reserve of each of the Water Resource Plans it is recommended that further investigation is undertaken into the potential of utilising part of the 58,000 ML/a unallocated reserves in the Moreton, Logan and Gold Coast areas.
- 2.6 The prudent yield of the existing supply system is highly dependent on the frequency and severity of restrictions that are deemed acceptable to the community. It is crucial that the community is involved in the decision making process for establishing the level of acceptability, through the use of rigorous and transparent processes for community engagement. It is recommended that such a process be undertaken in SEQ and the prudent yield of the system reassessed using the results of the process.

3 SEQ Proposed Supply-Demand Strategy

Findings

The demand management targets identified by the Qld Government specifically relate to the residential sector. The current suite of residential initiatives alone will not achieve the targets identified. However, the combination of initiatives currently being implemented that cover the residential, non residential and non revenue water sectors will reduce demand to a level close to the targets. With careful additional investment these targets can be achieved.

There is still significant opportunity to go further in terms of participation rates, end uses and reducing demand further in both existing and new properties as well as reducing demand in the non residential sector through water efficiency and reuse initiatives. There is significant potential for savings in new properties as new properties are driving the increase in water demand. Some of the initiatives in the current suite have a relatively high cost when assessed from the combined perspective of the customer, government and utility. These costs can be reduced enabling investment in additional lower unit cost demand-side options.

The SEQ proposed 2007 to 2009 supply-side initiatives are a mixture of smaller surface water, ground water, reuse and desalination. Considering these options as a whole (without considering the economic, social or environmental perspectives in detail) they represent a diverse mixture of sources that are less affected by climate variability than the existing predominantly “rain fed” SEQ supply sources currently affected by the drought. As such, a number of the SEQ proposed demand and supply-side options will provide relief within a timeframe that could assist in slowing the rate of drawdown from storages to such an extent that the probability of the system “failing” in the current drought is significantly reduced.

With the current drought and existing surface water storage levels being so low it is highly unlikely that options implemented after the next 2 to 3 years (i.e. post 2009) could assist in the current drought situation. Supply-side options post 2009 (including all stages of the Traveston Crossing scheme, Wyaralong Dam, both modifications to Hinze Dam and Bromelton Offstream) will therefore not provide any additional water during the current drought.

In the medium to longer term the additional yield provided by the post 2009 options provides “excess yield” to 2050 with significant reliance on a single “rain fed” option (the Traveston Crossing scheme). Investment in the provision of “excess yield” now for a planning horizon of 2050 and reliance on such a large and high cost rain fed option is considered risky in economic terms. If the suite of demand and supply-side options currently being implemented to address the current drought, excluding the Traveston Crossing scheme is implemented, this will mean that the medium to long-term supply-demand balance will be met until approximately 2030. This provides significant time to determine the most appropriate strategy to meet the supply-demand balance in the longer term with lower cost and more risk averse options using an adaptive management approach.

The proposed Traveston Crossing scheme on the Mary River is neither necessary nor desirable as a part of the portfolio for ensuring supply security to 2050. The increase in supply from this proposed dam will not assist in the short-term during the current severe drought, and is not needed for supply-demand balance in the longer term. It represents a high cost, high risk option.

Recommendations

- 3.1 The Qld Government is currently investing in and implementing a diverse range of demand management initiatives that will provide benefits both in the short and long term. Care needs to be taken that the initiatives being implemented are the most cost effective and are implemented in such a way that they achieve the savings required. Ongoing evaluation of costs, savings and participation rates are recommended to ensure costs are minimised and estimated savings achieved.
- 3.2 Care needs to be taken that the estimated savings of each demand management, source substitution and reuse initiative are not double counted within the baseline or reference case demand or that opportunities for conservation potential are not overlooked. It is recommended that the assumptions of the demand forecasting and options analysis are provided in a transparent format and made publicly available.
- 3.3 Due to the scope of this Study only the Traveston Crossing scheme has been compared against a new suite of demand and supply-side options. However, it is recommended that at least Wyaralong Dam, with a capital cost alone of approximately \$500 million and unit cost of over \$2.00 /kL (without taking into consideration operating costs) should also be considered in more detail from an economic and risk perspective. This should be undertaken as soon as possible before implementation to ensure that this SEQ proposed supply-side option is appropriate economically, socially, environmentally and from a risk perspective.
- 3.4 The Traveston Crossing scheme is geographically disconnected from the high growth areas in the south of the SEQ region, is rain fed and therefore augments an already vulnerable rain fed dependent supply system and has a high upfront cost. It is therefore considered to be a high risk in economic terms. In addition assuming the drought response measures are needed over the next 2 to 3 years, to alleviate the current drought situation, Traveston Crossing Dam Stage 1 cannot provide assistance in the current drought (even though it has been included in the emergency drought response legislation) as it is due to be completed by 2012 and will then need time to fill to provide yield. Hence on these criteria alone the decision to build the Traveston Crossing scheme is not recommended and should be reconsidered by the Qld Government.

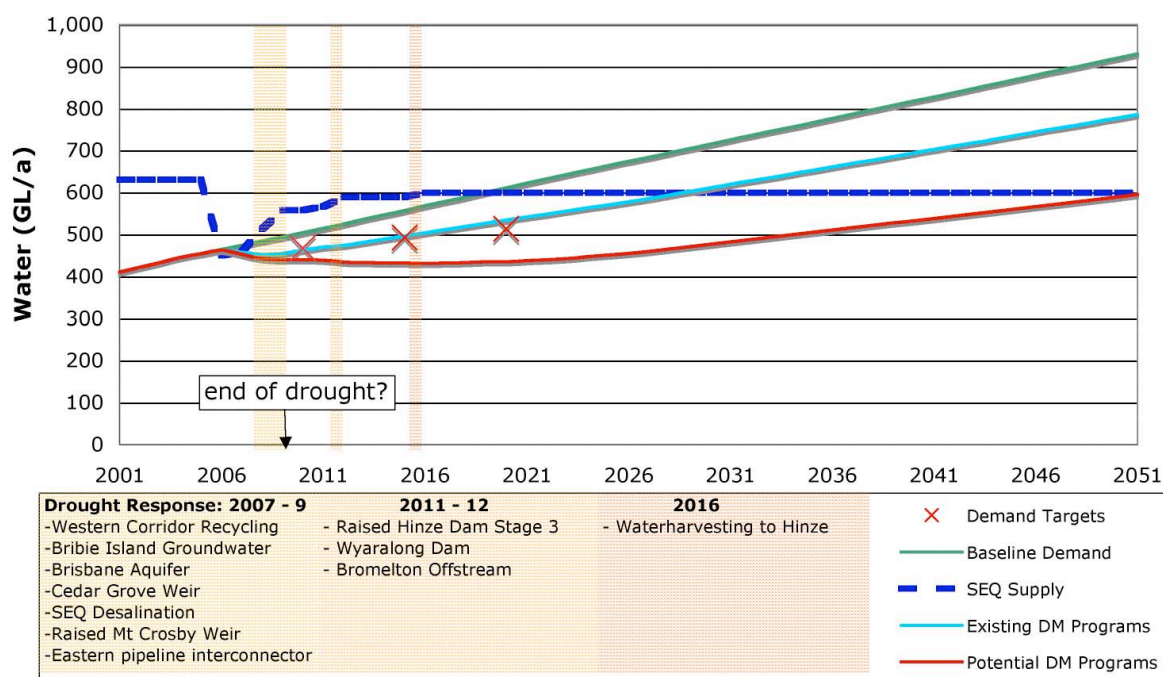
4 Study Team Proposed Strategy

Findings

A diverse portfolio of options can ensure supply security for South East Queensland (SEQ) well into the future, certainly to 2050. Such options include: increasing water supply availability (supply-side options); decreasing the demand for water (demand-side options); and meeting water supply needs during deep droughts (drought response options).

