



Media Release

**MEDIA RELEASE– 0630h
13 JANUARY 2011**

RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES URGED TO USE WATER WISELY

The connected Water Grid continues to maintain safe and secure water supplies in the face of unprecedented flooding.

"While some people may see minor discolouration of their tap water, they should not be concerned" said Queensland Premier Anna Bligh.

"Water across Ipswich, Brisbane and the Sunshine and Gold Coasts remains safe to drink" she said.

"The safety of our drinking water is a critical priority. Water Grid suppliers are continually monitoring water quality across the network as well as working closely with Queensland Health".

While drinking water continues to be safe, very high sediment levels have limited production from some key water treatment plants.

Adequate water supplies will be necessary for the clean-up in coming days.

"It is really important that we all use our precious drinking water wisely over coming days" said Premier Bligh.

"Our priority must be on the clean-up of immediately impacted areas" she said.

Within areas affected by flooding, residents should use what water is needed to clean-up immediate impacts. Sensible water conservation practices are strongly encouraged such as using a high pressure hose or trigger nozzle.

Outside immediately impacted areas, residents and businesses are urged to conserve water by adopting the same water use practices that saw us through the drought. These include:

- take only short 4 minute showers
- don't water gardens
- delay washing your cars
- don't fill pools
- only use dishwashers when you have a full load
- turn-off taps when you don't need water

"During the drought we showed how well we could conserve water. During this latest crisis residents outside the directly impacted areas need to do the same again" Premier Bligh said.

ENDS

Notes to the editor

safe

secure

sustainable

About the Water Grid

Established in June 2008 in response to the crippling Millennium Drought, the Water Grid represents one of Australia's largest investments in water infrastructure.

Through a network of climate resilient water sources, treatment facilities, new two-way pipes and existing pipelines, the Water Grid gives the South East Queensland region the ability to support water demands, water quality, economic prosperity and lifestyle - regardless of climate change and population growth.

For further information visit www.watergrid.com.au

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:

Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Email: media@seqwgm.com.au

safe

secure

sustainable

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2011 11:03 AM
To: 'Bradley John' [REDACTED] Barry Dennien
Subject: FW: Stand alone towns update
Attach: Stand Alone Towns Update - 0730 130111.docx; ATT00001.htm

Notes from 730 meeting.

This is being expanded now to prioritise and include updated information from QUU, as well as water quality issues.

We are aiming to get an updated version to you for midday for a discussion.

WITH HAVE NOT BEEN CONTACTED ABOUT A TELECONFERENCE. SHOULD WE BE CONTACTING SOMEONE?

Dan

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2011 10:57 AM
To: Dan Spiller
Subject: Fwd: Stand alone towns update

FYI Dan on the isolated towns

Regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]
Date: 13 January 2011 9:57:13 AM GMT+10:00
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Stand alone towns update

please acknowledge receipt

Stand Alone Towns - 730am Thursday 13 Jan 2011

Lowood WTP	<p>Lowood CWT – 45% - need to keep majority for plant restart Lowood town Res – 28% est 1 day, can up to 50% if required (7% from onsite CWT)</p> <p>Fernvale Res empty. Balancing storage empty.</p>	<p>Power has been restored to town Operator [REDACTED] accessed raw water pump station 7am this morning Isolated everything Advised: water went to halfway up switchboards, halfway up VFD control box. 2 of 3 pumps are submersible so will be ok. Have organised heli to fly in [REDACTED] sparky's to survey. He is liaising with Energex.</p> <p>[REDACTED] is staying onsite. Operator Trusten can't access site. Will need him there when plant comes on – 24hr online to catch up. Will organise heli to pick him up.</p>
Kilcoy WTP	Est 20% storage in town RES, hard to tell	<p>Power line poles along dirt access rd to weir have washed away, lines down – need to confirm with Energex estimated time to repair.</p> <p>Kilcoy weir pumps have been inundated, probably inoperable Diesel pump , pumping bore water to Wade St, est 3-6 L/s. Filling onsite CWT</p>
Kilcoy – Somerset WTP		<p>Diesel pump container at dam half filled with water. [REDACTED] onsite overnight with assistance from local farmers.</p> <p>Ran plant last night for 4 hrs. Pump failed at 3am Working to fix pump at the moment.</p>
Esk WTP	<p>Esk Res 40% Toogoolawah Res 50%</p>	<p>Raw water pumps have power Esk and WTP have no power [REDACTED] advised that power will try to be reinstated within 3hrs (energex) Operator Lloyd King onsite and has access to home</p>

