

Committee Chairman

Dear Sir

My Submission to this inquiry is very brief. I have submitted evidence to past inquiries such as the Fraser Island Inquiry into the availability and supply of water from our great sandy Islands such as Fraser Island (1600 sq km) Moreton Island (180 sq km) and North Stradbroke Island (275 sq Km) .

Each is a more reliant water source for SEQ than Traveston or Duck Creek Dam on the Clarence.

The amount of fresh water that needlessly flows to the sea form these islands alone is in the range of 2800-3100 megalitres a day. Even if only 20 per cent was harvested (some 560 megalitres per day) then there would be enough water to sustain an additional 4 million residents in SEQ on current Level 5 restrictions.

The costs of extraction of water from the nearest island Moreton Island which lies in the Brisbane City Area (in fact 14 km off of the Port of Brisbane Industrial area) would be about \$100 million and could be up and running in about 12 months. The biggest costs would be supply of an under bay water pipeline and electricity from North Stradbroke for bore water extraction. The scheme would deliver 60 megalitres per day and pay for itself off within the medium term say 10 years.

I believe the island options should be fully investigated with Commonwealth funding and SMEC expertise.

The Clarence Scheme would also be more practical than Traveston.

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