With the implementation of demand-side options, in addition to the existing suite of supply-side and demand-side options proposed by the Queensland Government, there will be no need for the Traveston Crossing scheme, or other additional supply infrastructure, in order to meet the supply-demand balance over the period to 2050 (refer to Figure). This suite of options has the potential to save approximately 180 GL/a of water by 2050 at an average unit cost of \$1.15 /kL. For comparison, the Traveston Crossing scheme will supply approximately 150 GL/a by 2050 at a unit cost of

approximately \$3.00 /kL. Further, the proposed strategy will reduce greenhouse gas emissions relative to the Traveston Crossing scheme by more than 1,000,000 tonnes per year.



In the event of a deep drought worse than the current drought (which is itself the worst on record for the Wivenhoe-Somerset system), ‘readiness’ options, which are not rainfall dependent, offer a much lower risk and lower unit cost alternative to the Traveston Crossing scheme. The idea of readiness options is that the planning, design, land acquisition and approvals are all obtained. However, the construction is triggered only in the event of a deep and prolonged drought, thus offering effective insurance against a low probability event and the ability to adaptively respond to changed circumstances. Suitable candidates for such a readiness strategy include scaleable desalination capacity at Bribie Island and indirect potable reuse in a range of locations.

Recommendations

- 4.1 From assessment of quantifiable costs and benefits and from an economic perspective the Traveston Crossing scheme is one of the highest cost and risk options that have been considered. It is recommended that the Qld Government assess the suite of options identified in this Study in more depth with all the latest information to assist in making a more informed decision. This will enable the Qld Government to identify which options are least cost and have least energy and GHG impact and thus should be used for both drought response and medium to long-term planning in the future as the need arises.
- 4.2 The Traveston Crossing scheme has the potential to cause significant social and environmental impacts at a local, state, national and international level. These potential impacts must be considered alongside other potential options as part of a transparent decision making process and not in isolation. It is recommended that the Qld Government carry out a more detailed social and environmental assessment of the suite of demand and supply-side options proposed by this Study using a consistent boundary of analysis. This will assist in assessing fairly the opportunities and barriers of a broad suite of options available. If such assessment already exists this must be released to the public as part of a transparent decision making process.

- 4.3 The determination of an appropriate least cost portfolio of options which minimise risk and social and environmental impacts is a process that requires analytical assessment as well as robust community engagement with representative participants and well designed deliberative processes as part of a community engagement strategy. Such methods should be implemented as soon as possible in planning Qld's future water strategy.

- 4.4 The individual demand and supply-side options, that represent lower unit cost, less risk and reduced social and environmental impact, should be considered as an alternative to the Traveston Crossing scheme. It is recommended that these options are taken forward by the Qld Government as part of a transparent decision making process before any further action is taken on the construction of the Traveston Crossing scheme.

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APPENDIX A – SEQ PROPOSED OPTIONS - FACT SHEETS

Project summary				
Option Name	Domestic rebate program	Option Code	SEQ- D1	
Supply or Demand	Demand			
Description	<p>Rebates for households are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \$1000 for rainwater tank and accessories - \$200 for washing machine - \$150 for dual flush toiletsuite - 50% of purchase price up to \$200 for above ground greywater system - 50% of purchase price up to \$500 for below ground greywater system - 50% of purchase price up to \$30 for showerhead - \$200 for swimming pool cover and/or roller <p>Reference: NRW WaterWise website The program runs from 13/6/2006 to 30/6/2009</p> <p>A rebate scheme for garden products has also been announced. The Queensland Government is providing a rebate of 50% of the total purchase cost for defined garden products up to a maximum rebate of \$50, for products purchased on or after 18 December 2006. It is anticipated that the scheme will run to 17 December 2008. Reference: NRW WaterWise website</p>			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
2007-2010	Raintanks	5,799,821		
	Clothes Washer	21,230,861		
	Showerhead	244,266		
	Pool Cover	830,503		
	Toilet	894,549		
	Total	29,000,000		
	Yield (ML/a)	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
Raintanks	116			
Clothes Washer	2548			
Showerhead	183			
Pool Cover	25			
Toilet	101			
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>Notes Cost of \$29 million is cited in NRW 2006.</p> <p>References NRW (2006) WaterWise website <http://www.nrw.qld.gov.au/water/saverscheme/index.html> accessed 18/12/06. NRW (2006) Water for South East Queensland: A Long Term Solution.</p> <p>Assumptions To estimate the proportion of costs and savings attributable to the program the participation rates achieved under the Gold Coast rebate program have been extrapolated to the whole of South East Queensland. ISF GCW evaluation study (2006)</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$25,368,388	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	37,739	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)	\$0.67	Unit Cost - to meet demand growth (PV\$/PVkL)	\$0.67	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)		GHG emission reduction (t/a)		
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes				

Project summary				
Option Name	Capex Demand in Caloundra	Option Code	SEQ-D6	
Supplier or Demand	Demand			
Description	Caloundra City Council is in the process of developing a demand management scheme for new developments similar to that already implemented in Pimpama Coomera. The scheme has been flagged in the draft Local Growth Management Strategy (Caloundra City, 2006 p38). In the Strategy, a target of a possible 80% reduction in use of potable water is to be achieved for new developments through the implementation of water efficiency and demand management measures.			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
	Yield	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
kL/hh reduction in new areas	216			
Average Reduction (ML/a)	7,382			
Reduction in 2051 (ML/a)	12,209			
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>Notes</p> <p>References</p> <p>Assumptions The Caloundra Local Growth Management Strategy (draft) 2006, states a possible 80% reduction in water demand in new developments. Assuming an average consumption of approximately 270 kL/hh this implies a saving of 216 kL/hh/a could be achieved in this area. The potential for double counting with other regulations has been taken into consideration in other initiatives.</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)		PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	61,749	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)		Unit Cost - to meet demand growth (PV\$/PVkL)		
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)		GHG emission/reduction (t/a)		
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes				

