

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport
Legislation Committee**

SUBMISSION COVER SHEET

Inquiry Title: **Additional Water Supplies for South East Queensland –
Traveston Dam**

Submission No: **32**

Date Received: **28 March 2007**

Organisation:

Address: **192 Happy Jack Creek Rd
RIDGEWOOD via COOROY QLD 4563**

Phone: **07 5447 9288**

Fax:

Email:

Submittor: **Mr Victor Hill**

SUBMISSION FROM VICTOR HILL

192 HAPPY JARA CR. RD.,

RIDGEWOOD

VIA COORAY Q. 4563.

23 MARCH 2007

Phone/FAX 07 54479288.

THE SECRETARY

SENATE HOUSE & REGIONAL

PARLIAMENT HOUSE

CANBERRA . A.C.T. 2600



DEAR SIR/MADAM

RE. INQUIRY INTO WATER SUPPLIES FOR SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND - TRAVESTON CROSSING DAM INFORMATION.

PURPOSE: THE PURPOSE OF THIS LETTER IS TO PROVIDE INFORMATION FOR THE SENATE INQUIRY.

THE FOLLOWING PAGES OUTLINE THE DECEITFUL WAY IN WHICH THE QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT HAS PURSUED THEIR PROPOSAL TO BUILD THE TRAVESTON CROSSING DAM, AND THE PSYCHOLOGICAL DAMAGE THAT HAS RESULTED FROM ITS MISINFORMATION, DELAYS, AND DECEIT.

WITHOUT NOTICE OR CONSULTATION, PREMIER BEATTIE, ON 26 APRIL 2006, ANNOUNCED THAT HE WAS GOING TO BUILD A DAM AT TRAVESTON CROSSING ON THE MARY RIVER.

IT WAS NOT TILL 19 JUNE 2006 (TWO MONTHS LATER) THAT THOSE AFFECTED WERE INVITED TO THE FIRST OF 18 INFORMATION EVENINGS CONDUCTED BY MR. S. SMITH OF THE D.N.R.. AT THOSE MEETINGS PEOPLE Poured OUT THEIR SOULS TO MR. SMITH IN THE HOPE THAT THEIR CONCERNS WOULD BE HEARD BY THE QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT. WE ALL THOUGHT THAT THIS WAS "CONSULTATION". WE ASKED MANY QUESTIONS, AND WERE ASSURED THAT ANSWERS WOULD BE GIVEN. NOTHING HAPPENED EXCEPT THAT MR. SMITH WAS PROMOTED TO QUEENSLAND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE (Q.W.I.) AS THE MAN IN CHARGE OF ACQUIRING THE PROPERTIES REQUIRED FOR THE DAM. THIS IS A MOST INAPPROPRIATE APPOINTMENT, AND SHOWS THE INSENSITIVITY WITH WHICH THIS GOVERNMENT HAS PUSHED ITS PROPOSAL.

THE LAST OF THE 18 MEETINGS WAS HELD AT POMONA ON 14 JULY 2006. IT WAS NOT TILL 24 NOVEMBER 06 (ALMOST 3 MONTHS LATER) THAT I RECEIVED A LIST OF QUESTIONS (UNANSWERED) FROM MR. TOM CROTHERS OF THE D.N.R. SEE I ENCLOSED. YOU WILL

NOTE THAT HE HAD TROUBLE FINDING THE QUESTIONS.

ALL THIS TIME THE PEOPLE IN THE AFFECTED AREA WERE FRETTING. FEAR AND UNCERTAINTY MADE MANY PROPERTY OWNERS SELL UP. THIS IS ACQUISITION OF LAND BY STEALTH.

ON 29 NOV. 06 I SENT A LETTER TO THE MINISTER FOR D.N.R.W. REQUESTING ANSWERS TO THE 288 QUESTIONS. See (II) C.C. TO THE OMBUDSMAN (III). CC. TO THE C.M.C. (IV).

ON 4 JAN '07 THE COMMUNITY FUTURE'S TASK FORCE RETURNED THE 288 QUESTIONS WITH ANSWERS THAT THEY HAD COMPILED IN RETROSPECT See (V). IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE TASK FORCE WAS NOT AT ANY OF THE 18 MEETINGS, BECAUSE IT HAD NOT BEEN CREATED AT THAT TIME. MANY QUESTIONS TO WHICH ANSWERS HAD BEEN GIVEN AT THE MEETINGS WERE NOT INCLUDED. AT LEAST 10% OF THE QUESTIONS HAD SIMPLY NOT BEEN ANSWERED.

ON 30 JAN '07 I SENT A LETTER TO MR. WALLACE WITH 6 PAGES OF QUESTIONS THAT REQUIRED FURTHER ATTENTION. See (VI) C.C. TO C.M.C. (VII). CC. TO OMBUDSMAN (VIII).

REPLIES — 5 FEB OMBUDSMAN (IX). 14 FEB. C.M.C. (X). 22 FEB. C.M.C. (XI)

ON FEB 22. I RECEIVED A LETTER FROM MR. WALLACE TO SAY THAT HIS OFFICE HAD SENT MY REQUEST ON TO ANNA Blich's OFFICE. I HAVE HAD NO REPLY TO DATE.

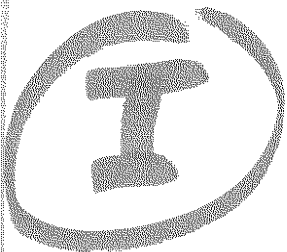
THE GOVERNMENT HAS DELIBERATELY DELAYED GIVING US INFORMATION, AND IS FOREVER MOVING THE GOAL POSTS SEE MAPS. (A)(B)(C) + (D). THE RESIDENTS ARE ANNOYED AND FRUSTRATED — EXAMPLE LETTER (E) (ONE OF HUNDREDS).

THE GOVERNMENT IS WAGING A FORM OF PSYCHOLOGICAL WAR FARE, DESIGNED TO WARE DOWN OUR RESOLVE. MANY RESIDENTS HAVE ALREADY LEFT. WE FEAR FOR THE WELLBEING OF THOSE WHO REMAIN.

YOURS FAITHFULLY

Victor Hill

P.S. PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THIS SUBMISSION VIA.



Queensland
Government

Author Tom Crothers
File / Ref GM-WAP Files
Directorate / Unit Water Allocation Planning
Phone 3225 1586

Department of
Natural Resources and Water

24 November 2006

Mr Victor Hill
192 Happy Jack Creek Road
RIDGEWOOD Via COOROY QLD 4562

Dear Victor

As discussed during our telephone call this morning, attached is a copy of the questions that were raised by the community at the Department of Natural Resource and Water (DNRW) Forums convened by Scott Smith in the Mary Valley.

You will note that there are no answers against the respective questions listed. Should you require specific answers, and I imagine you would, please contact Mr Mick Lord on (07) 3033 0664 or 0418 769 940 and he will attend to your request.

If you require any further assistance in regard to this matter, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

RB (Tom) Crothers
General Manager
Water Allocation and Planning

Replied 24 Jan 07

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Brisbane Qld 4001 Australia
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Facsimile + 61 7 32248359
Website www.nrm.qld.gov.au
ABN 83 705 537 586



V.L. HILL.

The Minister for Natural Resources
Mr. Craig Wallace,
Parliament House,
George Street,
Brisbane.

192 Happy Jack Ch. Rd.,
Ridgewood
via. COOROY Qld 4513
29 Nov. 2006.

Phone/fax 07 54479288.
mobile 0407754925.

Dear Mr. Wallace,

I refer to the 38 page document entitled "Issues raised at D.N.R.W. Workshops" and its covering letter from Mr. Tom Crothers, that form part of my letter.

Following Mr. Beattie's shock announcement on 26 April that he proposed to build a huge dam at Traveston Crossing on the Mary River, the D.N.R.W. call 14 meetings with property owners considered to be affected by this proposed dam. These meetings were held at Kaudanga, Inbil, Pomona, Kenilworth and Amamoo on the following dates: June 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 30 and July 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 12. Each property owner was invited ~~to~~ in writing to attend on a specific evening. Many of us attended more than one meeting. As we entered the meeting we were asked to write our names and addresses in the attendance book. We were told that this information was required so that the D.N.R.W. could send us a full account of the meeting. I attend 5 of these meetings and at each one I asked that a full list of all questions asked at all of the 14 meetings be compiled, and that all answers to all of those questions be provided to all those who had attended. Despite repeated requests those answers were not forthcoming. It is only through the good offices of Mr. Tom Crothers that I have been able to obtain a list of the questions.

