

**Statement of Paul Bird dated 10 February  
2012**

IN THE MATTER OF  
THE QUEENSLAND FLOODS COMMISSION OF INQUIRY 2011

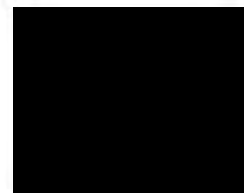
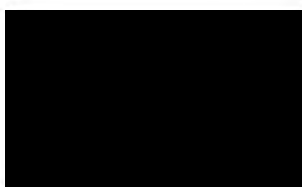
A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY UNDER THE  
COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY ACT 1950

AND PURSUANT TO THE  
COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY ORDER (No. 1) 2011

STATEMENT OF PAUL FRANCIS HUGHES BIRD

On the 10<sup>th</sup> day of February 2012, I Paul Francis Hughes Bird, c/-240 Margaret Street, Brisbane, state on oath:

1. I am Team Leader – Corporate and Stakeholder Relations of the Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority (*Seqwater*). At the time of the January 2011 floods, I was Senior Communication Advisor – Media and Ministerial of Seqwater.
2. This statement is provided to the Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry pursuant to a "Requirement to Provide Statement" issued to me by the Commission dated 9 February 2012 (the *Requirement*). My best recollection of the matters set out in the Requirement, after reviewing my records, is set out below.
3. I have no independent recollection of the teleconference held at 8.30am on 10 January 2011. I participated in many meetings and teleconferences during that period.
4. I know that I took part in the teleconference because I have diary notes relating to it. Attached to this statement and marked **PB-1** is a true copy of those diary notes. By way of explanation, my diary notes of the teleconference the subject of the Requirement begin at the line "8:00" and end at the line "3:00" on my diary page. The notes above the line "8:00" and below the line "3:00" on my diary page relate to other matters.
5. For assistance in interpreting my diary notes, attached to this statement and marked **PB-2** is a transcript of the relevant part of my diary note attached at PB-1, which I have prepared for the purposes of this statement. I have inserted comments in bracketed italics beside certain of my notes, which represent my interpretation of my diary notes after reading them.



6. After reviewing my diary notes, my best recollection of the teleconference the subject of the Requirement is that:
- (a) any discussion of release strategies was in terms of release volumes from Wivenhoe dam (that is, cubic metres per second); and
  - (b) there was no discussion involving the terms "W1", "W2", "W3" or "W4" at any stage during the teleconference.
7. I did not observe and was not aware of any other person taking notes of the teleconference.

**SWORN by Paul Francis Hughes Bird on 10 February 2012 at Brisbane in the presence of:**



Deponent



Solicitor

MARK (CHANGE)

WBT  
81

JANUARY 2011

GEORGE BREUSCH CAT



401 FROM MONDAY 010/355 Week 2 10

CH9 → M

7:00 - GRAEME LEEGAN - WINDHOLE 8142  
- DAM

8:00 - FOC - Jupyter Lintel in to WSM Energy team?  
- Chat with Rob

9:00 - 3500/4000 - Review → trying to keep at 3500  
- Andy Arming to release 3500h - capacity of  
2000. - depending on flow - want to keep 3h + 4

10:00 - <sup>breakdown</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>two</sup> ~~flow~~ <sup>3500</sup> - BCE will say dem release contribute  
to urban flooding - / BACON/CONK INFLOWS / OUTFLOW  
in line with manual  
- How much NOTICE before we change flows?

12:00 - INFLOWS close to 9 - outflows @ 2.6 - Good job being  
done by DAM

1:00 - Somerset - some facilities shut down / staff access.  
CANDOR SHUTE. KENILWORTH 36 hrs - CHANGES

2:00 - LEVEL 3 with CRP / OCA [MEDIA - IMPACTS  
with CANDOR WE HOW. BACK  
to BASE LONGER]

3:00 - SHALLITP  
DUNCAN ~~SHUTE~~ → [REDACTED]  
↳ using ATKINSON DAM WTP. - (BASIC - ACCURATE  
4:00 - BORE SITE FLOODED - CONTAMINATION -  
WTP SHUT DOWN - RESIDUALS - ADVISED → DICK WATSON  
- need to issue BORE WATER NOTICE  
- Draft QMS HEALTH PROTOCOL

6:00  
7:00

July 2011							August 2011							September 2011							October 2011							November 2011							December 2011												
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S						
3	4	5	6	7			5	6					4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10							
10	11	12	13	14			12	13					11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15					13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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24	25	26	27	28			26	27					25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29					27	28	29	30	31			27	28	29	30	31		
31																			30	31																											

FOC- laptop linked to WGM EMERG Room?

Check with Rob D. *(Believe this was a question about whether the data from the Flood Operations Centre laptops could be linked through to the Water Grid Manager's Emergency Room – do not recall who asked the question and do not recall if I asked Rob Drury if it was possible)*

3500/4000 in River – trying to keep to 3500 –

Aiming to release 3500m<sup>3</sup> – currently at 2000 m<sup>3</sup> – Depending on river – wanting to keep 3½ - 4 in Brisbane River. *(My notes on the expected release flow into the Brisbane River)*

\*If river level raises 3500 – BCC will say dam release contribute to urban flooding. *(Do not recall who made this comment – note reflects that releases above 3500m<sup>3</sup> will impact Moggill ferry & downstream)*

/BALANCING INFLOWS / OUTFLOWS in line with Manual

- HOW MUCH NOTICE Before the change flows? *(My note to question how long it takes for release to travel down the river? Do not recall if I actually asked the question or if it was a note to follow up later)*

INFLOWS close to 9 – outflow @2.63 – GOOD JOB BEING DONE BY DAM *(Note indicating how good a job the dam was doing in holding back the water.)*

SOMERSET – Some facilities shut down *(Some recreational areas closed due to water level)* / Staff Access Landslides

LANDER SHUTE KENILWORTH 36 hours *(No recall on this note)*

MEDIA – IMPACTS

WHY CAN'T WE HOLD BACK & RELEASE LONGER *(This note would refer to a potential media question that we might have needed to develop an answer for – don't recall if we did this.)*