Projects summary				
Option Name	Pressure and leakage reduction	Option Code	SEQ -D14	
Supply or Demand	Demand			
Description	Waterleakage and pressure management project across all 18 south east Queensland local government areas. Watersaving target of 60 ML/day (equivalent 21,900 ML/a) in stages from 2006 to August 2008. Project phases are: 1. Preliminary planning by all councils 2. Detailed implementation planning 3. Measured and reported water loss savings Target dates according to current forecast: - 74% of outcome achieved by August 2008 - 90% of outcome achieved by August 2009 - 107% of outcome achieved by August 2012 Ref: www.QWC 2006			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
2006-2012	Pressure and leakage works in all local government areas			
	Total	90,000,000		
	Yield (ML/a)	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
2006	1,825			
2007	9,125			
2009	16,425			
2009	19,710			
2012	23,360			
Notes/references/assumptions	Notes State contribution to costs is \$32 million References QWC (2006) Water Supply Emergency Projects Monthly Progress Reports October 2006. NRW (2006) Water for South East Queensland: A Long Term Solution. Assumptions			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$61,502,962	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	290,097	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)	\$0.21	Unit Cost - to meet demand growth (PV\$/PVkL)	\$0.23	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)		GHG emission/reduction (t/a)		
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes				

Project summary				
Option Name	Bribie Island Groundwater Project	Option Code	SEQ - S1	
Supply or Demand	Supply			
Description	Substitution of 10 ML/day (equivalent to 3,650 ML/a) from the existing water supply system with underground water sourced from Bribie Island. Project involves: - Development of configurations of ground-water abstraction bores - Installation of mechanical and electrical equipment (with the provision of power 6km into the northern field a particular challenge) - Construction of groundwater pipelines connecting bores to Water Treatment Plants - Construction of 10 ML/d additional treatment plant capacity - Construction of a new trunk water main to supply treated water to Council's existing storages at Bellara (from where water will be distributed to Bribie Island and Sandstone Point on the mainland) Reference: QWC 2006			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
2006-2007	Test drilling			
2006-2007	Construction of production bores			
2006-2007	Installation of mechanical and electrical equipment			
2006-2007	Construction of groundwater pipelines			
2006-2007	Construction of additional WTP capacity			
2006-2007	Construction of new trunk water main			
	Total	25,000,000		
	Yield (ML/a)	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
2008	1,825	Current modelling predicts 8ML/d (2,920 ML/a) rather than target of 10 which would reduce new yield to 1,825 ML/a (see below notes)		
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>Notes According to QWC (2006) current yield from Bribie Island Groundwater is 2-3 ML/d equivalent to 730-1,095 ML/a. According to NRW (2006) current yield is 2000. Even if DNRW yield estimates are reduced by 30% to estimate prudent yield (which would be 1,400) these figures do not match. As the QWC report is more recent, we have assumed these figures correct and taken the higher estimate of current yield (1,095 ML/a) so that predicted additional yield estimate is conservative.</p> <p>References QWC (2006) Water Supply Emergency Projects Monthly Progress Reports October 2006. DNRW (2006) Water for South East Queensland: A Long Term Solution.</p> <p>Assumptions</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$23,364,486	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	23,124	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)	\$1.01	Unit Cost - to meet demand growth (PV\$/PVkL)	1.01	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)		GHG emission/reduction (t/a)		
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes				

Project summary				
Option Name	Water Harvesting into Hinze Dam	Option Code	SEQ-S4	
Supply or Demand	Supply			
Description	Following the raising of Hinze dam wall, water diversions from adjacent watercourses such as the Coomera River, Canungra and Mudgeeraba Creeks is planned to increase the yield of the dam by a further 10,000 ML/a. Reference: NRW 2006			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
2016	Construction of diversion infrastructure	100,000,000		
	Yield (ML/a)	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
2016	10,000			
Notes/references/assumptions	Notes Project is at preliminary investigations stage References NRW (2006) Water for South East Queensland: A Long Term Solution.			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$50,834,929	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	70,903	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)	\$0.72	Unit Cost - to meet demand growth (PV\$/PVkL)	\$0.72	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)		GHG emission/reduction (t/a)		
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes				

Project summary				
Option Name	Traveston Crossing Dam - Stage 1	Option Code	SEQ - S8	
Supplier/Demand	Supply			
Description	Design and Constnction of Traveston Crossing Dam (Stage 1), including: • Environmental and preconstruction approvals • Purchase of all necessary land for the project • Constnction of access road to the dam constnction area • Relocation of 37.3km of local roads • Procurement of design and constnction contractors • Design and constnction of Traveston Crossing Dam (Stage 1) (FSL 71 metres, 180,000 ML capacity) • Delivery System (pipeline, Pump Stations, Balancing Storages) for delivery to North Brisbane area.			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
2006 to 2012	Dam constnction (incl. roads and land resumption)	1,700,000,000		
2012	Delivery System (incl. pipeline connection)	889,000,000		
Post 2012			37,300,000	
Post 2012				
Total				
	Yield (ML/a)	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
Post 2012	70,000	medium	1.96	
Notes/references/assumptions	Notes References QWIC (2006) Water Supply Emergency Projects Monthly Progress Reports October 2006 NRW (2006) Water for South East Queensland: A Long Term Solution. Assumptions Opex and energy use - Cardno preliminary estimates. Delivery system (incl. pipeline connection) - Cardno preliminary estimates			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$2,248,493,782	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	665,373	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PV/L)	\$3.36	Unit Cost - to meet demand growth (PV\$/PV/L)	4.10	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)	137,480	GHG emission/reduction (t/a)	143,804	
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes				

Project summary				
Option Name	Traveston Crossing Dam - Stage3	Option Code No.	SEQ - S10	
Supply or Demand	Supply	Option Status	Not Committed	
Description	Stage 3 represents the third component of the Traveston Crossing scheme with the Raising of Borumba representing Stage 2. Design and Construction of Traveston Crossing Dam (Stage 3), including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental and preconstruction approvals • Purchase of all necessary additional land for the project • Relocation of roads affected by Stage 3 • Spillway modifications etc necessary for increased capacity to 660,000 ML (Stage 3) (FSL 79.5 metres) • Delivery System (pipeline, Pump Stations, Balancing Storages) for delivery to North Brisbane area, 			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
2042	Stage 3 of Dam (additional cost over Stage 1)	600,000,000		
2042	Delivery System	684,500,000		
			17,400,000	
	Yield (ML/a)	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
Post2042	40,000	medium	1.323	
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>Notes Assumes construction of Stage 1 is completed.</p> <p>References Capex for Stage 2 of dam from Table 13 of "Water for SE Qld - A Long Term Solution". Capex for delivery system (which includes pipeline, pump stations, balancing storages and treatment plants for delivery to Northern Brisbane) - Cardno Preliminary Estimates Opex and Energy Use - Cardno Preliminary Estimates</p> <p>Assumptions Preliminary estimates of costs of delivery system have been made as there are no estimates available for costs of the northern pipeline connectors.</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$122,362,755	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	26,314	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)	\$4.65	Unit Cost - to meet demand growth (PV\$/PVkL)	\$5.71	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)	52,920	GHG emission/reduction (t/a)	55,354	
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes				