I request that the D.N.R.W. provide full and detailed answers to all of the 288 questions. The

provision of "Fact Sheets" will not suffice. I require full individual answers to all individual questions. Answers such as "this question falls outside our sphere of responsibility" will not be considered a satisfactory answer. If the answer has to come from Queensland Water Infrastructure Pty Ltd., then you must obtain the answer from them.

The people of the Mary Valley attended these 14 meetings with high hopes that in some way their thoughts and opinions might have some influence in the decision making process relating to the dam. Mr. S. Smith told us all that he (the Government) needed our input. He pointed out that the Government did not know how we felt. He said that his job was to talk to us because the Government was very concerned about our key issues. As a result many people, with great emotion, poured out their hearts in a public display of despair and grief. It takes great courage to bare ones soul in public, but these people thought that the Government, through its officials like Mr. Smith, would listen. We all thought that this was what the Government called "consultation." It is my opinion that this has been nothing but a Government exercise in lies and deception. As a result of these meetings many people have been terrorised into selling their properties, and leaving the valley. The Oxford Dictionary defines "terrorism" as "the use of violence and intimidation in pursuit of political aims."

If the 28 questions had been addressed by the Government in July as we had expected, much of the fear and uncertainty, and anxiety would have been dispelled, and many families would not have left the valley. The delay in answering has been part of the Government's plan to acquire land by ~~stealth~~ stealth.

I therefore request that in the interest of open and transparent Government, you put an end to all this uncertainty by providing full and detailed answers to all of the 28th questions listed.

I look forward to your prompt reply.

Yours faithfully

Victor Hill.

C.C. to The Queensland Ombudsman
G.P.O. Box 3314 Brisbane 4001

C.C. to The Crime and Misconduct Commission
G.P.O. Box 3123 Brisbane 4001



Level 25, 288 Edward Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 3314 Brisbane QLD 4001
www.ombudsman.qld.gov.au



Our ref: 2006/10437

8 December 2006

Mr Victor Hill
192 Happy Jack Creek Road
Ridgewood via
COOROY QLD 4563

Dear Mr Hill

I refer to your correspondence dated 29 November 2006, comprising a copy of your letter to the Minister for the Department of Natural Resources and Water (DNRW) concerning issues raised at DNRW Workshops.

The role of the Queensland Ombudsman is to investigate complaints about maladministration by Queensland state government departments, public authorities and councils.

For resource reasons, this Office has a policy of ensuring that an agency complained about is given the opportunity to consider, and hopefully resolve, complaints before this Office becomes involved.

As enquiries with the Department of Natural Resources and Water reveal that it is still considering your complaint, it would be premature, at this stage, for this Office to investigate the matter further. I encourage you to await a reply to your letter.

If, after receiving a reply from the Department of Natural Resources and Water you remain dissatisfied, you may write to this Office again, providing copies of the correspondence exchanged with the Department, and any other relevant documents. You should also explain why you consider the Department's decision is wrong or unreasonable, and specify the outcome you are seeking. This Office will then assess your complaint and determine what, if any, action can be taken.

I have placed your letter on file for future reference if required.

Please find enclosed an Information Sheet which explains how this Office responds to complaints.

I hope this information is of assistance.

Yours faithfully

Louise Rosemann
Assistant Ombudsman
Assessment & Resolution Team

Encl.

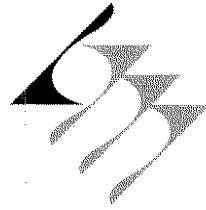
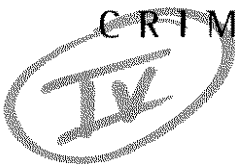
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www.cmc.qld.gov.au



QUEENSLAND

Our Reference: MI-06-3404 / PZA
Contact Officer: P Austin

9 January 2007

OFFICE OF THE
**Assistant
Commissioner
Misconduct**

PRIVATE & PERSONAL

Mr Victor Hill
192 Happy Jack Creek Road
RIDGEWOOD via COOROY QLD 4563

Dear Mr Hill

Level 3, Terrica Place
140 Creek St
(Cnr Creek and Adelaide)
Brisbane, Queensland

RE: YOUR CONCERNS

I refer to your letter to the Minister for Natural Resources and Water — a copy of which you also provided to the Crime and Misconduct Commission (CMC) and the Queensland Ombudsman on or about 4 December 2006 — in which you raised concerns that officers of the Department of Natural Resources and Mines (the Department) have lied and deceived the public in order to acquire land by stealth, for the purpose of constructing the Traveston dam.

I note you consider that delay by the State Government in addressing 288 questions and/or issues raised at workshops conducted by the Department in relation to the dam, is part of the alleged plan to acquire land by stealth.

Under the *Crime and Misconduct Act 2001* (the Act) one of the roles of the Crime and Misconduct Commission (CMC) is to ensure complaints of possible 'misconduct' are dealt with appropriately. "Misconduct" includes police misconduct and official misconduct. Official misconduct is defined by sections 14 and 15 of the Act. A copy of the definition is attached for your information (**Attachment 1**). The Act authorises the CMC in the performance of its misconduct functions either to investigate possible misconduct, to refer information about possible misconduct to the relevant unit of public administration to deal with, or to take no action about a complaint of possible misconduct if to do so would be an unjustifiable use of resources.

After considering the principles which apply under the Act and also having regard to the nature of your concerns and the information available, the CMC has decided to not take any further action.

That decision is considered appropriate for reasons that follow.

First, I note that Mr Crothers of the Department of Natural Resources and Water advised you by letter dated 24 November 2006 that the Department would provide you with specific answers to any of the 288 questions nominated by you. That is considered to be an appropriate response to your request. Secondly, it is not considered that the information available provides a proper basis to suspect the matter to be capable of productive investigation with a view to the successful prosecution of any possible criminal offence or disciplinary charge of official misconduct. Accordingly the CMC does not intend to take any further action.



Community Futures Task Force

For reply please quote: *ML35/CFTF*

4 January 2007

Mr Victor Hill
"Benyule"
192 Happy Jack Creek Road
RIDGEWOOD QLD 4563

Dear Mr Hill

You may recall that the Department of Natural Resources and Water conducted 18 forums in June and July 2006, with residents of the Mary Valley who were potentially impacted by the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam.

The questions posed at the forums were recorded and the Community Futures Task Force has, with the cooperation of Queensland Government departments and agencies, compiled answers to these questions.

Please find enclosed a copy of the Department of Natural Resources and Water, Forum Questions and Answers.

The Community Futures Task Force has placed a copy of this document on its website at <http://www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au>. Additional hard copies are available through the Kandanga One Stop Shop.

If you have any enquiries about the attached document please call the Community Futures Task Force on 1800 133 258

Yours sincerely

Steve Mill
Executive Director

*Encl.

PO Box 15637
City East Qld 4002
Telephone: 1800 133 258
Facsimile: 3224 5310
Email: info@communityfutures.qld.gov.au
Web: www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au

D N R FORUM
June 19 – July 14 2006



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Compiled
By
Community Futures Task Force
22 December 2006

NB This document is also published
On the Community Futures Task Force
Web Site at www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au

Four additional questions that have been asked of the Community Futures Task Force, subsequent to the DNRW Forums, appear under a separate title, "Additional Questions put to the Community Futures Task Force".

The Community Futures Task Force will make copies of the questions and answers available at the One Stop Shop at Kandanga. Copies can also be obtained on request by calling the CFTF on 1800 133 258 and a copy will be posted on the Community Futures Task Force web site www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au.