Jimna WTP	Last Update 930am – Res 65%, est 2 days supply	Operator [REDACTED] ran plant last night, [REDACTED] will try to access Kilcoy today for more chemicals – soda ash/ liquid alum
Linville WTP	Incorrect SCADA res reading at Lowood. Checked onsite yesterday 10am, 50% Res, est 2 days supply at that time	[REDACTED] advised by Energex 7am today they are working to bring power on today, depends on access to switchgear
Kirkleagh WTP	3m in Res (visual check by helicopter yesterday noon)	Very limited consumption
Wivenhoe WTP	No water in HL res at Wivenhoe WTP Reservoirs at Lumley Hill and Cormorant Bay would be substantially full	Raw water pumps in Dam wall went under, probably inoperable
Dayboro WTP	7am update today. Dayboro town RES: HL = 24% of 0.45ML = 0.11 ML LL = 18% of 1.25 ML = 0.22 ML Consumption yesterday = 0.3ML	Operators, electrician, process engineer onsite, working to scour raw pipeline and reinstate plant 3 * 15 kL tankers – meeting demand currently
Kenilworth WTP	RES level 27% 1 day supply Gained 9% overnight	Plant Running 2ntu raw 0.14 FW dropping 2.2 mg/L Cl2 2 * 20kL tankers

From: Bradley John [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2011 12:05 PM
To: Dan Sniller [REDACTED] Barry Dennien
Subject: FW: The Australian re Wivenhoe

fyi

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 13 January 2011 11:52 AM
To: Bradley John
Subject: The Australian re Wivenhoe

John,

I spoke to [REDACTED] re the story in The Australian. He is working directly with WGM on this one as well as enquiries from Sunday Mail re interview request re "the person who pulls the lever at Wivenhoe", and [REDACTED] who wanted an interview 'in 20 minutes' on how Wivenhoe works.

[REDACTED] has asked WGM put together a media release on what has been going on at Wivenhoe over the past few days. He has run this past GMU but so far no feedback/approval.

I'll talk to [REDACTED] as well.

[REDACTED]
Director, Media Services
Client Communications and Information
Department of Environment and Resource Management
Phone: [REDACTED]
email: [REDACTED]

Think B4U Print

1 ream of paper = 6% of a tree and 5.4kg CO2 in the atmosphere

3 sheets of A4 paper = 1 litre of water

From: Bradley John [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 14, 2011 6:17 AM
To: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Cc: Best Debbie [REDACTED] Barry Dennien
Subject: RE: Stand alone towns

Dan
Can we discuss this at end of 6.30 teleconference thanks
John

-----Original Message-----
From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 14 January 2011 1:31 AM
To: Bradley John
Cc: Best Debbie; Dennien Barry [REDACTED]
Subject: Stand alone towns

John,

Will get short report to you this morning. Major progress yesterday means that almost all should be supplied by end tomorrow. As a result, your report template and our process is probably unnecessary.

Dan

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From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 14, 2011 9:09 AM
To: [REDACTED] 'Bradley John';
Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Subject: Status

Current status is as follows.

At East Bank WTP:

- Every electrical is ready to go.
- Isolating thermal coupling interlocks. Second crew in air, due on site at 9am. Require 30 minutes to complete work once on the ground.
- Using manual controls, with some safeguards shutdown.
- Aim to commence production at 10am, subject to any mechanical failures (as occurred twice yesterday).
- If successful, should be able to commence production at 10am.

At West Bank WTP, we have increased production to 220 ML/day (20 ML/day increase).

Linkwater is having a teleconference with QUU now. We will provide advice about demand trends soon.

Teleconference is likely to recommend that pressure be reduced immediately across areas not affected by flooding. We will provide further advice.

Regards,
Dan

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 14, 2011 9:47 AM
To: [REDACTED] 'Bradley John'
Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Subject: Demand update

John,

QUU is coming back with a conservation plan with a range of measures, including pressure reduction. It will be done by 10am.

Reservoir levels are currently holding, without a major increase in demand at bulk level yet.

Some reservoirs are critically low. For example, Wellers Hill has 6.7 hours to failure based on current demand (assuming no inflows to the reservoir). This is a critical risk should we lose production from one of the sources (ie West Bank WTP needs to be wound back to 150 ML/day production) or a mains burst results in water losses.

