

Submission to the Flood Inquiry by P.Rothwell. 07/03/11

I am a Brisbane City Council Ratepayer (BCC) residing at [REDACTED], Kholo. Without sounding smug the floods had virtually zero impact on me personally. Having survived many brutal storms we rely on no services, apart from Telecommunications and rubbish collection.

All water, power, septic services are self provided as primary or backup systems, and food for 2 weeks or more is always kept on hand prior to the storm/wet season

Also I purchased my block back in 1984 and researched a block well above the flood peak of 1893 and added another 4 meters to allow for a buffer as piece of mind

I must firstly congratulate BCC for their responsiveness in keeping Kholo Bridge open as much as they could with temporary works. And the fact our garbage collection never missed a beat

Also Jim Soorley's excellent communication job through it all – he is a champ. BCC = UNBELIEVABLE IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES.

I ask of the submission some simple questions, who's answers might uncover some shortcomings in dealing with basic data that is essential for flood analysis. These are

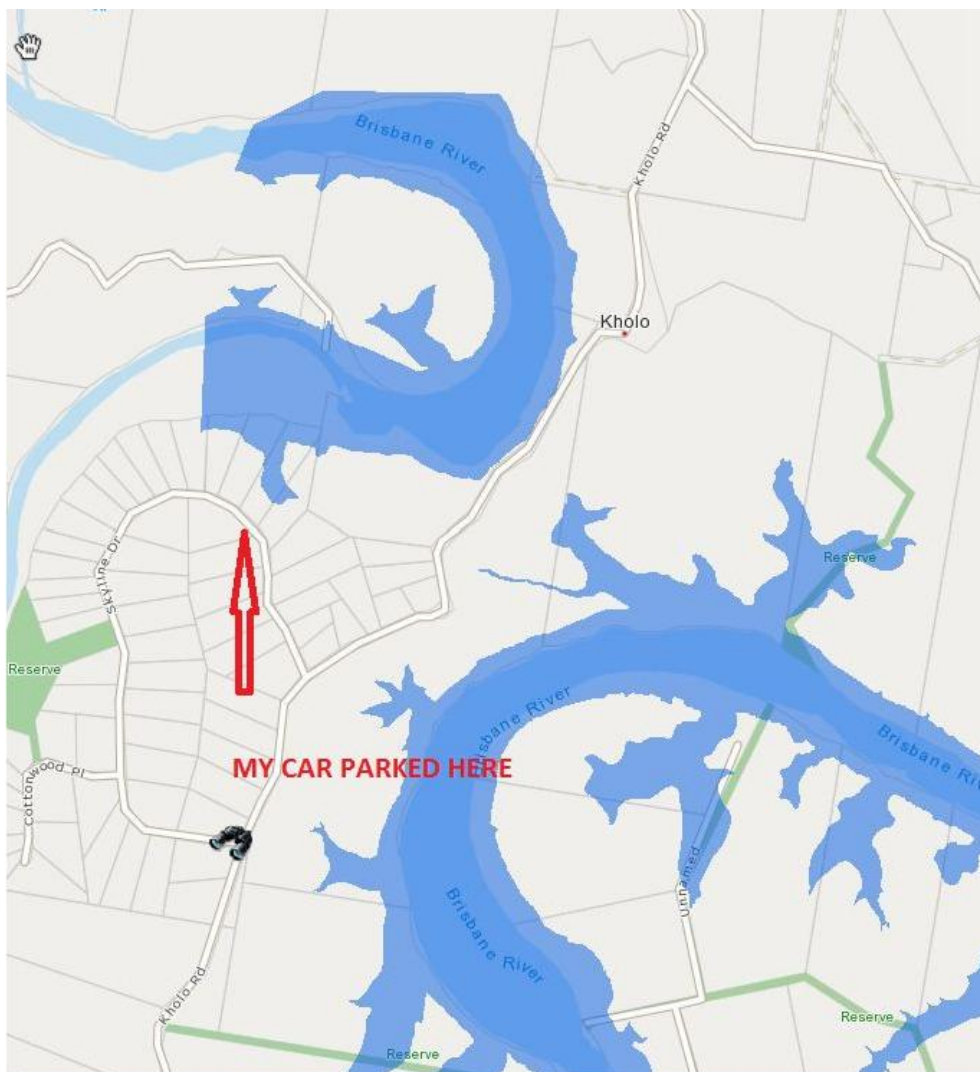
- 1) Why did both the Kholo Bridge and Mount Crosby Weir flood measuring stations fail so early in the flood? This left measurement of Brisbane river levels up to on the ground or aerial observers only. If this happened how accurate was it, did they take photos or was it anecdotal?
- 2) How could SEQ WATER / Wivenhoe Dam know the effect of flood releases if both the Mount Crosby Weir and Kholo Bridge Flood measuring equipment had failed and no accurate aerial photos existTHAT WE KNOW OF OR ARE BEING SUPPLIED WITH ON THE RECONSTRUCTION SITE.
- 3) Why has the Qld reconstruction site NO AERIAL PHOTOS on their site of Kholo, especially for Cottonwood place and Skyline drive? These are all within the BCC boundary and adjacent the BRISBANE RIVER? So that is why we have to ASSUME that no suitable aerial photos exist per Question 2
- 4) Why do my photos, as uploaded to the Qld Reconstruction site (in February 2011 as per emails and phone calls made directly to them) disagree with the shown flood level on their site? . Their site shows SKYLINE DRIVE flood levels as being 2 METERS OR MORE LOWER THAN MY PHOTO ACTUAL OBSERVED FLOOD LEVEL This is an accurate and direct Brisbane river flood height at that point. I also uploaded a cottonwood place photo of the flood peak to their site. This data does not exist on their wasp so I would assume if I knew otherwise that Cottonwood place did not flood at all and neither did Skyline drive
REFER INFORMATION SENT TO QLD RECONSTRUCTION AT END OF THIS DOCUMENT including their map (as of 07/03/11 shows same) and my photo.
- 5) Why was Bundaberg a similar situation in that the flood levels shown as lower than a photo taken from helicopter by a local, and once again no aerial photos shown?