Contact details for agencies that have supplied information for this document are listed in the table below:

Department/ Agency	Abbreviation	Phone no	Web Address
Community Futures Task Force	CFTF	1800 133 258	www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au
Queensland Water Infrastructure	QWI	1800 225 384	www.qldwi.com.au
Office of Urban Management	OUM	1800 021 818	www.oum.qld.gov.au
Department of Natural Resources and Water	NRW	1800 243 585	www.nrm.qld.gov.au
Queensland Water Commission	QWC	07 3035 7220	http://www.qwc.qld.gov.au/
Department of Communities - Kandanga One Stop Shop	Communities	07 5488 4929	www.communities.qld.gov.au
Department of Safe Development and Trade	DSDT	1300 363 711	www.sd.qld.gov.au
Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority	QRAA	1800 623 946	www.qraa.qld.gov.au

6.	The Premier is indicating the project will happen, regardless of any feasibility studies as yet uncompleted. Is this legally possible?	Approval processes must be completed under State and Commonwealth laws prior to the commencement of construction.
7.	What are the steps in the approvals process for the proposed dam?	See Fact Sheet from Queensland Water Infrastructure (QWI) – Approval Process. A copy of that sheet is available at www.qldwi.com.au
8.	Are these community meetings actually the Environmental Impact Assessment meetings – are we ‘doing consultation’ with these meetings?	No – the meetings were an information workshop for the affected property holders about the proposed dam. Ten meetings were held from 19 June to 4 July 2006 prior to the announcement of the dam. A further eight meetings were held after the announcement by the Premier on 5 July to 14 July 2006. Community meetings will be held to discuss the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The first of these meetings was an information day held on 16 December 2006 at 1825 Mary Valley Road, Amamoor to discuss the Draft Terms of Reference for the EIS. The QWI Local Industry Policy, to be included in the EIS, will have requirements for local businesses and employment in the construction tender assessment specifications.
9.	Will the local people be helped to get a job on the construction of the dam?	The QWI Local Industry Policy, to be included in the EIS, will have requirements for local businesses and employment in the construction tender assessment specifications.
10.	Will you take a “triple bottom line” approach?	The EIS will take a “triple bottom line” approach and will include environmental, social and economic assessment.
11.	Will this infrastructure proposal go through the IDAS (development approval) process?	The project will require a series of approvals under a broad range of legislation, including the State Development and Public Works Organisation Act and Integrated Planning Act.
12.	What state agencies will be involved as referral agencies in any development assessment process (i.e. will these be the same agencies as normal)?	The assessment agencies and referral agencies will be the same as those for all projects of this scale, including the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Heritage.

19.	Maps are not accurate - When will an accurate indication of water levels be available?	The maps released on 31 October 2006 are up to date and accurate. These maps supersede previous maps on the project.
20.	Can you flood proof Gympie?	Modelling of the proposed dam has determined significant flood mitigation for Gympie – this equates to a 4m reduction in a flood equivalent to the 1999 flood. Similar results have been modelled for the 1974 and 1989 floods.
21.	How will storm water be managed downhill on the non-dam side of the bunding?	There is no intention to use bunding as part of the project. Storm water will be managed as it is under the present arrangements.
22.	How can we reliably know flood zones as a result of dam?	The land purchasing boundary includes a buffer that accommodates the 1% annual exceedence probability flood.
23.	Has computer modelling been done using known flood levels? If the dam had been built previously – what would be dam water levels presently? (“storage behaviour curve”).	Detailed backwater analysis and backwater curve assessments have been undertaken to determine the extent of flooding, allowing the identification of the land required. Consideration has been given to the behaviour of the storage as part of the flood modelling.
Drill Rigs and Dam Wall		
24	Drill rig is reported to be seeking access to a property at Obi Obi? What's happening?	This drill rig was not associated with the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam.
25.	What will be the dam depth at wall?	Stage 1 - 24m; Stage 2 – 32.5m

33.	<i>Will there be a country cabinet in the Traveston area?</i>	Community cabinets are decided by Premiers Office.
34.	<i>Was the proposal for this dam discussed with the local councils before its announcement?</i>	<p>The councils were not consulted about the dam prior to its announcement, however since the announcement, the Mayors of Cooloola, Noosa and Maroochy Shires have become members of the Community Futures Task Force. The Task Force is addressing the impacts arising from the proposal to build the Traveston Crossing Dam.</p> <p>QWI will engage directly with the councils in planning infrastructure relocation and the Office of Urban Management include the councils in their land use and infrastructure planning studies.</p>
35.	<i>If it is deemed "a project of state significance" will the people of Queensland have input?</i>	The project was declared a project of significance in late October 2006. There will be opportunities for public input during the development of the draft Terms of Reference for the EIS, during the development of the EIS and when the EIS is placed on public display.
36.	<i>Will the people not impacted in ponded areas and buffer, but in surrounding community, be consulted?</i>	<p>The CFTF has a number of studies underway that will involve members of the community to discuss how they have been affected and areas where they feel opportunities arise for the Mary Valley.</p> <p>In addition the EIS will include a social impact assessment and identification of possible mitigation measures, including those identified by the local community. The assessment will take into consideration both those directly and indirectly affected by the project.</p>
37.	<i>When will there be any answers back to our correspondence (ministerial's) or results on our FOI requests?</i>	<p>Any questions about outstanding correspondence should be referred to the agency with which the matter was raised.</p> <p>The Community Futures Task Force will assist members of the community if they have concerns in regard to these matters. Contact the Task Force on 1800133258</p>
38.	<i>Will the large powerlines that need to be moved from the dam's ponded area (and telco lines) be a cost factored into the dam's total cost?</i>	Yes, these will be the responsibility of QWI, working in conjunction with Energex, Powerlink and other network providers.

45.	How will you make allowances for land values, which might otherwise have increased in value (over time say 3 years)	Fair market value will be paid for your property at the time of sale, including the value of any improvements, and incorporating understanding of the value of the property prior to the announcement of the dam.
46.	How do people gain assurance of retaining/protecting value of property with uncertainty about impact (actual)?	The extent of land required has now been determined and QWI is offering to purchase under voluntary agreements. If you are unsure whether your property is affected, you should contact QWI for confirmation.
47.	How will future flood levels be affected by the dam – how will this be reliably identified – what about the implications for the community?	Accurate flood modelling has been used to determine the extent of land required, as identified on plans released on 31 October 2006.
48.	What is the position on Capital Gains Tax – will Government recognise the implications for property holders?	Government has released general advice it has received from Ernst and Young. Individual landholders should seek professional advice on this matter. This advice is available on the QWI website www.qldwi.com.au
49.	In addition to market price for property (sale) will compensation be paid for other impacts on property holders?	Land purchasing will be based on land valuations, stamp duty, and reasonable relocation and disturbance cost. This includes properties that operate businesses.
50.	Will the Government provide impacted landholders with a grant (\$1500/ \$2000) to seek initial advice?	Reasonable costs will be reimbursed for professional advice required in association with land sale. Land holders are advised to make enquiries with QWI. Phone 1800 225 384
51.	When do resumptions occur? At what point in the "phases"?	Resumptions will not occur prior to environmental approval.

	<i>my land use and land management practices if I am in the buffer?</i>	impact land practices can continue, such as cattle grazing.
58.	<i>What about land use such as piggeries/dairies/spray crops in the buffer areas?</i>	Intensive agriculture activities will be excluded from the buffer area. Low impact agriculture is permitted in the proposed buffer area. QWI has released a fact sheet that explains land use practises around the proposed dam.
59.	<i>Will there be constraints on land management practice?</i>	See QWI fact sheet – Land Use Controls - www.qldwi.com.au
60.	<i>Who will be responsible to maintain the buffer area?</i>	QWI will be negotiating lease agreements with land holders over use of the buffer zone and non inundated dam land. These lease agreements will outline the responsibility of the lessee with respect to maintaining the leased land.
61.	<i>What about septic tanks in the buffer and/or ponded area?</i>	This is a consideration that will be assessed in the EIS and will generally be assessed on a case by case basis. If it is deemed unacceptable on a particular property, QWI will replace facilities.
62.	<i>Will government fence properties impacted by the waterline on a part of the impacted property?</i>	In general the land around the dam will not be fenced. Some areas may require protection which will be assessed on a case by case basis.
	Access	
63.	<i>Will the town bridge at Imbil be affected or not?</i>	No, the bridge is not affected by inundation and there will be no increase in flooding frequency.

