



# Mary Valley Show Society Inc

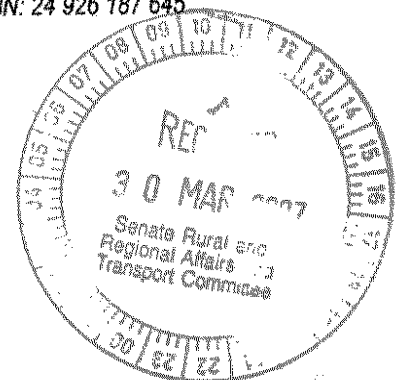
Est. 1919

P O Box 5  
Imbil Qld 4570  
Australia

14 Edward St  
Imbil Qld 4570  
Australia  
ABN: 24 926 187 645

28<sup>th</sup> March 2007.

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



Dear Sir/Madam.

**Re: Inquiry in the proposed Traverston Crossing Dam. South East Queensland.**

The following submission is regarding the various impacts this proposal has on the region.

I am the President of the Mary Valley Show Society Inc., which is the largest community group in the Mary Valley with respect to the volume of members and volunteers who actively work to support their community. The show society acts as an umbrella organization for The Imbil Show Development Group formally the Friends of Imbil, The Imbil Village Artists, The Imbil Childrens Christmas Party Committee, the Mary Valley Show Society Choir, and the Mary Valley Art Festival. This illustrates the show society's commitment to the community as a whole that is broader than the annual show activity. The society hosts the Queensland leg of the Australia Rally circuit and the Largest Equestrian Endurance Ride in Australia to mention some of its activities.

My role as President/Secretary of this organization brings me in touch with the community on a continuing basis, running the affairs of the show society involves my time on a daily basis throughout the year, and I am therefore able to reflect the feelings of our community with some credibility in respect of the proposed dam at Traverston Crossing.

I would first like to raise the social impact that has been absolutely devastating to the lives of people who have historical and cultural links go back many generations. Notwithstanding the fact that nobody every wants unpopular infrastructure in their backyard, the inhuman announcement by the Beattie Government was without question the most cruel exercise I think I has witnessed in this country and I further explain why I think that. It is clear to all that the original decision was not based on sound geotechnical or engineering considerations based on properly carried out research and feasibility studies, but on political motivation by a Premier faced with a water crisis and an upcoming election. What should have happen was a full and open enquiry into what would be the best solution by an independent body not biased by government influence as to a desired outcome. The location at Traverston Crossing has been considered by previous government investigations and found to be totally unsuitable, why is it now suitable?



President Roger Hogg 0754845006

Secretary Roger Hogg 0754845006

Treasurer Lee Evans Ph 0754843546



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The Beattie government has resisted providing any information as to the logic of its proposal, why? Because they have plenty to hide and nothing logical to disclose that would bear any proper scrutiny! The Council of Mayors on the Sunshine Coast have commissioned the Institute of Sustainable Futures via The University of Technology to review the Water Demand Options for South East Queensland, and to be brief discredited the Beattie Governments proposal, they have overestimated demand and underestimated the supply available to them.

The locals and many credible experts in Dam Technology agree the current proposal is seriously flawed, so simply the argument is dams need to be deep and with minimal surface area, the proposal is, for a very shallow dam over a wide expanse on alluvial flood plain. The whole idea to the local population is without any logical merit, many have said to me if the proposal had merit and would work they would understand the need and more readily accept a good proposal.

Our community is greatly concerned for the endangered species that would be lost if this proposal goes ahead, there will be a complete loss of faith in the EPA & Biodiversity Act to protect the Australian environment, it would be seen as a joke. Credible experts have flagged the dangers that the Beattie Government, have tried unsuccessfully to bluff their way through by attempting to say they know better, or they say they can find ways of overcoming the problems that will get the proposal approved. **Extinction is Forever**, is what needs to be clearly understood, and you can never be sure you can avoid it, and when it's happened it's simply too late. We cannot risk such happening to our environment.

The next issue is the loss of prime agricultural land from our coastal region. Australia can't afford to lose such productive land to a dam that won't function. The people of South East Queensland will be paying huge water bills for the Beattie Governments stupidity and pig headedness over this issue. What you will end up with is a great wall, and a Cane Toad, and Ross River Fever Swamp, and the water will be undrinkable through cattle dip contamination. This is quite obvious and the locals can't understand why the government can't start immediately with raising the wall at Borumba Dam and implement the measures outlined in the report commissioned by the Council of Mayors. A credible alternative has been presented that avoids the enormous social, environmental and economic impact that this proposal threatens, why can they not see this? What is proposed does nothing to alleviate the current water crisis, and will change nothing if proceeded with. If one is able to put aside for a brief moment the social impact, there is no logical argument from an engineering and geotechnical, and economic perspective to even consider the proposal any further.

I commend the Senate for agreeing to have this enquiry as it enables the facts to be examined in an open and transparent way and expose the flawed thinking behind what has been clearly covered up. The writer is



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available to attend this enquiry should it be necessary and would welcome the opportunity to assist in any way he can.

I can be contacted by email on HOGGERL@BIGPOND.COM or by phone on 07-5484-5006.

This submission will be emailed to YOUR EMAIL and a signed copy mailed to confirm our position in regards to the above matter.

Roger J. Hogg, Ph.D.e  
President  
Mary Valley Show Society Inc.



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