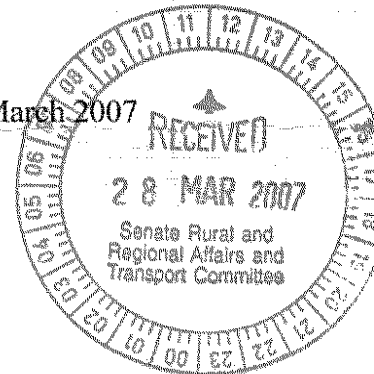


Wilson N Thomsen

P.O. Box 271 Maryborough Q 4650 Ph 07 4123 2911

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

24th March 2007



Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Inquiry into Additional Water Supplies for South East Queensland – Traveston Crossing Dam Information

This Dam would ruin the Mary River – on historic rainfalls the River water is now being utilized to the maximum apart from a rare flood perhaps each 30 years.

For the health of the Mary River and The Great Sandy Straits, a regular flood flush is needed which may not occur should this Dam be constructed.

The only debate the endangered species which depend on the river can offer is their fragile existence. The Lung Fish is particularly significant. What right has mankind to place its existence in jeopardy?

The treatment of people of the area during land resumption is a Queensland Government shameful disgrace: consider the case of 1 property purchased for \$700,000 and a neighbouring property virtually identical, owned by a bureaucrat for \$1,700,000. The extremely harsh methods used by the Qld Government, has resulted in severe trauma for most if not all people forced to move. If there were some higher check on the degrading manipulation of these people, causing marriage breakdowns, suicide attempts etc, the Queensland Government should be forced from office.

The Dam would mean ruination of a large tract of fertile, prime rural production land.

Reduced River water flow would seriously, adversely affect irrigation for the Maryborough area sugar cane and other rural industries.

The proposed Dam if it ever filled, due to the large shallow area, would be subject to very high levels of evaporation.

Water weed infestations (hyacinth etc) would also be a major problem due to the large area.

What plan is there for the toxic (particularly arsenic) old cattle dip sites, which would be covered with water and what additional cost?

Wilson N Thomsen

Does the kink in the River bed at the Dam wall proposed site, signify a fault line which could render the Dam wall unsafe?

Due to absence of bedrock to anchor it, would the Dam wall be safe?

If the Dam was built and filled, for those of us living downstream, no one can safeguard the wall from an air, or sea to land terrorist attack, or future act of war.

~~The recently released information regarding climate change, predicting less rainfall for the central/southern areas of Australia and more to the north, further reinforces the folly of this Dam proposal.~~

There is nothing good about this Traveston Crossing Dam proposal; it is a total disaster.

I acknowledge the water needs of our State, but believe there are far better alternatives than this Dam proposal.

Whether it be good season or drought there is no shortage of water in the sea; surely with research and development by some organization such as CSIRO, desalination programs could be refined and costs lowered. To deny use under 'Wild Rivers', of the beautiful fresh water which flows from Fraser Island is bureaucratic lunacy. Rainwater storage on every building, plus better recycling programs would be of great benefit to our water crisis.

Most if not all Australians, including myself, find the hypocritical Japanese whaling program under the guise of research abhorrent. The Japanese are deceitful environmental vandals, who even now won't admit that during the Second World War, they forced young women into prostitution for their armed forces. However their taking of whales, if managed, like any other meat produced for human consumption, is a renewable resource. Because of the permanent nature of this Dam if constructed, Premier Peter Beattie and his Queensland Government are far, far greater environmental vandals than the Japanese.

What Government project is ever completed within the estimated cost: what costs are already deliberately hidden: what would be the final cost?

While there would be some people who provided water flows from their taps, do not care what is on the other end, all Australians, not just those from the area of this mega Dam and those living along the River downstream, should recognise the ecological insanity of this Traveston Crossing Dam proposal and vigorously oppose it.

The future of THE MARY RIVER, established rural and other industries, lifestyles and environmental issues, depend on people power opposition and the finding of the Senate Inquiry.

Wilson Thomsen.