70.	<i>How will the ambulance reach us from Gympie if the access is underwater?</i>	Major road access is to be maintained.
71.	<i>What about community services e.g. Fire Brigades?</i>	Community services will be maintained. If affected by the dam, the relocation of services will be determined in consultation with the community through the work being undertaken by the Office of Urban Management
72.	<i>What cemeteries will be impacted?</i>	Kandanga cemetery is not impacted by Stage 1 and the community and local authorities are being consulted about the future of the cemetery if Stage 2 is approved.
73.	<i>How will government deal with the wishes of the families regarding loved ones in these cemeteries?</i>	Community members with an interest in the future of the Kandanga cemetery are being contacted by the CFTF. Enquires can be directed to the Task Force on 1800 133 258.
74.	<i>Who will pay for any arrangements to move them?</i>	The Kandanga cemetery is not impacted by Stage 1 of the project. It is anticipated the cemetery can remain in place and any associated works will be attributed to the project. The future of the cemetery will be determined after consultations are completed.
75.	<i>How will these arrangements be negotiated?</i>	The future of the cemetery will be determined through consultation with the affected members of the community, the local authority and the State planning agencies.
76.	<i>Will access to the cemetery be ensured if roads go under water?</i>	Yes, the existing road access will not be affected by Stage 1. An alternate access will be provided for if Stage 2 of the proposed dam proceeds.
Small Business & Employment		
77.	<i>People of the valley are being seriously affected –what employment support can be provided?</i>	The Government is providing a Workers Assistance Package which will provide employment and training assistance. For information please contact the Department of State Development and Trade on freecall 1300 363 711 or telephone 07 3225 2113 or through the Department's website at www.sd.qld.gov.au

87.	How can we get immediate assistance for immediate needs?	People in personal crisis and in need of immediate assistance should contact the Kandanga One Stop Shop on 07 5488 4929 or the Community Futures Task Force on 1800 133 258. All land related matters should be directed to the QWI freecall number 1800 225 384.
88.	What retraining packages are available immediately for people who have worked the land/related all their lives? What training options?	The Government is providing a Worker Assistance Package which will provide employment and training assistance. The Worker Assistance Package will provide up to \$3000 in training to anyone who has lost their job as a result of the dam. Any training this is related to re-entry into the workforce will qualify for assistance. For more information please contact the Department of State Development and Trade on 1300 363 711 or 07 3225 2113 or through the Department's website at www.sd.qld.gov.au
89.	Will you fund me if I start to undertake training at TAFE?	The Government is providing a Worker Assistance Package which will provide employment and training assistance. The Worker Assistance Package will provide up to \$3000 in training to anyone who has lost their job as a result of the decision to build the dam. While TAFE is the preferred provider any training this is related to re-entry into the workforce will qualify for assistance. For more information please contact the Department of State Development and Trade on 1300 363 711 or 07 3225 2113 or through the Department's website at www.sd.qld.gov.au
Impacts on the Environment and Catchment?		
90.	How will you value the loss of (community) human investment in preserving/protecting attributes of Mary River Catchment?	The Community Futures Task Force (CFTF) is working with the communities of the Mary Valley to ensure that they continue to thrive and prosper.
91.	Siltation is high in this river, what will be the place for considering this matter?	The EIS will include an assessment of siltation and possible mitigation measures, if required.
92.	Draft Water Resource Plan for Mary River- what is the status of this document?	The Mary Basin Water Resource Plan was finalised 28 July 2006 and is now subordinate legislation to the Water Act 2000

101.	Do hydrology experts have an understanding of the impact of water flow/quality/etc on fish habitats?	The Water Resource Plan sets the environmental flow requirements, based on environmental assessments on the river's flow. Over 85% of the pre-development flow will reach the river mouth.
Access to Water		
102.	Will water allocation rights and access to the water be retained?	All existing water entitlements will be maintained for allocation holders.
103.	Can water allocations be retained if a portion of property is outside of the buffer zone?	Assessments need to be done on a case by case basis and such a proposal should be included in discussions with QWI.
104.	Can a farm storage be built on land adjacent to dam?	If the proposed site is outside the land purchase boundary, the landholder will only be required to attain any approvals they would normally require for the structure.
105.	Can I build a water storage on my property, in the buffer area?	No
Water Augmentation Options for Brisbane		

109.	<i>What about recycled water for industrial use?</i>	The State Government has included recycling water for industrial use in its water policy and this is expected in the first instance to be used in electricity generation. The Government has announced a plebiscite to assess community acceptance of using recycled water for domestic use as well.
110.	<i>If the Government adopted the water saving strategies – why would a dam be required?</i>	The Government has supported a range of water saving strategies and these have lead to large drops in water consumption. However, water saving strategies alone are not enough to meet expected water demands of South East Queensland.
111.	<i>Has it been considered to pipe water from north Qld down the east coast of Australia? Why not use existing infrastructure corridors and impact no one.</i>	A study of this proposal has commenced.
Construction Company (Qld Water Infrastructure)		
112.	<i>Will FOI law apply to the dam construction company?</i>	QWI will be held accountable through an annual audit that will be completed by the Queensland Audit Office. Furthermore, information about the project will be regularly posted to the QWI website www.qldwi.com.au QWI will be required to conduct the EIS in an open and consultative way providing high levels of access to relevant information as outlined in the Draft Terms of Reference for the EIS.
113.	<i>Will QWI be obligated to meet any undertakings given to the community by the DNRM & W staff?</i>	Formal agreements (eg. Leasebacks, land purchase conditions, etc) that have been passed from DNRW to QWI will be honoured by QWI.
Common Questions – post announcement on 5 July 2006		
Process		

121.	How long before the EIS is complete?	The EIS is anticipated to be completed for public comment by 2007.
122.	Will our homes be still here abandoned in 20 years time w/o construction?	All landholders are being offered leasebacks to all the properties to be occupied until required. If a landholders moves, the land is likely to be offered to the market for lease.
123.	Up till April 2006, the focus has been on preserving Mary Catchment -- why is there now a focus on providing water from the Mary River for South East Queensland?	The Queensland Government still has a focus on protecting the Mary River Catchment. There is also a compelling need to address the need for water in South East Queensland. The Queensland Government is establishing a balance between protecting the Mary River Catchment and meeting South East Queensland's needs for water.
124.	Why wasn't the Traveston Dam raised in community consultation for Mary Basin Water Resource Plan?	The Mary Basin Water Resources Plan does not endorse or recommend any particular infrastructure proposal, but rather sets aside a strategic reserve for future water requirements, after consideration of the ecological impacts of taking the additional water. The assessment of particular infrastructure options occurred through separate studies (eg the South East Queensland Regional Water Supply Strategy).
125.	How will you manage heritage listings?	Heritage and indigenous cultural heritage assessments are elements of the EIS and will be undertaken as part of the project.
126.	Elderly clients impacted are terribly concerned and stressed: I know of one who hasn't had a letter. Another one is disabled physically and needs assistance to move/sell - how will this be managed? How can you assist these people?	The Community Futures Task Force is meeting with these residents and discussing their needs. The Department of Communities has established a One Stop Shop at Kandanga that coordinates services across the State Government. It has also engaged Lifeline to provide one on one counselling and outreach services to assist members of the Mary Valley.
127.	Were the public meetings advertised?	Written invitations were sent to land holders who were potentially affected by the proposed dam and those landholders were able to attend more than one meeting if they wished.
128.	Could the anti-dam Coordinating Committee be funded by Government?	The State Government is making a number of opportunities available to the community to provide input to the project. The State Government has also established the Community Futures Task Force to assist the communities of the Mary Valley with the immediate impacts of the proposed dam.