Regards,
Dan

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 14, 2011 12:35 PM
To: 'Bradley John' [REDACTED]
Barry Dennier [REDACTED]
Subject: Water quantity management
Attach: Water quantity management.docx

Brief attached.

Water quantity management: 14 and 15 January 2011

Recommendations

That Ministers:

- **note** that treated water reservoirs in central SEQ are at critically low levels and reducing, due to current demand versus current production
- **note** that additional facilities will be supplying into central SEQ from midday 14 January 2011
- **note** that, with this additional supply, the WaterGrid will be able to meet the expected clean up requirements from the morning of Saturday 15 January 2011. This will be subject to all key assets remaining operational and reservoir storage being increased from 150 to 300 ML overnight
- **note** that all water continues to be safe. A boiled water notice over central SEQ would only be required in the event of a major asset failure (note that a notice applies in western Council areas)
- **approve** media statements encouraging residents outside of the affected areas to conserve water
- **approve** use of recycled water for washdown be maximised, including purified recycled water from the Western Corridor Recycled Water Project (WCRWP). The WCRWP will supply at treatment plants and to certain locations along the pipeline (including at Lowood where water supply is only now being recommissioned from the Lowood water treatment plant)
- **approve** that announcements regarding price discounts for water be deferred until 15 January 2011, when supply is expected to be secure in order to avert a demand trigger
- **note** that operational measures are being implemented to minimise water use, including some minor pressure reductions outside of the impacted areas.

Background

- The flood has impacted on key water treatment plants, resulting in damage and restricting output.
- Even with interconnections, central SEQ relies upon at least 200 ML/day of supply from the two Mt Crosby water treatment plants.
- Both of these plants were impacted by the flood, causing them to be unavailable for extended periods and resulting in reduced reservoir levels be reduced from being full (about 380 ML) on 11 January 2011 to less than 150 ML this morning.
 - The Mt Crosby East water treatment plant was inundated, causing damage to infrastructure and meaning that has been offline until midday today.
 - Production from the Mt Crosby West water treatment plant was constrained due to highly turbid raw water.
 - Production from the North Pine water treatment plant has also been constrained.

- Supply from other sources into central SEQ has now been maximised, including from the desalination facility via the Southern Regional Water Pipeline. The desalination facility is currently operating at full capacity.
- With these supplies, a total of about 400 ML/day was being supplied into central SEQ on the morning of 15 January 2011. At this rate, reservoir levels were continuing to decline at a rate of about 30 ML/day.

Water quality

- All water supplied to central SEQ meets water quality requirements.
- Adjusted operating parameters were agreed with Queensland Health for the Mt Crosby water treatment plant, based on the risks associated with current catchment conditions, including very high levels of dilution.
- A boiled water notice is highly unlikely to be required due to bulk water supply issues. Notices may be required due to local pipe bursts or if pipes in an area run dry, allowing ingest of stormwater and potential contamination.

Current status

- Additional supplies are online as of midday:
 - East Bank water treatment plant had just commence supply at 110 ML/day and ramping up to 160 ML/day
 - North Pine water treatment plant will increase production by 50 ML/day to 150 ML/day
- Provided that all key assets remain operational, all clean up requirements should be able to be met.
- Even with this additional production, supply remains highly vulnerable to operational failure of key assets (including any of the water treatment plants and interconnections).
- Resilience will be achieved by refilling reservoirs this evening, using the additional production.

Demand management

- Until reservoirs have been refilled overnight, water use should be prioritised for household cleanup in impacted areas.
- To conserve available supplies on the afternoon of 14 January 2011, it is strongly recommended that:
 - residents outside the affected areas be immediately asked to "do their bit" by minimising water use
 - recycled water be made available for carting, including purified recycled water from the WCRWP (note that the volumes supplied will be relatively low compared to expected total demand)
 - only key roads be washed down on 14 January, and only as required for health and safety reasons. Consideration should be given to dry methods of clean up

- delay clean up of non-essential public areas, such as parks, until at least Sunday 16 January 2011
- brief Council and entity call centre staff in affected areas to organise swift response and repairs to water leaks and pressure problems.
- Standpipes are being constructed at key locations along the WCRWP to enable purified recycled water to be supplied for clean up, including at Lowood where potable supplies will only be recommissioned today.
- Water from Lowood WTP should be prioritisation for human consumption.
- Linkwater and Queensland Urban Utilities are implementing basic measures to reduce system losses and consumption, by reducing system pressure. Reductions will occur in areas that have not been impacted by the flood.