Project summary				
Option Name	Eastern Pipeline Interconnector	Option Code	SEQ-S14	
Supply or Demand	Supply			
Description	<p>Construction of new central borefield in Durwich and pipeline to enable transfer of water between reservoirs. Additional supplies amount to 22 ML/day (equivalent 8,030 ML/a). Project scheduled for completion 31 December 2008.</p> <p>Project involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction of a 600mm pipeline from the borefield to the NSI Water Treatment Plant - Modify the NSI WTP - Construction of a new 20 ML Reservoir at Heinemann Road Reservoir Complex - Construction of a 600mm pipeline between Heinemann Rd Reservoirs and Kimberley Park Reservoir - Construction of a 305 L/s booster pump station at Mt Cotton <p>Reference: QWC 2006</p>			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
2006-2007	Borefield investigations			
2007-2008	Borefield construction			
2007-2008	Pipeline construction from borefield to WTP			
2007-2008	Heinemann Reservoir construction			
2007-2008	Pipeline construction from Heinemann to Kimberley Park			
2007-2008	Construction of booster pump station			
	Total	34,200,000		
	Yield (ML/a)	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
2009	8,080			
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>Notes Budget is preliminary</p> <p>References QWC (2006) Water Supply Emergency Projects Monthly Progress Reports October 2006. NRW (2006) Water for South East Queensland: A Long Term Solution.</p> <p>Assumptions Water assumed to be available 2009 as construction completed end December 2008.</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$29,871,605	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	94,734	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVdL)	\$0.32	Unit Cost - to meet demand growth (PV\$/PVdL)	0.32	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)		GHG emission/reduction (t/a)		
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes				

APPENDIX B – NEW STUDY TEAM PROPOSED OPTIONS - FACT SHEETS

Project summary				
Option Name	MWEPS	Option Code	Study proposed-D3	
Supply or Demand	Demand			
Description	Mandatory Water Efficiency Performance Standards (MWEPS) – This option assumes savings in existing and new households by introducing minimum efficiency standards on appliances such as washing machines, showers and toilets. To minimise double counting only savings associated with washing machines have been assumed, a saving of 24 kL/household/annum (Spaninks, 2006). An additional benefit of this option would be to assist in locking in the savings associated with other programs such as the retrofit program through mandatory efficiency standards on showerheads and taps.			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
2007 - 2009	Administration	100,000		
2009 - 2014	Marketing	500,000		
	Yield	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
2010 - 2051 (ML/a)	25,920			
2010 - 2051 (kL/hw/hh)	24			
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>Notes</p> <p>References Savings of 24 kL/hh/a based on pers com Frank Spaninks SWC, 2006.</p> <p>Assumptions All new households save 24 kL/a (on washing machines) beginning in 2010. Existing households have a saving of 25.92 GL/a (approximately 90% of 1.2 million houses) achieved over a number of years as washing machines need to be replaced also beginning in 2010. Assumed that estimated savings associated with washing machine rebates included in the current domestic rebate scheme have been excluded from this option.</p> <p>Greenhouse gas emission: -15,000 kg/ML</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$2,344,072	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	323,964	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)	\$0.01	Unit Cost - to meet demand growth (PV\$/PVkL)	0.01	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)	-371702	GHG emission/reduction (t/a)	-388,800	
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes				

Project summary				
Option Name	Bribie Island 400 ML/day Desalination Plant	Option Code No.	SP - S3	
Supply or Demand	Supply	Option Status	Potential	
Description	<p>Construction of a 400ML/day desalination plant on the middle to northern part of Bribie Island on the ocean side. This appears to be a suitable location as the inlet and outlet works would be constructed in an area where there would be good dispersion of the reject brine. Suitable State owned land appears to be available in this area. This location appears preferable to other locations in the south-east corner of the state</p> <p>Preliminary costs have been prepared for three plant sizes: 125 ML/day (45,600 ML/yr); 250 ML/day (91,200 ML/yr) and 400 ML/day (146,000 ML/yr). The location appears to be suitable for plant sizes to 400 ML/day.</p> <p>Construction of a desalination plant on Bribie Island with a capacity of 400 ML/day involves construction of a delivery system to the Caboolture, Pine Rivers and North Brisbane Areas.</p> <p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Desalination Plant including intake and outlet works - Delivery system (pipeline and pump stations) 			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
	Desalination Plant	1,470,000,000		
	Delivery System	713,600,000		
	Total power, and O&M		148,400,000	Opex includes membrane replacements etc
	Yield (ML/a)	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
	146,000	Low	6,040	
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>Notes</p> <p>Desalination Plant costs are Cardno preliminary estimates, based on cost information for Tugun Plant, Kwinana Plant, and approximate costs provided by suppliers. Suppliers costs are significantly lower than these costs. For example desalination capex estimates provided by suppliers are around \$1.5m/ML (excl inlet and outlet works) The figure estimated by Cardno is \$3.2m/ML (excl inlet and outlet works). The Tugun Plant (excl inlet and outlet works) is \$4.8m/ML. The Kwinana plant is around \$3.0m/ML including auxiliary infrastructure. A major supplier of desalination equipment has quoted \$1.10/kL sale price for desalinated water.</p> <p>References</p> <p>Assumptions</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$2,865,614,984	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	1,387,777	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)	\$2.06	Unit Cost - to meet demand growth (PV\$/PVkL)	\$3.17	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)	881,840	GHG emission/reduction (t/a)	922,405	
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes	<p>- No environmental impacts known, although inlet and outlet works will need to traverse a narrow strip of national park along Bribie Island foreshore</p> <p>- Minor social impacts – some resumptions along pipeline route</p>			

Project summary				
Option Name	Sandgate to North Pine Dam IPR	Option Code No.	SP-S5	
Supply or Demand	Supply	Option Status	Potential	
Description	<p>A major upgrade of the Sandgate wastewater treatment plant to tertiary treatment standard is underway. A further advanced treatment stage could be added, and the recycled water piped to North Pine Dam for storage, re-treatment and reuse. If 5,600 ML/yr were produced (the approximate maximum volume which could be produced from the plant with its current loading), the recycled component would represent less than 10% of the total supply from the dam.</p> <p>With this indirect potable reuse option, tertiary treated effluent from the Sandgate Wastewater Treatment Plant undergoes further advanced treatment by reverse osmosis and other processes, then is piped to North Pine Dam to be mixed with runoff from its catchment and recycled for urban use. The recycled component will represent approximately 9% of the total supply from the dam.</p> <p>If recycled water from Bendale and Murrumbidgee plants is also pumped to North Pine Dam, the recycled component of the total supply from North Pine Dam will be about 16% of the total supply from the dam.</p> <p>The supply available from the IPR plant is assumed to be equal to the current wastewater treatment plant output, less any component currently reused, less the waste stream from an RO treatment plant. Sizing of the infrastructure is based on an assumed growth in flows by 2% pa until 2026 and 1.5% pa thereafter.</p>			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
	Treatment plant and delivery	95,500,000		
	Power and O&M total		3,670,000	
	Yield (ML/a)	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
	5,620	Low, but depends on outcome of plebiscite	1,313	
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>Notes Cost includes the Treatment Plant, pipeline, and pump stations to deliver recycled water to North Pine Dam. Costs are Cardno preliminary costs. Potential cost savings exist through linkage with supply from Murrumbidgee and Bendale.</p> <p>References</p> <p>Assumptions This scheme as a permanent supply is dependent on community acceptance.</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$96,074,746	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	49,675	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)	\$1.93	Unit Cost - to meet demand and growth (PV\$/PVkL)	\$1.93	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)	7,379	GHG emission/reduction (t/a)	7,718	
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes	<p>Notes for all IPR other than Western Corridor: - Possible benefit to environment with respect to reduction of discharge to Moreton Bay, Broadwater etc. - Minor social impacts possibly due to pipeline resumptions - Public Education campaign required. Community acceptance essential.</p>			