Buffer	
134.	<p>Why is there a buffer required?</p> <p>Buffer areas are required to preserve water quality and to provide a flood margin around the dam.</p>
135.	<p>What's going to happen in regard to buffer?</p> <p>The land purchase boundary identified on plans released on 31 October 2006 included the land required for the dam, including the buffer.</p>
136.	<p>When will we know the buffer areas?</p> <p>The land purchase boundary identified on plans released on 31 October 2006 included the land required for the dam, including the buffer</p>
137.	<p>Some urban supply areas have grazing permitted right to the water level – why isn't there consistency?</p> <p>It is intended that cattle will be able to graze in the buffer areas of this dam – see fact sheet Land Use Controls – www.qldwi.com.au</p>
138.	<p>Can we graze in the buffer zone? Who will maintain this area?</p> <p>Yes cattle can be grazed in the buffer areas. In general, where a landholder chooses to have access to the buffer area, there will be access conditions, including maintenance obligations. Areas not leased will remain the responsibility of QWI.</p>
139.	<p>What affect does vegetation have on the buffer area?</p> <p>Vegetation in the buffer zone will be considered as part of the EIS and on a property by property basis.</p>
140.	<p>People in the previous buffer zone (now not on the map) which was indicative, are now not in any zone. Plus there are others who should have logically (topographically) been in a buffer zone but are not presently marked on a map. Will these people have an opportunity to</p> <p>The land purchase boundary released on 31 October 2006 defines the land required, including the buffer area. All previous mapping has now been superseded by this updated mapping.</p> <p>All contracts achieved prior to the release of the updated plans will be honoured by QWI.</p>

146.	Will Government pay for independent valuation?	Yes, the government will pay all reasonable costs associated with valuations and legal costs.
147.	Are we obligated to accept Government valuation?	No. Landholders may seek an independent valuation, the cost of which is paid for by QWI. People can negotiate with the QWI about the value of their property.
148.	Will people have the right to appoint their own valuer?	Yes
149.	If there is not agreement between Government valuation and private valuation – what is the resolution process?	Negotiation between the property owner and QWI will be undertaken. If no resolution can be achieved then no further negotiations will be entered into until the dam is approved. See fact sheet – Land Purchase Process - on QWI web site www.qdwi.com.au
150.	Will conditions for lease back be clear? Will we have a legally binding contract?	In Stage 1 the lease back arrangements are 3% or \$1000 which ever is less. In Stage 2 the lease back arrangements are 25% of the market value. These will be formal and binding contracts. See the Leaseback factsheet on the QWI website www.qdwi.com.au
151.	Can we continue building (etc) on property in the Stage II areas?	Some limitations will be placed on development in the Stage 2 area, noting that if the dam proceeds to Stage two, structures will need to be removed. Landholders should contact QWI to discuss their individual circumstances.
152.	Are Stage II properties to be provided with option for buy-outs?	Yes, QWI will take individual circumstances into consideration as part of the purchase process.
153.	Will we lose any investment made since 26 April? If a property was held on 26 April valued at \$500,000 and it was in 3 years valued at \$650,000 and some capital investment in sheds etc – would the shed be included in the complete value? I.e. would we recoup investment in shed? Special need for new rules for the Mary residents (property holders)	Land valuations will be conducted at the time of assessment, taking into account historical sales. Improvements will be included as part of the valuation process.

163.	Must we accept Government price for our property? If we say no, will this disadvantage us in the future?	QWI is in the market place and is willing to buy properties that are required for the proposed dam. There is no compulsion to sell whilst the dam is awaiting approval. By not dealing now with QWI you will not be disadvantaged in the future.
164.	Can we sell if we are outside area of the impact area but suffering hardship?	Generally, no. Each proposal is assessed on its individual merits. If a resident is suffering personal hardship they should contact the Kandanga One Stop Shop telephone 5488 4929 or the Community Futures Task Force on 1800 133 258
165.	If we want to keep our land and don't want to sell, what will happen?	There is currently no obligation to sell your land. See Land Purchasing Process fact sheet on QWI web site. www.qldwi.com.au
166.	Will we be given tax breaks in the sale/compensation?	The amount of stamp duty will be included in the purchase price for the properties required for the project, offsetting this cost for any future purchase. In addition, some landholders will be eligible for capital gains tax rollover. See the QWI web site www.qldwi.com.au
167.	Will you include consideration of the losses from forced sale of equipment (will tax on this be waived?)	Valuations are based on the land and improvements, including fixed assets.
168.	If we sell and the proposal falls over – what is our position? Do we get right of first refusal?	Yes, previous landholders will be offered the opportunity for buyback. Landholders with enquires about the conditions for buyback arrangements should visit the QWI website www.qldwi.com.au or contact QWI directly on 1800 225 384.
169.	Where will we find similar properties?	The Office of Urban Management (OUM) is investigating land use and settlement patterns in the areas around the proposed dam. There will be opportunities available to land holders as a result of this plan.
170.	Can new land parcels irrigate from the dam?	Highly likely, however a water allocation will be required along with the relevant approvals and licences. In addition, land use controls will apply to the buffer area
171.	Can we take our water allocation with us?	No. Water allocations are purchased along with the property. Information about water allocations is available from the Department of Natural Resources and Water telephone number (07) 5480 5360.

180.	Can a private sale be made – not to government?	QWI is currently offering voluntary purchase for those properties identified within the land purchasing boundary.
181.	What about properties just outside the dam who may find it hard to sell because of uncertainty – are they going to be compensated?	Recent valuations by a broad range of valuers have determined that property values have not dropped and have shown a continued steady increase since the dam announcement. It is not anticipated there will be reduction in property investment in the area.
Alternatives to a Dam		
182.	Is there a Plan B if the dam is not feasible – e.g. piping water from the Burdekin?	The Government is committed to the construction of a dam at Traveston Crossing. In addition the Deputy Premier has agreed in principal to consider options for increasing supply and security of water at Traveston Crossing.
183.	Couldn't you put pumping stations into river instead of using a dam?	Pumping stations for water harvesting are only viable during flood events. The amount of water needed would require enormous pumping stations and pipelines, and would still not achieve the same yield as the proposed dam.
184.	Land has been resumed at Borumba and at Amamoor w/o construction? Why isn't this land (resumed) used first for water infrastructure?	Neither of these dams would achieve a comparable yield to the proposed structure at Traveston Crossing.
185.	Why don't they raise Borumba Dam first?	The Government is committed to the raising of the Borumba Dam. This will not overcome the need for the additional water storage infrastructure such as the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam to meet South East Queensland's future water needs.
186.	Who owns the trees planted on the land acquired by the government for water infrastructure near Amamoor?	The Government being the owner of the land is therefore responsible for vegetation and would have to abide by the laws pertaining to the <i>Vegetation Management Act</i> .
187.	What precautions are there in transporting water in a pipeline to not transport pathogens?	This matter will be considered as part of the EIS.

194.	When will I know the impacts on me? From the mapping available appears that my access road is in the ponded area but not known whether my property is in the buffer zone or not?	Maps have been released on 31 October 2006. Access will be maintained to properties where landholders remain after the dam is developed.
195.	When will we know which properties will be affected by realignment of infrastructure affected (roads, power lines etc)?	Maps have been released on 31 October 2006. Individual discussions with each landholder are occurring with QWI to ensure access and utilities are maintained, where necessary.
196.	Will Government always replace roads or purchase properties?	The assessment has been done on a case by case basis, with the aim to allow as many properties as practicable to remain.
197.	If access cannot be replaced, what will happen then?	If access can not be reasonably provided, landholders will be offered to sell the whole property, or work with QWI in identifying an alternative practical access.
198.	When will we definitely know our situation in detail, for access?	Information has been provided to landholders on 31 October 2006. If you are unsure about access to your property you should contact QWI to discuss. They can be contacted on 1800 225 384.
199.	Who will buy our property when my private access road is definitely affected?	If access can not be reasonably provided, landholders will be offered to sell the whole property, or work with QWI in identifying an alternative practical access.
Flood Levels and Dam Operation		
200.	What if it doesn't rain? What if there is a continuing drought?	The proposed dam is designed to capture water from high inflow events. The Mary River will be managed in accordance with the outcomes and objectives of the Mary Basin Water Resource Plan. The water resource plan will be implemented through a Resource Operations Plan that will include infrastructure operating rules, water sharing rules and strategies for managing water supply during drought periods.

