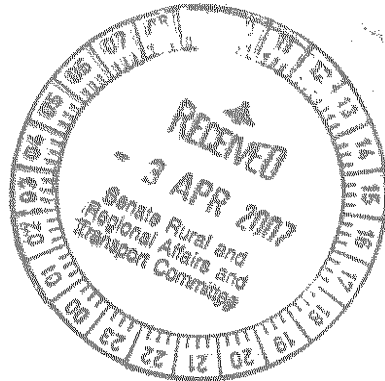


The Secretary
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport,
Parliament House,
Canberra ACT 2600



Dear Sir/Madam,

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

**Purpose – The purpose of this letter is to provide information for the Senate
Inquiry**

My despair at Mr. Beattie's treatment of myself and others in the past twelve months amount to a variety of aspects.

First – This most recent insult to the people of the Mary Valley – the complete ejection of the studies made by independent expert Professor Stuart White and his team (at the instigation of nine Shire Mayors representing 500,000 Queensland people.)

Mr Beattie's lies and more lies regarding this whole business – his first announcement ie - this dam project first heard by most of us on Thursday 27 April at 6.00 pm Channel Nine news when he declared a drought emergency and said that we, the residents of the Mary Valley would have to sacrifice our houses in order to supply water to Brisbane, which would run dry within two years.

Now Mrs Bligh says the proposed Traveston Dam was never intended to supply water to help out Brisbane but was to be used as a storage dam. This is not the same as an emergency, yet Beattie used 'emergency laws' and 'rules' in order to take control of our Valley and our homes. This, surely, is illegal.

Also, his statement that the dam would go ahead even if it was not 'feasible' – what is Beattie doing making a dam that won't work with our money.

Next, Anna Bligh is lying when she says we were never being forced to leave our properties – at the first meeting in the Kandanga Hall, Mr Scott Smith stated that they would pay us 'fair market price' for our homes, but if we didn't agree with their offer, they would negotiate to a certain level and if we still were not happy, they would then withdraw all offers and our houses would be taken from us and we would only be paid a small resumption fee!

If that isn't bullying and scare tactics, I don't know what is! It has certainly forced me to negotiate selling, as my property is all that I have in the world. As it is, their offer to my forty acre fully-operating cattle stud and magnificent large well-preserved one hundred year old Queenslander home with large tree studded garden and state-of-the-art swimming pool, plus many, many other features is not enough to buy me a small house on 1 ½ acres. I have five daughters and partners and nine grand-children, and I will be left with no family home to enjoy the last few years of my life!

Re my life – I was a healthy outdoors person last year at seventy-one years old, but feeling more like forty-one years old. Now, owing to the continuous and endless stress put upon me, I feel frail and old, unable to sleep, continually in tears about all and everything, tight-chested with anxiety, waiting with dread for the next awful thing Beattie will do to us. Completely betrayed by the people we should be able to trust, feeling now that my life is pointless, I live alone and just don't know how I will keep

going anymore. I realise that sadly, there are many older women like me in this valley suffering the same feelings of total rejection.

I am a member of the Mary River Catchment Group, and it is terrible to see years of work just ruined, and the resulting loss of irreplaceable wildlife such as the turtles and lungfish all at the hands of one man – one dictator – Mr Peter Beattie.

Also, he is an ignorant man. Why is he using the rainfall from the past one hundred years to make his figures when they may not be relevant with Global Warming changing everything? Another thing – He should pay attention to SALINITY – no amount of water will be any use if it is all full of salt! Wake up Beattie!

I had intended to live on my property until I died, and have my ashes scattered over the paddocks. To make this possible, I have spent the past twelve preparing my home and farm in such a way that I can run it on my own with some help from my family, and if I lived into my eighties or so, the house is large enough for me to have a family member or a carer live here with me. I do not want to be incarcerated in an aged home to be ill-treated as so often happens.

What I want now from Beattie is enough money to enable me to receive like for like in house and property and the land to be of sufficient good quality (as it is in the Mary Valley) that it will accommodate my cattle in good health and condition.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gillian Boyer".

Gillian Boyer
Mary Valley Land Owner