Project summary				
Option Name	Brendale to North Pine Dam IPR	Option Code No.	SP-S6	
Supply or Demand	Supply	Option Status	Potential	
Description	<p>A tertiary wastewater treatment plant is located at Brendale. This option involves further advanced treatment of the effluent and piping it to North Pine Dam for storage, re-treatment and reuse. The recycled component would be approximately 1,700 ML/yr, or about 3% of the total supply from North Pine Dam.</p> <p>With this indirect potable reuse option, tertiary treated effluent from the Brendale Wastewater Treatment Plant undergoes further advanced treatment by reverse osmosis and other processes, then is piped to North Pine Dam to be mixed with runoff from its catchment and recycled for urban use. The recycled component will represent approximately 3% of the total supply from the dam.</p> <p>If recycled water from Sandgate and Murumba Downs plants is also pumped to North Pine Dam, the recycled component of the total supply from North Pine dam will be about 16% of the total supply from the dam.</p> <p>The supply available from the IPR plant is assumed to be equal to the current wastewater treatment plant output, less any component currently reused, less the waste stream from an RO treatment plant. Sizing of the infrastructure is based on an assumed growth in flows by 2% pa until 2026 and 1.5% pa thereafter.</p>			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
	Treatment plant and delivery	24,020,000		
	Power and O&M total		1,007,000	
	Yield (ML/a)	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
	1,680	Low, but depends on outcome of plebiscite	1.100	
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>Notes Cost includes the Treatment Plant, pipeline, and pump stations to deliver recycled water to North Pine Dam. Costs are Cardno preliminary costs. Potential cost savings exist through linkage with supply from Sandgate and Brendale.</p> <p>References</p> <p>Assumptions This scheme as a permanent supply is dependent on community acceptance.</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$24,906,395	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	14,849	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)	\$1.68	Unit Cost - to meet demand and growth (PV\$/PVkL)	\$1.68	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)	1,848	GHG emission/reduction (t/a)	1,933	
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes	<p>Notes for all IPR other than Western Corridor: - Possible benefit to environment with respect to reduction of discharge to Moreton Bay, Broadwater etc. - Minor social impacts possibly due to pipeline resumptions - Public Education campaign required. Community acceptance essential.</p>			

Project summary				
Option Name	Murumba Downs to North Pine Dam IPR	Option Code No.	SP-S7	
Supply or Demand	Supply	Option Status	Potential	
Description	<p>A tertiary wastewater treatment plant is located at Murumba Downs. This option involves further advanced treatment of the effluent and piping it to North Pine Dam for storage, re-treatment and reuse. The recycled component would be approximately 4,230 ML/yr, or about 7% of the total supply from North Pine Dam. If recycled water from Sandgate and Bendale plants is also pumped to North Pine Dam, the recycled component of the total supply from North Pine dam will be about 16% of the total supply from the dam.</p> <p>With this indirect potable reuse option, tertiary treated effluent from the Murumba Downs Wastewater Treatment Plant undergoes further advanced treatment by reverse osmosis and other processes, then is piped to North Pine Dam to be mixed with runoff from its catchment and recycled for urban use. The recycled component will represent approximately 7% of the total supply from the dam.</p> <p>If recycled water from Sandgate and Bendale plants is also pumped to North Pine Dam, the recycled component of the total supply from North Pine dam will be about 16% of the total supply from the dam.</p> <p>The supply available from the IPR plant is assumed to be equal to the current wastewater treatment plant output, less any component currently reused, less the waste stream from an RO treatment plant. Sizing of the infrastructure is based on an assumed growth in flows by 2% pa until 2026 and 1.5% pa thereafter.</p>			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
	Treatment plant and delivery	55,170,000		
	Power and O&M total		2,690,000	
	Yield (ML/a)	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
	4,230	Low, but depends on outcome of plebiscite	1.310	
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>Notes Cost includes the Treatment Plant, pipeline, and pump stations to deliver recycled water to North Pine Dam. Costs are Cardno preliminary costs. Potential cost savings exist through linkage with supply from Murumba Downs and Sandgate.</p> <p>References</p> <p>Assumptions This scheme as a permanent supply is dependent on community acceptance.</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$60,538,962	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	37,389	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)	\$1.62	Unit Cost - to meet demand and growth (PV\$/PVkL)	\$1.62	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)	5,541	GHG emission reduction (%)	5,796	
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes	<p>Notes for all IPR other than Western Corridor: - Possible benefit to environment with respect to reduction of discharge to Moreton Bay, Broadwater etc. - Minor social impacts possibly due to pipeline resumptions - Public Education campaign required. Community acceptance essential.</p>			

Project summary				
Option Name	Memimac to Hinze Dam IPR	Option Code No.	SP-S8	
Supply or Demand	Supply	Option Status	Potential	
Description	<p>Memimac treats wastewater from the Gold Coast area to tertiary standard. This option is to treat water to a higher standard and pipe it to Hinze Dam for reuse. The quantity recycled would be approximately 7,300 ML/yr (the amount potentially available from the existing plant), and the recycled component would make up approximately 9% of the total supply from Hinze Dam.</p> <p>With this indirect potable reuse option, tertiary treated effluent from the Memimac Wastewater Treatment Plant undergoes further advanced treatment by reverse osmosis and other processes, then is piped to Hinze Dam to be mixed with runoff from its catchment and recycled for urban use. The recycled component will represent approximately 9% of the total supply from the dam.</p> <p>The supply available from the IPR plant is assumed to be equal to the current wastewater treatment plant output, less any component currently reused, less the waste stream from an RO treatment plant. Sizing of the infrastructure is based on an assumed growth in flows by 2% pa until 2026 and 1.5% pa thereafter.</p>			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
	Treatment plant and delivery	106,060,000		
	Power and O&M total		5,130,000	
	Yield (ML/a)	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
	7,330	Low, but depends on outcome of plebiscite	1,550	
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>Notes Cost includes the Treatment Plant, pipeline, and pump stations to deliver recycled water to Hinze Dam. Costs are Cardno preliminary costs.</p> <p>References</p> <p>Assumptions This scheme as a permanent supply is dependent on community acceptance.</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$116,016,234	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	37,389	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)	\$1.79	Unit Cost - to meet demand and growth (PV\$/PVkL)	\$1.79	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)	11,362	GHG emission/reduction (t/a)	11,884	
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes	<p>Notes for all IPR other than Western Corridor: - Possible benefit to environment with respect to reduction of discharge to Moreton Bay, Broadwater etc. - Minor social impacts possibly due to pipeline resumptions - Public Education campaign required. Community acceptance essential.</p>			