208.	Do you understand that flooding in this area is very significant and the water level implications of a dam are not to be underestimated?	Historical information about the Mary River and its flood events are taken into consideration as part of the dam design process.
209.	Has climate change been a consideration? Can rainfall expectations change radically?	Climate change is a consideration. The Mary Basin Water Resource Plan was finalised in July 2006 and is now subordinate legislation to the Water Act 2000. Rainfall patterns were assessed as part of the Water Resource Plan. Rainfall patterns will continue to be assessed particularly in terms of managing the proposed dam.
210.	How will the dam manage 4-5 years in a row of floods?	The design and operation of the dam allows for multiple flood events to be managed and passed.
211.	How will floods be managed?	By monitoring stream flows, the dam can be operated to allow releases of water to anticipate the flooding inflow. The outflow is managed to ensure the backwater effects are no greater than the land purchase boundary.
212.	Flood warning system has not always worked – do you know that Gympie was flooded when the flood 'warning system' failed?	Stream gauges and other monitoring systems are key elements for the dam's operation, which will be reviewed during the EIS and upgraded if needed.
213.	How will you manage the massive quantity of water through the spillway?	The dam design is such that it will comply with the Australian Guidelines for Acceptable Flood Capacity for Dam (as identified by the Australian National Committee on Large Dams – ANCOLD). The web site for ANCOLD is http://www.ancold.org.au/
214.	Are you aware of the high levels of sediment deposition characteristic of this area?	Sedimentation assessment and mitigation will be an element of the EIS.
215.	How do you design a dam that copes with debris and siltation?	There are several ways of designing to manage and mitigate sedimentation and debris issues, these will be reviewed and included in the EIS.

224.	Are you aware that the hills to west of dam site are prone to landslip and has consideration been given to the impacts of rising underground water in exacerbating landslips?	Land slips were considered in detail and were a contributing factor to the identification of the preferred alignment, which is not prone to land slips.
225.	Has Steve Burgess been provided by the IQQM Model? (Appendix A).	Yes.
226.	Where can we access information on the technical aspects of the dam?	QWI's web site (www.qdwi.com.au) has technical information about the project and will be updated throughout the development. Detailed information will also be contained in the EIS.
227.	Who will own the dam?	The dam will be owned by the Queensland Government.
228.	It is requested that a full analysis be conducted of the quality of soil load in the Mary due to erosion over the entire catchment area, after a prolonged drought. The area of expertise should come from agricultural work done by the Sustainable Grazing Systems Program (MLA & ODP) that looked at effect of litter cover on soil erosion after significant rainfall events.	The issue of sediment load in the stream will be considered in the EIS process. Requests for consideration of specific studies should be raised as a matter for inclusion in the EIS.
229.	Local people concerned that hydrologists will not take enough notice of the local knowledge regarding sediment shift and flood levels?	Historical information about the Mary River will be taken into consideration as part of the planning process. Locals are encouraged to provide information to QWI for inclusion in the EIS development.
230.	What might be total allocation of water to farmers between Mary (Moy) Pocket and dam wall?	The Mary Basin Resource Operation Plan will describe how water entitlements will be managed in the area, including volumes of water available to be taken.
Social Impacts		

239.	Property impacted by buffer and property includes 3 dams – will we be able to continue to access these dams for our use?	Existing "on farm" infrastructure, such as dams, will be assessed on a case by case basis. Such matters should be discussed with QWI.
240.	If we sell the property – could we lease back for 3-4 years?	This is highly likely. The terms for the lease back of land are explained on the QWI website www.qldwi.com.au
241.	Land in buffer – do we pay rates on this?	Generally, during the leaseback phase, prior to operation of the dam, rates will be paid by the lessee. When the dam is operational for Stage 1, rates for land in Stage 1 buffer area will be paid for by QWI (with landholders generally provided access by way of agreement).
242.	Land in the buffer – is it required to sell?	Yes. QWI will require that land if the dam is approved.
243.	Who will conduct the next phase investigations? ("company")	QWI as the proponent of the dam will undertake the EIS.
244.	Is this part of social impact assessment?	No – the meetings were an information workshop for the affected property holders about the proposed dam. Community meetings will be held to discuss the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) of which the social impact assessment is a component of the EIS.
245.	Who would be responsible for managing the buffer zone?	The Leaseholder and through a landholder agreement, when the dam is in operation. See Fact Sheet on Leaseback www.qldwi.com.au
246.	Will they manage dingoes and wild dogs in the buffer zone?	Residents with enquires about management of pests should contact Department of Natural Resources and Water.
247.	How can they legislate for water quality by restricting land use practice in buffer – when there are contaminated areas in ponded areas?	Low impact activities can continue in the area adjacent to the dam. See Land Use Controls Fact Sheet on the QWI web site www.qldwi.com.au
248.	Can technology filter storm water?	Residents with water treatment inquiries should contact their relevant local authorities.
249.	Can I put up my own levee bank around a section of my property (part property covered by water)?	If a section of your property has been identified by QWI as being required for the dam, then it would be advisable to discuss the proposed earthworks with QWI.
250.	How does Bunding work?	Bunding is a wall to contain a body of water or to restrict water from inundating an area of land. There is no intention to use bunding as part of the project.

262.	Is native vegetation (Native Refuge Agreement) a consideration in valuing the property?	Individual circumstances will be assessed by valuers and should be included in discussions with QWI. QWI can be contacted on 1800 225 384.
263.	Will we be able to access water from the dam for local agriculture?	Cattle will be able to graze from the waterline, in accordance with the land use controls. See QWI Fact Sheet – Land Use Controls - www.qldwi.com.au All existing water entitlements will be maintained for allocation holders.
264.	Will we be charged for water out of the dam if our original dams are covered by the large dam?	Yes and you would need a water entitlement.
265.	How enduring is the lease back – can I pass this onto my children?	The discounted leaseback applies to the landholders on the title deed. The discounted rates will not apply if passed to another person.
266.	Kandanga resident wishes to sell home in main street – can he sell (not hardship)?	Landholders should contact QWI for further information. Phone QWI on 1800 225 384.
267.	How will questions raised be answered and the information brought back to the community?	The Community Futures Task Force (CFTF) can assist people with enquires. A list of contacts is maintained on the CFTF website at www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au
268.	Will drilling be conducted anywhere else in the Valley to research hydrology and matters beyond dam wall engineering?	Some drilling will be undertaken to locate materials for construction of the dam along with road alignments.
269.	Are you aware of the fault-line that runs out of the Valley on the eastern side?	The geotechnical profile of the area has been assessed and the foundations have been determined as suitable for the proposed structure.
270.	Are you aware that the hills to west of dam site are prone to landslip and has consideration been given to the impacts of rising underground water in exacerbating landslips?	Land slips were considered in detail and were a contributing factor to the identification of the preferred alignment, which is not prone to land slips.
271.	What happens when DNR hands over to QWI Company?	QWI has assumed responsibility for purchasing land, attainment of approvals and the development of the proposed dam.
272.	Where will the pipeline be located?	The pipeline location is currently under investigation by the Queensland Government.
273.	Are there other dams in Queensland that have been held up in approvals?	All dam proposals require environmental and social assessment studies, as well as State and Commonwealth approvals, which can take time.
274.	How much (maximum) water can be taken from the dam per year while still allowing a healthy environmental flow?	The Mary Basin Water Resource Plan set aside a strategic reserve of 150,000 ML per year for future water requirements after consideration of the ecological impacts of taking the additional water. Stage 1 of the dam if approved would draw 70,000 mega litres per annum.

288.	Is there a brochure available on acquisition/compensation?	Yes. A Fact Sheet outlining the land purchasing process is available at the Kandanga One Stop Shop and online from QWI at www.qldwi.com.au
Additional Questions put to the Community Futures Task Force		
289	How are the local councils included in the project planning?	The Mayors of the affected shires of Cooloola, Noosa and Maroochy are members of the Community Futures Task Force. QWI will engage directly with the councils in planning infrastructure relocation and the Office of Urban Management include the councils in their land use and infrastructure planning studies.
290	What is the expected total cost of the dam?	The dam is estimated to cost \$1.7Bn for Stage 1.
291	Do hydrology experts fully comprehend the flood sizes and scale in the Mary River area?	The flood modelling used by the hydrologists uses the historical stream flow and rainfall quantities. In addition, local knowledge was included to ground truth the modelling.
292	Will the Queensland Auditor-General audit the dam construction company?	The Auditor-General will audit QWI on an annual basis.