Announcement regarding water discount

- It is recommended that the announcement of the discount for water supply be delayed until the morning of 15 January.
- By this time reservoirs should have been refilled and the risk of supply failure minimal.
- Before that time, there is a risk that the announcement will encourage increased consumption that cannot be met, especially in the event of an asset failure.

Contingency planning

- A detailed contingency plan has been developed, for implementation should key reservoirs reach critically low levels or there is an asset failure.
- The contingency plan involves:
 - asking major customers to reduce or cease water use (such as the brewery and Coca Cola)
 - further reducing system pressure across central SEQ
 - adjusting supply zones to assist depleted areas
 - isolation of areas that will have minimal customer and network impact (industrial areas)
 - suspend all capital and planned works that may affect supplies (probably already done).
- Were levels to continue to decline, some residential areas would need to be isolated.

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 14, 2011 1:50 PM
To: 'Bradley John' [REDACTED] Barry Dennien
Subject: Advice regarding brief

Barry and John,

We would appreciate early advice on the recommendations in the briefing note. Implementation actions hang off the back of them.

Dan

From: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, January 15, 2011 12:10 PM
To: Dan Spiller [REDACTED] John Bradley
[REDACTED] Peter Borrows
[REDACTED] bob.reilly [REDACTED]
Subject: 2 pm phone hook up - Wivenhoe operations brief preparation

Folks

Details of phone hook up:

phone - [REDACTED]
account number - [REDACTED]
pin - [REDACTED]

Agenda to follow in approx one hour

Barry Dennien

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, January 16, 2011 12:40 PM
To: 'Bradley John' [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Stormwater

John,

We have confirmed that the water is available. Demand has continued to be lower than forecast (trending to about 430 ML) and reservoirs remain high (reduced from 410 to 398 ML today).

QUU advised that their key concern is that it would be demanding for control room operators, who are already stretched and are focussed on wastewater. Linkwater is offering to provide operators to QUU to assist.

Regards,
Dan

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, January 16, 2011 8:34 PM
To: 'Best Debbie' [REDACTED]
Cc: 'Bradley John' [REDACTED]
Subject: Letter from the Chair of the mid Brisbane irrigators

Debbie,

Before Christmas, someone in [REDACTED] team was preparing a response to a letter from the Chair of the mid Brisbane River irrigators. The letter complains that releases were being made unnecessarily. Can you please get someone to dig it up first thing tomorrow as part of the response to the Patrick Condren piece?

Thanks,
Dan

From: Bradley John [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2011 7:16 PM
To: Barry Dennien [REDACTED] Dan Spiller
Subject: FW: "Dam Operations Manual released publicly"

FYI

John Bradley
Director-General
Department of Environment and Resource Management
Telephone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
www.derm.qld.gov.au

Department of Environment and Resource Management
400 George Street, Brisbane Q 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane Q 4001

From: Bradley John
Sent: Thursday, 20 January 2011 7:15 PM
To: pborrows [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Best Debbie
Subject: "Dam Operations Manual released publicly"

Peter

FYI – please note attached release and redacted Manual now published on DERM website.

**Thanks for your assistance,
John B**

**Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
The Honourable Stephen Robertson**

Thursday, January 20, 2011

Dam Operations Manual released publicly

20 January 2011

The Operations Manual used to manage water levels in Wivenhoe and Somerset dams has been made publicly available today.

Minister for Natural Resources, Stephen Robertson, directed the release of the '*Manual of Operational Procedures for Flood Mitigation at Wivenhoe and Somerset Dam*' as part of the Bligh Government's commitment to full transparency on matters relating to the Commission of Inquiry announced this week by Premier Anna Bligh.

"As the Premier has said, we want to know that our dams worked as they were supposed to and were operated as best as they technically could be," Mr Robertson said.

Mr Robertson said the Operations Manual sets out clear priorities for the strategies to manage water supplies in the dams.

The Operations Manual lists the structural safety of the dam as the highest priority, particularly in extreme weather events where there is the threat of the dam over-topping which could lead to a collapse.

With the structural safety of the dam secure, the next priorities are to protect communities from

inundation, minimise disruption to rural life in the valley of the Brisbane and Stanley Rivers, provide full water supply storage after the flood, and minimise impacts to riparian flora and fauna during the drain down phase of the flood event.

The operational procedures outlined in the Operations Manual have been developed and progressively refined over many years, and have been reviewed by Australia's leading water experts.