Project summary				
Option Name	Noosa to Lake MacDonald IPR	Option Code No.	SP-S9	
Supply or Demand	Supply	Option Status	Potential	
Description	<p>The Noosa plant is a tertiary treatment plant. With this option, further advanced treatment of the wastewater would occur, then the recycled water would be piped to Six Mile Creek upstream of Lake MacDonald. If all the output of the Noosa Wastewater Treatment Plant (less currently re-used fraction and the process waste stream) were treated, then the recycled component would represent approximately 33% of the current supply from Lake MacDonald.</p> <p>With this indirect potable reuse option, tertiary treated effluent from the Noosa Wastewater Treatment Plant undergoes further advanced treatment by reverse osmosis and other processes, then is piped to a point upstream of Lake MacDonald to be mixed with runoff from its catchment and recycled for urban use. The recycled component will represent approximately 33% of the total supply available from the dam, or about 20% of the total water consumption for Noosa LGA (including the supply from Mary River).</p> <p>The supply available from the IPR plant is assumed to be equal to the current wastewater treatment plant output, less any component currently reused, less the waste stream from an RO treatment plant. Sizing of the infrastructure is based on an assumed growth in flows by 2% pa until 2026.</p>			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
	Treatment plant and delivery	37,900,000		
	Power and O&M total		1,360,000	
	Yield (ML/a)	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
	2,040	Low, but depends on outcome of plebiscite	1.376	
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>Notes Cost includes the Treatment Plant, pipeline, and pump stations to deliver recycled water to Lake MacDonald. Costs are Cardno preliminary costs.</p> <p>References</p> <p>Assumptions This scheme as a permanent supply is dependent on community acceptance.</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$37,275,386	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	18,032	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)	\$2.07	Unit Cost - to meet demand and growth (PV\$/PVkL)	\$2.07	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)	2,807	GHG emission/reduction (t/a)	2,936	
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes	<p>Notes for all IPR other than Western Corridor: - Possible benefit to environment with respect to reduction of discharge to Moreton Bay, Broadwater etc. - Minor social impacts possibly due to pipeline resumptions - Public Education campaign required. Community acceptance essential.</p>			

Project summary				
Option Name	Maroochy to Wappa Dam IPR	Option Code No.	SP - S10	
Supplier Demand	Supply	Option Status	Potential	
Description	<p>The Maroochy Wastewater Treatment Plant is currently being upgraded to tertiary treatment with the capacity to produce Grade A recycled water. With this option, further advanced treatment of the wastewater would occur, then the recycled water would be piped to North Maroochy River upstream of Wappa Dam. If all the output of the Maroochy Wastewater Treatment Plant (less currently re-used fraction and the process waste stream), then the recycled component would represent approximately 40% of the current supply from Cooloolabin-Wappa Dam-Poona water supply system. The recycled component would be less if Wappa Dam were to be raised.</p> <p>With this indirect potable reuse option, tertiary treated effluent from the Maroochy Wastewater Treatment Plant undergoes further advanced treatment by reverse osmosis and other processes, then is piped to a point upstream of Wappa Dam to be mixed with runoff from its catchment and recycled for urban use. The recycled component will represent approximately 40% of the total supply available from the Cooloolabin-Wappa-Poona Water Supply System.</p> <p>If Wappa Dam were to be raised, and used as a holding storage for water piped from potential storages in the Mary River catchment, the recycled component of the total supply from the Cooloolabin-Wappa-Poona Water Supply System would be substantially less.</p> <p>The supply available from the IPR plant is assumed to be equal to the current wastewater treatment plant output, less any component currently reused, less the waste stream from an RO treatment plant. Sizing of the infrastructure is based on an assumed growth in flows by 2% pa until 2026 and 1.5% pa thereafter.</p>			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
	Treatment plant and delivery	112,900,000		
	Power and O&M total		4,580,000	
	Yield (ML/a)	6,170	Uncertainty Low, but depends on outcome of plebiscite	Energy use (MWh/ML) 1,680
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>Notes Cost includes the Treatment Plant, pipeline, and pump stations to deliver recycled water to Wappa Dam. Costs are Cardno preliminary costs.</p> <p>References</p> <p>Assumptions This scheme as a permanent supply is dependent on community acceptance.</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$115,712,574	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	54,537	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)	\$2.12	Unit Cost - to meet demand growth (PV\$/PVkL)	\$2.12	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)	10,427	GHG emission/reduction (t/a)	10,907	
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes	<p>Notes for all IPR other than Western Corridor: - Possible benefit to environment with respect to reduction of discharge to Moreton Bay, Broadwater etc. - Minor social impacts possibly due to pipeline resumptions - Public Education campaign required. Community acceptance essential.</p>			

Project summary				
Option Name	Caboollure to Moodlu Storage	Option Code No.	SP- S11	
Supply or Demand	Supply	Option Status	Potential	
Description	<p>The South Caboollure Wastewater Treatment Plant has advanced water treatment processes that are able to treat recycled water to standards suitable for indirect potable reuse. Currently, most of this recycled water is discharged to the river although 1 to 2ML/day is currently being reused. An option is to pump the remaining available recycled water (approximately 7 ML/day) to the Moodlu Storage. Water could be released from the storage into Wararba Creek to be captured and re-treated in the water treatment plant for potable use, or drawn directly from the Moodlu Storage.</p>			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
	Delivery system	8,440,000		
	Power and O&M total		1,024,000	
	Yield (ML/a)	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
	2,550	Low, but depends on outcome of plebiscite	1.09	
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>Notes Cost includes the pipeline, and pump station to deliver recycled water to Moodlu Dam. Costs are Cardno preliminary costs.</p> <p>References</p> <p>Assumptions This scheme as a permanent supply is dependent on community acceptance.</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$14,675,046	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	22,539	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)	\$0.65	Unit Cost - to meet demand growth (PV\$/PVkL)	\$0.65	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)	2,780	GHG emission/reduction (t/a)	2,907	
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes	<p>Notes for all IPR other than Western Corridor: - Possible benefit to environment with respect to reduction of discharge to Moreton Bay, Broadwater etc. - Minor social impacts possibly due to pipeline resumptions - Public Education campaign required. Community acceptance essential.</p>			