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The Minister for Natural Resources & Water
Mr. Craig Wallace.
Parliament House,
George Street,
Brisbane 4000

V.L. Hill.
192 HAPPY JACK Ch. Rd.,
RIDGEWOOD
via COORBY . Q. 4583.

30 Jan 2007
Phone/Fax 07 544 79288.
mobile 0407754925

Dear Mr. Wallace,

I thank you for the enclosed document "D.N.R. Forum June 19 - July 14 2006. Questions and Answers." It is noted that it has been compiled by the Community Futures Task Force. It is also noted that this document is also available on the C.F.T.C. web site. Please be advised that only about 25% of the residents of Ridgewood and Carters Ridge have access to the internet.

In the following six (6) pages I list the questions and answers that require further attention by your department. You will note that I make note of 17% of your department's answers. 10% of the questions have simply not been addressed. I regret to say that you get a "FAILED" for this. Please do it again, but this time with greater attention to detail and accuracy.

Yours faithfully
Victor Hill

- c.c. The Queensland Ombudsman
G.P.O. Box 3314 Brisbane 4001
- c.c. The Crime and Misconduct Commission
G.P.O. Box 3123 Brisbane 4001

1. Question not answered. A simple answer could read "When all Approvals have been given".
4. The Question was about the PAST. The Answer refers only to the FUTURE. Question NOT ANSWERED.
5. Question not answered. Information Sheet 3 provided to the public meetings dated July 06. states that "A number of possible scenarios will be formulated and assessed against multiple criteria, which will include cost effectiveness, environmental, cultural and social impact, strategic value, and reliability of the sources". The G.H.D report gave no report on the above criteria. Yield quoted is based on rain fall data going back 100 years but disregards the last 5 years of well-below average rain fall. It also does not take into consideration future projected rain-falls.
6. The answer for this question would also fit Q. 1.
13. This Question has NOT been answered. (What other sites?)
19. Survey results (in Happy Jack Creek) show that the water levels on maps are higher than they actually are.
23. Question NOT ANSWERED. Refer back to Question "What would be dam water levels presently?"
26. Question NOT ANSWERED. (Q. was "height/width of SPILLWAY".)

29. We sought access to the "Core samples"
30. This Question requires more information in the answer. We know that the dam will be funded by the Old-Gov. Will that funding come from borrowing, rates, taxes etc?
32. The Social impact assessment should be undertaken by an independent body, & it should certainly NOT be undertaken by the Task Force in whom the Community has no trust.
34. I am happy that an updated answer has been provided for this question.
40. This Question HAS NOT BEEN ANSWERED.
42. Question NOT ANSWERED. Q. Like for like?
43. The answer to this question would indicate that the longer a property owner holds out, the higher price he will receive.
45. Not Answered.
47. The answer to this question may well be used in any court action in the event of a flood in the future.
48. Not Answered. If the Government "has released general advice it has received from Ernst and Young" then this "general advice" should form part of the answer to this question. N.B. only 25%

of the residents of Casters Ridge and Ridgewood have access to the Internet.

60. Not Answered.

61. Will this "replacement" be at Q.W.I. expense?

85. Not Answered. The question related to compensation for "loss of capacity to earn i.e. loss of income."

94. Not Answered. Has the whole 7600 ha. area been assessed for seepage? Obviously the dam wall would be built to stop seepage.

96. To say that the fishway at Paradise Dam is "operational" does not say that it works as a fish transporter. Proof of the fishway's ability to translocate Lung fish up stream is required before it can be called a "success."

~~What~~ What is the difference between "Commenced Commissioning" and "Final Commissioning"?

We note that two clutches of turtles have been "released to the wild successfully." Any one can "release" an animal successfully. The important thing is that the released animal should survive in the "wild." Is there any proof of this? Is there any food for turtles in the Paradise Dam?

97. If the Answer to this Question is "Yes," then an Environmental Study should form part of the answer. 100,000 trees have been planted - Where? Are they alive?

101. Not Answered
102. Not fully Answered. No mention of Riparian Rights
119. The Answer to this question is noted and will be remembered - by all property owners in Stage II
126. The Community Futures Task Force is regarded as yet another arm of Government. The people of the Mary Valley do not have any trust in Government nor do they trust the C.F.T.F.
128. This is a SIMPLE Question. It has not been addressed. Why not just say NO?
 \ The answer is yet another Government gobbledegook statement.
130. The Answer to this question mentions that "good quality agricultural land can be used for development if there is an overriding need and there are no other sites suitable for such development." We contend that there are other "suitable sites," and have pointed this out to Government. No reason has been given for their rejection.
132. The Answer to this question is noted. Residents will refer back to this statement if required.
138. The Answer to this question is noted. "Areas not leased will remain the responsibility of Q.W.I."

143. Surveys conducted in the Carters Ridge area reveal that road crossings thought to be under water, are in fact above proposed water level.
158. The Answer to this question is noted. Property owners in Stage II may refer back to this answer in the future.
159. Not Answered. The question was quite clear - If I have sold to the Government (Q.W.I.) & have leased back my property; if the dam does not get built, what will happen to my lease? No mention was ~~made~~ made about BUYBACK in the question.
180. Question not Answered.
182. Question not Answered.
203. Question not Answered. "Who will pay ~~for~~ compensation for flood related loss? (if it does happen).
207. The Answer to this question will be noted by the residents of Imbil.
221. Question not answered
222. Question not answered (seepage?)
232. Question not answered.

- 233 This question not answered. It called for a commitment to future help for the district should the dam not go ahead.
253. Question not answered.
257. Question not answered.
- 260 Question not answered.
- 261 Question not answered. There are known points within the district. We wanted to know where they are to be found. We could then assess the accuracy of the map provided.
262. Question not answered. "What value habitat?"
267. The answer that we were given at the DNR meetings was that all the questions and all the answers to all of the questions would be compiled and sent to all of the people who attended the DNR meetings and left their addresses in the attendance books. The Task Force was never mentioned.
277. The Answer to this question is noted, and will be recalled in thirty (30) years time.
290. The Answer to this question is noted and may be recalled later!

The C.M.C.
G.P.O. Box 3123
Brisbane 4001

VII

V.L. Hix.

192 HAPPY JACK CRAD.

RIDGEMOOD

Via COORON 4563

30 Jan 2007.

Your ref. M1-06-3404/PZA.

P. Austin.

Dear Sir,

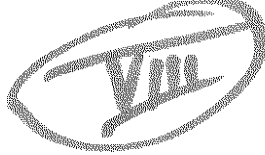
Please find enclosed correspondence that I am sending today to the Minister for Natural Resources & Water Mr. Craig Wallace. As you will see the Department, through the Community Future Task Force, has given answers to the questions, however I find that many of the answers do not address the questions. I am therefore returning it to them for more detailed and accurate answers.

I send you this information because in early December I sent you a copy of my original request for answers to the enclosed questions. This is my way of a progress report. As you can see my request has been answered in part.

With regard to my first dispatch to you, it was not my intention to have you investigate what I consider as the "acquisition of land by stealth". However the more one has dealings with the Government and its agencies, the more one comes to question their actions.

Yours faithfully

Victor Hill



The Ombudsman,
G.P.O. Box 3314
Brisb. 4001

V. L. HILL
192 HAPPY JACK Ch. Rd.,
RIDGEWOOD
via COORAY 4563
30 Jan 2007

Phone/fax 07 54479288
mobile 0407754925

Your ref. 2006/10437.

Attn. Louise Rosemann.

Dear Ms. Rosemann,

Thank you for your letter of 8. Dec 2006. I enclose further letters and documents that relate to problems I was having with the D.N.R. & W. and the unanswered questions.

As you will see I have now received answers to all of the questions, but as you will see from my letter to the Minister, I am not happy with ~~the~~ many of his answers. I have listed the answers that require further attention. You will note that some (10%) of the questions have not been addressed.

I send this information to you by way of a progress report. I shall let you know the outcome of my request to the D.N.R. & W.

Yours faithfully

Victor Hill.