The thrust of my questions is that how can the Qld Reconstruction post data they claim to be accurate for future homeowners and developers when I have proof they are out by 2 meters?

And this data has been with the Reconstruction authority for many weeks. And how could a major metro area like Brisbane not have any aerial mapping of such as proven here? Especially when 2 critical flood level measurement stations were also out of action . And how did Wivehoe know the downstream effect of their flood releases without aerial mapping or flood measurement ?

DATA AS SENT (live uploaded) TO THE QLD RECONSTRUCTION WEBSITE

Link Here <http://qldreconstruction.org.au/>



SKYLINE DRIVE – KHOLO – LOCATION PER ABOVE



COTTONWOOD PLACE – LOCATION APPROX 200 METERS FROM THE NED (CUL DE SAC)



Locals criticise flood mapping

Lea Emery | 1st March 2011

A⁺ A⁻ 

A MILLBANK man has criticised the Queensland Reconstruction Authority's new flood maps for being inaccurate.

Rod Savidge said he was fortunate enough to view the Rum City from a helicopter at about 9am on December 29 — the day the floodwaters peaked.

The retired drafter for Bundaberg Sugar said what he saw from the air was very different to what was depicted in the maps released late last week.

The authority launched the maps as a tool to help emergency services in the event of a future natural disaster.

The maps will also be provided to Bundaberg Regional Council for help with urban planning and for public display.

"The one that stands out the most is North Bundaberg," Mr Savidge said.

The QRA's map shows no flooding in the Hinkler Avenue and Queen Street areas of the suburb.

But the situation at the peak of the flooding the situation was very different.

"The photo I took from the air at 9.06am shows those areas under water," he said.



Bundaberg South, 2010 floods.

Max Fleet

Photos

Bundaberg Floods



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