Project summary				
Option Name	Kawana to Ewan Maddock Dam IPR	Option Code No.	SP - S12	
Supply or Demand	Supply	Option Status	Potential	
Description	<p>With this indirect potable reuse option, tertiary treated effluent from the Kawana Wastewater Treatment Plant undergoes further advanced treatment by reverse osmosis and other processes, then is piped to a point just upstream of Ewan Maddock Dam to be mixed with runoff from its catchment and recycled for urban use.</p> <p>There are plans to recommission Ewan Maddock Dam as a water supply storage. The water yield from this storage is estimated to be 3,800 ML/yr (from "Water from South East Queensland - Long term solution").</p> <p>The recycled component will represent approximately 63% of the total supply available from Ewan Maddock Dam. The supply from Ewan Maddock Dam (including the recycled component) could possibly be mixed with the supply from other water sources.</p> <p>The supply available from the IPR plant is assumed to be equal to the current wastewater treatment plant output, less any component currently reused, less the waste stream from an RO treatment plant. Sizing of the infrastructure is based on an assumed growth in flows by 2% pa until 2026 and 1.5% pa thereafter.</p>			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	replacement costs (c)
	Treatment plant and delivery	133,900,000		
	Power and O&M total		6,930,000	
	Yield (ML/a)	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
	6,600	Low, but depends on community engagement and acceptance	1,238	
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>Notes Cost includes the Treatment Plant, pipeline, and pump stations to deliver recycled water to Ewan Maddock Dam. Costs are Cardno preliminary costs.</p> <p>References</p> <p>Assumptions This scheme as a permanent supply is dependent on community acceptance.</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$219,426,452	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	89,796	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)	\$2.44	Unit Cost - to meet demand growth (PV\$/PVkL)	\$2.44	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)	8,171	GHG emission/reduction (t/a)	8,547	
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes				

Project summary				
Option Name	Cambron Dam to Stanley River	Option Code No.	SP - S15	
Supply or Demand	Supply	Option Status	Potential	
Description	<p>Water supply from a dam on May River at Cambron. Cambron dam site is located on May River upstream of Kerilworth. This was investigated as one of the potential future water supply sources in the May Valley, but rejected in favour of Traveston Crossing Dam. The dam is located 67 kilometres further upstream than Traveston Crossing Dam, and development of this site would have much less impact on the May River than development of Traveston Crossing Dam. Water would be conveyed via pipeline and tunnel to Stanley River for storage in Somerset Dam, released to Wivenhoe Dam, then treatment and distribution at Mt Crosby Weir. The pipeline distance to Stanley River is approximately 38.5 km. A tunnel of length 5.5 km would be required.</p> <p>A storage with full supply level of RL 130m AHD and capacity 120,000 ML has been assumed. A storage with this full supply level may affect parts of Conondale township, although most of the town is sited above 135 metres elevation. The yield of this dam has been recently re-estimated by Dept NR&W. For a storage of 100,000 ML, the historical no-failure yield is estimated as 32,000 ML/yr, exclusive of high flow and low flow compensation releases necessary to comply with the May Basin WRP.</p> <p>The costing has included a pipeline and tunnel to convey the supply from this dam to Somerset Dam.</p> <p>The supply from this dam would supplement the supplies extracted from the Wivenhoe Dam - Somerset Dam system at Mt Crosby Weir, and also for the proposed pipeline to Perseverance Dam for Toowoomba's water supply.</p> <p>Costs include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - construction of Cambron Dam to FSL 130m (capacity 120,000 ML) - (dam costs include resumptions and relocation of services, and roads) - pipeline, tunnel and pump stations from Cambron Dam to Stanley River, via McColls Creek. <p>Yield is taken directly from Cambron Dam</p>			
Model inputs				
Years (\$)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
	Cambron Dam	206,300,000		
	Pipeline, Pump Stations and Tunnel	250,600,000		
	O&M and Power Costs Total		5,780,000	
	Yield (ML/a)	32,000	Uncertainty medium	Energy use (MWh/ML) 0.771
Notes				
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>This storage option has been considered by NR&W as a supply option in the SEQRWSS, but rejected in favour of Traveston Crossing Dam. Discussion of the impacts of this storage on the May River is contained in the Appendix of "Water For South East Queensland - A Long Term Solution".</p> <p>References Capex for Dam from June 2006 GHD Desk-top Study. Cost is for a storage with FSL = 130m and capacity of approximately 120,000 ML. Capex for the delivery system (which includes pipeline, pump stations and tunnel to Stanley River from Cardno preliminary estimates) Opex and Energy Use - Cardno preliminary estimates. Yield estimate of 32,000 ML/yr is from Dept NR&W. It is the historical no-failure yield (at dam) for a 100,000 ML storage, with compensation releases required to satisfy the May River Water Resource Plan flow objectives.</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$365,541,078	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	282,847	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVtL)	\$1.26	Unit Cost - to meet demand growth (PV\$/PVtL)	\$1.29	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)	24,672	GHG emission/reduction (t/a)	25,807	
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes	<p>- Not expected to be significant environmental impacts, at least in comparison Traveston Crossing Stage 1.</p> <p>- Some social impact expected. A dam with FSL 130m should not affect Conondale, but around 121 properties will be affected.</p> <p>- Development would trigger EPBC Act</p>			

Project summary				
Option Name	Borumba-ColesNorth_Brisbane	Option Code No.	SP-S16	
Supply or Demand	Supply	Option Status	Potential	
Description	<p>Borumba Dam is included as one of the proposed storage developments for South East Queensland, but as a storage constructed after Traveston Crossing Stage 1 and operating in combination with Traveston Crossing Stage 1.</p> <p>There remains an option for Borumba Dam to be constructed independently of Traveston Crossing Dam. The option of Borumba Dam to be constructed in conjunction with Coles Crossing Weir on the Mary River has been included in this report. Borumba Dam with a full supply level of RL 169.9 m AHD and capacity of 460,000 ML has been assumed. Releases would be made to Coles Crossing Weir, from where supply from this system would be drawn. The yield (at Coles Crossing Weir) of this storage system has recently been revised by Dept NR&W as 31,000 ML/yr exclusive of existing commitments.</p> <p>The cost for the dam has been taken from the GHD 2006 Desk-Top study, and adjusted to conform with the revised NR&W costs for a smaller capacity dam from the report "Water for South East Queensland – A Long Term Solution". Treatment and delivery costs to the north Brisbane area have been included in the cost estimates.</p> <p>Costs include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - construction of Borumba Dam to FSL 169.6 m (capacity 460,000 ML) - construction of a weir on Mary River at Coles Crossing to FSL 60m (Capacity 3,897 ML) - (dam costs include resumptions and relocation of services, and roads) - pipeline, pump stations, and balancing storages from Borumba Dam to North Brisbane. - water treatment plant. <p>Supply is taken from Coles Crossing Weir.</p>			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
	Borumba Dam	304,000,000		
	Coles Crossing Weir	10,700,000		
	Delivery System and treatment	558,500,000		
	O&M and Power Costs Total		16,940,000	
	Yield (ML/a)	31,000	Uncertainty medium	Energy use (MWh/ML) 1.929
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>Notes Updated information on the yield of this option has been obtained from Dept NR&W.</p> <p>References Capex for Dam from June 2006 GHD Desk-top Study. Cost is for a storage with FSL = 169.6 and capacity of 460,000 ML. Dam cost was adjusted to be in line with revised Borumba Dam cost for storage with FSL 163.7 m from <i>Water for South East Queensland - A Long Term Solution</i>.</p> <p>Capex for the delivery system (which includes pipeline, pump stations and treatment from Cardno preliminary estimates) Opex and Energy Use - Cardno preliminary estimates.</p> <p>Advice on yield from Dept NR&W (18/12/2006) is that a 460,000 ML Borumba Dam and Coles Crossing Weir will yield 31,000 ML/yr above the current water supply commitments, and will meet the Mary River WRP flow objectives.</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$731,582,384	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	274,008	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)	\$2.67	Unit Cost - to meet demand and growth (PV\$/PVkL)	\$2.73	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)	59,799	GHG emission/reduction (#/a)	62,550	
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes				