Level 25, 288 Edward Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 3314 Brisbane QLD 4001
www.ombudsman.qld.gov.au



Our ref: 2007/00998

5 February 2007

Mr Victor Hill
192 Happy Jack Creek Road
Ridgewood via
COOROY QLD 4563

Dear Mr Hill

Thank you for your letter dated 30 January 2007, concerning your complaint about the Department of Natural Resources and Water.


The role of the Queensland Ombudsman is to investigate complaints about maladministration by Queensland state government departments, public authorities and councils.

Your complaint will be assessed and you will be advised as soon as possible if this Office can assist.

If it is considered that your complaint is not within jurisdiction, or that an investigation is not warranted, you will be advised of the reasons.

Please find enclosed an Information Sheet that explains how this Office responds to complaints.

Yours faithfully

for 
Margaret Newbery
Senior Investigator
Assessment & Resolution Team

Encl.



Level 25, 288 Edward Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 3314 Brisbane QLD 4001
www.ombudsman.qld.gov.au



Our ref: 2007/00998

14 February 2007

Mr Victor Hill
192 Happy Jack Creek Road
Ridgewood via
COOROY QLD 4563

Dear Mr Hill

I refer to your letter of 30 January 2007, enclosing copies of letters and documents in relation to your complaint with the Department of Natural Resources and Water (the Department).

A letter acknowledging receipt of this correspondence was forwarded to you on 5 February 2007.

As you advise that you are still waiting a response from the Department, the correspondence will be placed on file for future reference, if required.

Yours faithfully

Margaret Newbery
Senior Investigator
Assessment & Resolution Team

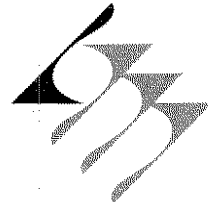
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QUEENSLAND

Our Reference: MI-06-3404 / PCA
Contact Officer: P Austin

22 February 2007

OFFICE OF THE
**Assistant
Commissioner
Misconduct**

PRIVATE & PERSONAL

Mr Victor Hill
192 Happy Jack Creek Road
RIDGEWOOD via COOROY QLD 4563

Dear Mr Hill

RE: YOUR CONCERNS

Level 3, Terrica Place
140 Creek St
(Cnr Creek and Adelaide)
Brisbane, Queensland

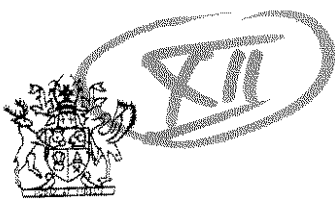
Thank you for your letter to the CMC dated 30 January 2007 and the enclosed report.

It is understood you require more detailed responses to some of the questions in the abovementioned report and have outlined your requirements in a letter to The Honourable Craig Wallace, Minister for Natural Resources and Water, dated 30 January 2007.

Your update on this matter is appreciated and I trust the department will be in contact with you in due course.

Yours sincerely

DIANNE MCFARLANE
Assistant Director
Public Sector Program
Complaints Services



**Queensland
Government**

Office of the
**Minister for Natural Resources
and Water**

Ref CTS 01285/07

22 FEB 2007

Mr Victor Hill
192 Happy Jack Creek Road
Ridgewood
Via Cooroy Qld 4563

Dear Mr Hill

I refer to your letter of 30 January to the Honourable Craig Wallace MP, Minister for Natural Resources and Water and Minister Assisting the Premier in North Queensland concerning your unanswered questions in relation to south east Queensland dams.

As the matter you have raised falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Honourable Anna Bligh MP, Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Infrastructure, the Minister has asked me to forward your correspondence to her office for consideration and reply direct to you.

Yours sincerely

Michael Tandy
Senior Policy Advisor

Level 13 Mineral House
41 George Street Brisbane Qld 4000
PO Box 15456 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3896 3688
Facsimile +61 7 3210 6214
Email NRW@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Website www.nrw.qld.gov.au



LETTERS

2/1/07

Disrespect

ON Tuesday December 5, 2006, I met for the third time with representatives from Queensland Water Infrastructure Pty Ltd regarding the impact Stage 2 of the proposed Traveston Dam has on my property.

This meeting was arranged for the Chief Executive Officer from QWIPL to provide "answers" to the questions I had raised during two previous meetings with their Project Manager, which had remained unanswered.

To say the least, dealing with these people is extremely frustrating, not only do they not answer questions, what information they do provide, only raises further questions.

Information packs which were sent out during October 2006 contained a letter written by the CEO (QWIPL), on October 30, 2006 which stated that my property would be affected by Stage 2 of the dam's development.

The CEO stated "Please accept my assurance that QWI is committed to behaving with integrity and working with all people in a respectful manner".

I consider that the communication from these QWI representatives to date has not only been extremely unprofessional, but intimidatory and disrespectful.

These representatives, not only refuse to provide answers and specific information regarding my property, they refuse to provide reasons for not providing accurate information to allow us to make an informed decision regarding our property, home and future.

Specifically, the information package from QWIPL indicated that our entire property would be

needed for the Stage 2 development. However, upon further investigation by us and neighbours it became apparent this was not the case.

In response to this, an initial meeting with QWIPL occurred whereby the representative indicated that it appeared to be a mistake and that only part of my property may be needed.

This gave us some hope - false hope though it later became.

A subsequent meeting with this same representative resulted in the same question being unanswered.

I requested information as to why landholders were not being provided with accurate information regarding the land identified that would be needed to be purchased/resumed.

Specifically, why QWIPL was indicating that certain portions of land were needed when in fact they were not and when these landholders would be notified of this situation.

The response has been to date, that QWIPL will not be advising landholders or making the information public knowledge.

This I find, is not only misleading to the public and the individual landholders affected, but directly in conflict with the CEOs written statement that QWIPL "is committed to behaving with integrity..... in a respectful manner".

Furthermore, during my third meeting with QWIPL, which the CEO attended and provided me with a copy of a plan of my property indicating the flood lines - which I had asked for during both my previous two meetings, but had been advised that the plans had not been released and it was not known when or if they would be re-

leased.

I asked the CEO what had changed from my previous two meetings when I had been advised this and now and when the information would be released publicly. The CEO refused to answer my questions and stated "you've got it now".

He further stated that the information was always intended to be available. However, failed to state when and how this information would be provided.

Am I the only one who thinks that is not behaving with integrity and transparency?

I also highlight that during this meeting, the CEO indicated that QWIPL had decided to "make an offer to purchase" our entire property because further infrastructure changes including the power grid and road may affect the portion of land that would not be directly affected by Stage 2.

At this time, the CEO stated that local council regulations may prevent us from retaining the portion not affected by Stage 2 due to size requirements.

One would expect that if these people are professionals they would have done their homework and provided us as landholders with this information.

Or is it simply that we are catching them out and they are providing knee-jerk responses.

This does not negate the fact that QWIPL failed to provide us with accurate and factual information regarding our property.

In my opinion, those who communicate in this fashion and do not provide accurate and full disclosures are behaving in a deceitful manner.

Moreover, during each of the 3 meetings, I asked for information

regarding the flood line level on my property.....

This question was unanswered until the third meeting at which time the CEO indicated that he could not recall the exact measurement (and provided an estimate), but stated that he would provide me with the information by Wednesday December 13, 2006.

Am I shocked that these people continue to not answer questions (with notice) or provide accurate information. No, I am frustrated however, that these people continue to be disrespectful of the people in our community. To date, I have had no further communication with QWIPL or received any answers.

Another issue that I raised during my meetings with QWIPL, was that people representing QWIPL or DNR or the Government failed to keep us (landholders) informed or communicate with us as to why the delay in providing us with information.

I encourage landholders affected by this proposal to fully investigate the information which QWIPL is providing

them, as I am sure that we are not the only ones which are receiving conflicting information, or no information, or lack of respect and courtesy by contacting us to advise why they have not provided the information in the timeframe they have nominated.

M Hamilton,
Federal.

Time to listen

I WOULD like to present some information on the issue of the Traveston Crossing dam. It affects the people in the area so much.

So many shops are closing down because of this dam. So many people are losing their homes for the stupid dam.

Why doesn't Peter Beattie and the State Government start listening to the people who don't want this dam and why can't the people of Brisbane start saving their own water.

Shannon Morgan,
SOSF student, Gympie State High School.

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