They include Professor Colin Apelt, Head of Department, Department of Civil Engineering and Chair of the Brisbane City Council flood taskforce; University of Queensland and Mr Eric Lesleighter, Principal Hydraulic Engineer and Chief Engineer Water Resources, Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation.

The Operations Manual in its current form was developed in 1992 and has had six revisions since this time, with the latest review taking place in 2009, and finalised in January 2010.

It is approved by the State's Dam Safety Regulator in accordance with the Water Supply Act 2008.

At the request of Seqwater, some sections of the published version Operations Manual have been blacked out for security reasons relating to strategically important infrastructure, Mr Robertson said.

"I acknowledged their concerns to ensure the security of the dams are not compromised by the release of certain operational sections and diagrams contained in the manual. However I also expect that the Commission of Inquiry may also consider the full release of this material during the course of proceedings," he said.

The '*Manual of Operational Procedures for Flood Mitigation at Wivenhoe and Somerset Dam*' can be viewed at www.derm.qld.gov.au

Media contact: [REDACTED]

John Bradley
Director-General
Department of Environment and Resource Management
Telephone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
www.derm.qld.gov.au

Department of Environment and Resource Management
400 George Street, Brisbane Q 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane Q 4001

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+-----+

[REDACTED]

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Friday, 21 January 2011 10:15 AM
To: Debbie Best [REDACTED] John Bradley
Cc: Barry Dennien
Subject: Gate releases and supply status

John and Debbie,

For information, a minor gate release will recommence this afternoon.

The release rate will be about 100 cubic metres per second, compared to about 1500 cubic metres per second in December 22 when high tides and atmospheric anomalies previously resulted in high river levels. At that time, Seqwater and BoM calculated that a 1500 cubic metres per second release increased river levels by about 50mm.

Seqwater advises that the transit time for a release of this volume is more than 24 hours, meaning that it will not reach Brisbane until after the peak tides have passed.

○ A technical situation report will be submitted to us shortly. Seqwater is consulting BCC. I have advised Tim, who asked about gate operations this morning.

The release is required due to both dam levels and for water supply reasons.

In relation to water supply, the recent storms have resulted in very turbid water flowing from the Lockyer River (peaking at 4300 NTU at Lowood). The dam releases will dilute this water and assist in flushing it through the system. Even with the release, it is likely that turbidity will be beyond the treatable range for a period (for comparison, peak was about 1700 NTU when we had the teleconference with QH last week). We have prepared by filling our reservoirs and asking QUU to do likewise. The situation is not critical - by comparison, last week reservoirs were only one-third full. We are having a hookup at 1pm about these issues, after which I will provide an update.

Regards,
Dan

From: Bradley John [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2011 10:30 AM
To: Dan Spiller [REDACTED] Best Debbie
[REDACTED]
Cc: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Gate releases and supply status

Thanks alot Dan

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2011 10:26 AM
To: spiller daniel [REDACTED] Best Debbie; Bradley John
Cc: Dennien Barry [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Gate releases and supply status

All,

To be clear, Mt Crosby is operating well now - and has increased production prior to the peak reaching it. However both we almost certainly need to be taken offline once the peak arrives.

In terms of preparedness, in addition to storage levels, demand remained low - at between 400 and 420 ML/day in central SEQ. By comparison, last week we were anticipating increases to about 450 ML/day and potentially to above 500 ML/day. This results in a significantly slower drawdown once the Mt Crosby WTPs are offline (with SRWP providing 100 ML/day and North Pine about the same).

We will have a better idea about the likely duration of the shutdown this afternoon. It appears to have peaked at Lowood, which indicates that it may not be beyond a day or two. Unfortunately the flood knocked out the Kholo sampling point, meaning that we have reduced information available.

Note also that last week we were addressing mechanical and electric issues at East Bank, not just water quality.

Dan

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From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2011 1:44 PM
To: Dan Spiller [REDACTED] Debbie Best
[REDACTED] John Bradley
Cc: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Gate releases and supply status

All,

Further to previous advice, at present it is likely that the Mt Crosby WTPs will need to go offline for between 12 and 24 hours from late this evening.

Turbidity at Lowood has reduced from 4300 NTU to about 2000 since this morning, indicating that a 24 hour shutdown is an upper estimate (treatable range is to above 1000 NTU). There are more persistent colour issues, however these will not be sufficient to affect production.