Project summary				
Option Name	Borumba2_Narangba	Option Code No.	SP-S17	
Supply or Demand	Supply	Option Status	Potential	
Description	<p>This option considers the supply directly from a raised Borumba Dam without any weir on Mary River. The yield directly from a 460,000 ML capacity dam is estimated to be 15,000 ML/yr. Water would be conveyed via pipeline to Wappa Dam for treatment and distribution as far as Narangba.</p> <p>Costs include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - construction of Borumba Dam to FSL 169.6 m (capacity 460,000 ML) - (dam costs include resumptions and relocation of services, and roads) - pipeline, and pump stations from Borumba Dam to Wappa Dam. - upgrade of Image Flat water treatment plant. - pipeline and pumps from Image Flat to Narangba <p>Supply is taken directly from Borumba Dam (No weir on Mary River at Coles Crossing)</p>			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
	Borumba Dam	304,000,000		
	Delivery System and treatment	304,600,000		
	O&M and Power Costs Total		7,860,000	
	Yield (ML/a)	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
	15,000	medium	1.675	
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>Notes Option excludes Coles Crossing Weir, and assumes supply taken directly from Borumba Dam.</p> <p>References Capex for Dam from June 2006 GHD Desk-top Study. Costs for a storage with FSL = 169.6 and capacity of 460,000 ML. Dam cost was adjusted to be in line with revised Borumba Dam cost for storage with FSL 163.7 m from Water for South East Queensland - A Long Term Solution. Capex for the delivery system (which includes pipeline, pump stations and treatment) from Cardno preliminary estimates. Opex and Energy Use - Cardno preliminary estimates. Advice on yield from Dept NR&W (18/12/2006) is that a 460,000 ML Borumba Dam will yield 15,000 ML/yr at dam above the current water supply commitments, and will meet the Mary River WRP flow objectives.</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$474,921,886	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	132,586	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)	\$3.58	Unit Cost - to meet demand growth (PV\$/PVkL)	\$3.58	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)	25,125	GHG emission/reduction (t/a)	26,281	
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes				

Project summary				
Option Name	Wappa raised -Landershute	Option Code No.	SP-S18	
Supply or Demand	Supply	Option Status	Potential	
Description	<p>Raising of Wappa Dam is one of the options that has been considered in past planning studies. Water would be treated at Image Flat, and be piped to Landershute for distribution. Recent advice from Dept NR&W is that for compliance with the Water Resources Plan there are fairly severe environmental flow releases required from Wappa Dam that result in very little additional yield for storage sizes above about 30,000 ML. For a storage capacity of 30,000 ML (Full Supply Level 63 m), the yield is estimated to be 8,500 ML/yr in excess of the existing entitlements from the storage (16,500 ML/yr).</p> <p>The dam costs have been taken from the GHD 2006 Desk-Top Study. Treatment and delivery of the additional supply to the Landershute area has been assumed in the costing of the delivery system.</p> <p>The raised Wappa Dam could be considered in conjunction with the indirect potable reuse option for supply from Maroochydore Wastewater Treatment Plant.</p> <p>Costs include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -construction of raised Wappa Dam (FSL 63 m (capacity 30,000 ML) -dam costs include resumptions and relocation of services, and roads -pipeline, and pump stations from Wappa Dam to Image Flat. -upgrade of Image Flat water treatment plant. -pipeline and pumps from Image Flat to Landershute. 			
Model inputs				
Years (s)	Component	Capex (\$)	Opex (\$/a)	Replacement Costs (\$)
	Wappa Dam	172,000,000		
	Delivery System and treatment	33,000,000		
	O&M and Power Costs Total		1,780,000	
	Yield (ML/a)	Uncertainty	Energy use (MWh/ML)	
	8,500	medium	0.361	
Notes/references/assumptions	<p>Notes</p> <p>Updated information on the yield of this option has been supplied by Dept NR&W. The yield of the Wappa-Cooloolabin-Poona dam system with a 30,000 ML capacity Wappa Dam is 8,500 ML/yr in excess of the Maroochy Shire Council entitlement of 16,500 ML/yr from this system. Yield of the existing system is approximately 9,100 ML/yr, significantly less than the entitlement.</p> <p>References</p> <p>Capex for Dam from June 2006 GHD Desktop Study (interpolated). Cost is for a storage with FSL = 63 and capacity of 30,000 ML.</p> <p>Capex for the delivery system (which includes pipeline, pump stations and treatment) from Cardno preliminary estimates</p> <p>Opex and Energy Use - Cardno preliminary estimates.</p> <p>Yield estimate of 8,500 ML/yr (yield in excess of the current entitlement) is from NR&W for 30,000 ML storage.</p>			
Model outputs				
PV Total Cost (\$)	\$152,333,544	PV Total Water Saved or Supplied (ML)	75,131	
Unit Cost - full capacity (PV\$/PVkL)	\$2.03	Unit Cost - to meet demand and growth (PV\$/PVkL)	\$2.03	
Unit Cost (other)				
Sustainability				
Energy use (MWh/a)	3,069	GHG emission/reduction (t/a)	3,210	
Environmental Impact		Social Impact		
Additional Notes	<p>-Some high conservation value vegetation may be affected. Dam is in riparian corridor</p> <p>-Some social impact expected. Resumption costs are a significant part of total costs of dam.</p>			

APPENDIX C – CALCULATION OF UNIT COST

The “Average Incremental Cost” (AIC) is considered a best practice assessment of unit cost (\$/kL) internationally (Turner et al, 2007). The use of this metric involves dividing the present value of the stream of costs (and benefits where these are available) by the present value of the stream of water saved or supplied over time. See Fane, Robinson and White (2003) for explanation of the use of this unit cost metric, and also the example box below.

Hunter Water 2003 Integrated Water Resources Plan

Use of the AIC Metric: Hunter Water 2003 Integrated Water Resources Plan

Based on the recommendations of the economic regulator (the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal) Hunter Water used the AIC methodology outlined in White and Howe (1998) in its 2003 Integrated Water Resources Plan (IWRP) where the unit cost of conserved water is:

$$LC = \frac{\sum C_t / (1+r)^t}{\sum S_t / (1+r)^t}$$

Where C_t is the cost (capital and operating) of the option in the year t ,

S_t is the water supplied or saved in year t , and

r is the real discount rate.

The sum was taken over the same length of time for numerator and denominator. Both the numerator (costs) and denominator (water savings or yield) are discounted because the water savings are the stream of satisfied demand provided by an option. Even though it is measured in kilolitres, it is a metric of the provision of utility, in an economic sense.

This approach generated a unit cost of water, which is equivalent to the ‘constant price’ of water from that option. Hunter Water employed this method to compare the cost effectiveness of supply augmentation and water efficiency options available. Hunter Water used a time span of 30 years and examined the implications of options against a reference case. Hunter Water then examined the lowest cost (based on economic, social and environmental factors) of providing customers with water.