



WilBase Pty Ltd
ACFE 59034867923



10 March, 2011

Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry

Attention Commissioner,

Re Floods in the Postmans Ridge Area.

Please find below our comments on the events on the 10/01/11.

Early warning.

As we are positioned so close to the catchment for the creek system, we believe the only early warning system that may work would be based on the recording the rainfall in the catchment area with three warning levels.

1. Predicted Moderate flooding in your area (time frame).
2. Predicted Major flooding in your area (time frame).
3. Predicted Flash flooding in your area (time frame).

Such a system would have the Moderate flooding warning being issued prior to the Major and Flash flooding warnings.

Due to our decreasing eye sight we require reading glasses to read text messages on our mobiles.

Voice recorded messages would work better for us.

Response By Emergency Services.

Queensland Fire Service

The Queensland Fire Service risk their lives to be in attendance during the flood.

They were the first to check that we had not suffered any injuries, did we have food, did we require refrigeration and did we require a generator.

Full marks to the Queensland Fire Service.

Queensland Police Service

The Queensland Police Service presents was noticed

They were the second to check that all residence were accounted for and appeared to have a genuine concern with how we were coping.

State Emergency Service

I believe that the SES should be under the control of the Queensland Fire Service, similar to the Rural Fire Service.

Rural Fire Service.

Although not close to their area they continually checked that we had food, did we require refrigeration and did we require a generator

Response By Other Services.**Energex**

The staff from Energex worked long hours in extremely appalling conditions to reinstate the electricity network.

Top Marks to the Energex staff.

Social Security Department.

The Supplementary support from the department was the right option at the right time.

Service Originations.

Service originations were an integral part of the recovery process, supplying food packages and toiletries.

Department of Natural Resources and Water.

I found this department authoritative, informative and arrived 2 minutes before the appointment time.

Regional Council**Fuel Supply.**

Due to every service station locally being either impacted by flood water or power failure no fuel was available locally.

Toowoomba service stations were forced to ration their supplies to \$20.00 per vehicle as some residence were unnecessarily filling their cars and fuel containers.

The first service station to open locally rationed their supplies to local residence for generators only.

Speed Limits.

Areas designated as disaster areas should have speed limits reduced by twenty kilometres an hour below displayed speed limits to all but emergency vehicles.

During the cleanup most local traffic appeared to travel at those speeds.

Due to the Toowoomba range crossing being totally closed a large number vehicles used the Murphys Creek road some of whom tried to overtake vehicles turning right into a neighbour's property.

Representation to the council to have the limits temporarily reduced was unsuccessful.

Hazard Warnings

The State Government and or the Regional council appear to have not issued a warning to stay away from waterways.

The waterhole on our property was exposed to the public as a result of the flood and the cleanup process.

This waterhole still appears to boil, turn green and has algae bloom on the surface.

Almost on a daily basis I have to advise people not to enter the water.

Land Use.

Land sold for the purpose of dwellings should have flood level identified as part of the transaction.

Building permits should consider the known flood levels.

Simply raising the height of a building floor level in areas subject to flash flooding would give false security to the residence.

I witnessed gum trees 800mm in diameter being ripped out and taken down stream at approximately 60Km per hour.

My QBSA number is 1601.

Other Comments

Due to the velocity of the flood waters we now have creek banks that are 6 metres height that in some instances are undermined.

There appears to be no funding available to reinstate the integrity of these banks as this is private land.

Photographic records

We have available if required still photos of a moderate flood 10 days previous, movie files of the flood, still photos of the area after the flood and daily rain fall record.

Publication

You may only publish portions of this document as due to the limited time I had I concentrated on detail not presentation.

Regards Ron Wilson