

27 January 2011

The Honourable Stephan Robertson MP
Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy
and Minister for Trade
PO Box 15216
CITY EAST QLD 4002

Dear Minister,

In response to your letter dated 20 January 2011, I am pleased to be able to provide you with the following update.

Work has commenced on the full Seqwater report on the recent flood event at Wivenhoe Dam, as required under the Flood Mitigation Manual for Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams. I also note your request for the report to be completed as a matter of priority and earlier than the required timeframe of 6 weeks if achievable.

On Tuesday, 25 January 2011, Seqwater convened a meeting involving the Director-General of the Department of Natural Resource Management (DERM), senior Board and Chief Executive representatives from the Water Grid Manager (WGM), Queensland Water Commission (QWC) and senior officers from DERM, including the Dam Safety Regulator and the Water Supply Regulator, to discuss the range of issues raised in your letter.

As a result of that meeting, Seqwater is undertaking the following scope of work, which will be available for discussion with the above group next Tuesday, 1 February 2011:

- Further modelling to provide an indicative assessment of the benefits or otherwise of undertaking a pre-release strategy to pre-emptively reduce the Full Supply Level (FSL) of Wivenhoe Dam for the next 12 months, reflecting the current La Nina weather patterns.
- The development of a contingency protocol, should rainfall result in flood gate releases in the next few weeks, is already being progressed, including input from DERM, WGM and QWC.
- Improvements to the Technical Situation Report, identified by Mr Brian Cooper as part of his preliminary report, recommending more consistency in the information presented. The improvements are being undertaken with input from the Office of the Water Supply Regulator.

In addition, at the request of the WGM and the QWC, Seqwater will also be providing the above modelling data this week to both authorities to assist them to ascertain the impact of any pre-release strategy on the region's water supply security.


I will provide an update on the above work following next Tuesday's meeting.

Seqwater remains committed to providing the State Government with timely and considered advice on the operation of the region's dams, and co-operating fully with the Commission of Inquiry.

Yours sincerely,


Phil Hennessy
Chairman

Mo/11/2011

RECEIVED	28 JAN 2011	
MINISTER'S OFFICE		
ADMIN		
PARLSECR		
ACTION		
ACK LTR/RS		
INFO / MIN FILE		
Dear Sir		
BRIBE		
REPLY		
ACTION		
INFO / FILE		
		31/1/11