Mt Crosby WTP continues to produce additional water in anticipation of the shutdown. From current storage levels, Linkwater advises that it can maintain supply without the Mt Crosby WTPs for at least 24 hours and probably more than 48.

I will provide further advice around midday tomorrow.

Dan

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Friday, 21 January 2011 10:26 AM
To: Dan Spiller; Debbie Best [REDACTED] John Bradley [REDACTED]
Cc: Barry Dennien
Subject: RE: Gate releases and supply status

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Regards,
Dan

From: Dan Spiller <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2011 9:37 AM
To: Bradley John [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Barry Dennien
[REDACTED]
Cc: SEQWGM Emergency [REDACTED]
Subject: Update on Mt Crosby

All,

[REDACTED] has advised that turbidity appears to have peaked at Mt Crosby WTP and is currently at about 1300 NTU. He expects to be able to recommence treatment in three to five hours.

[REDACTED] has advised Linkwater.

The 1pm teleconference should proceed.

Dan

[REDACTED]

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Friday, 28 January 2011 3:46 PM
To: 'Bradley John'; 'Martin Pete'; [REDACTED]
Cc: 'Rob Drury'; 'Mike Foster'; [REDACTED]; Barry Dennien; [REDACTED]; 'Reilly Bob'
Subject: Water Grid gate releases updates
Attachments: Technical_Situation_Report_W69.docx

All,

Attached is the final Technical Situation Report for the recent flood event.

For Wivenhoe Dam, Seqwater advises that releases have been reduced to 30 cubic metres per second for water supply purposes and to maintain the storage at Full Supply Level.

Regards,

Dan

Daniel Spiller
Director, Operations
SEQ Water Grid Manager

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

ABN: 14 783 317 630

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TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W69	Date of TSR release	28.1.11	Time of TSR release	1pm
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Current status but could change based on inflows or rainfall.

Current objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain flows in the Brisbane River for water supply requirements and continue to reduce levels in the dams
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make releases via cone valve at Somerset as required to reduce back to 100% as base flow increases levels. Continue any operational releases at Wivenhoe via minor gate opening or hydro until cone valve is operational
Key considerations	Storage levels:
	Inflows:
	Rainfall:
	Lockyer/Bremer:
	Brisbane River:

North Pine

All gates closed. Making minor valve releases.

Somerset Dam

No releases but may by cone valve if level increases slowly..

Somerset is currently 100.7%.

Wivenhoe Dam

Currently releasing 30cumecs total through one gate and hydro for water supply purposes and maintaining FSL.

Wivenhoe Dam is currently at FSL but may fluctuate slightly depending on inflow versus release.

Twin Bridges is should be out of water this afternoon. Council advised.

Leslie Harrison Dam:

Gates closed.

Hinze Dam:

Closed.

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

No need to advise BoM of operational flows of this size.

BoM Technical Officer name	Peter Baddiley
BoM Technical Officer position title	
BoM Technical Officer contact details	

Brisbane City Council (BCC) assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy

BCC Technical Officer name	Chris Lavin
BCC Technical Officer position title	Disaster Operations Manager
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name	Tony Trace
ICC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
ICC Technical Officer contact details	

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name	Tony Jacobs
SRC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
SRC Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	Rob Drury
Contact Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due	Date		Time		or Event	Next release
---------------------	-------------	--	-------------	--	-----------------	---------------------

[REDACTED]

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Thursday, 3 February 2011 5:47 PM
To: 'Bradley John'; 'Martin Peter'; [REDACTED] 'Best Debbie';
Cc: 'Peter Borrows'; 'Rob Drury'; [REDACTED] Barry Dennien
Subject: Wivenhoe Dam gate operation

All,

For information, Seqwater intends to commence a small gate release tomorrow afternoon to bring Wivenhoe Dam back to FSL. The gate release is required because the cone valve cannot be used until a channel is reinstated downstream of Wivenhoe Dam.

Seqwater plans to increase releases to around a total of 3,000ML/day, including from the hydro scheme. Releases will continue for several day.

We do not intend to provide Technical Situation Reports for this minor release.

Regards,
Dan

Daniel Spiller
Director, Operations
SEQ Water Grid Manager

Phone [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

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[REDACTED]

From: Best Debbie [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 4 February 2011 10:00 AM
To: Bradley John; Dan Spiller
Subject: Fw: Wivenhoe Dam gate operation

John
Dan will action. Just for your information.
Debbie

----- Original Message -----

From: Martin.Pete [REDACTED]
To: Best Debbie
Cc: spiller daniel [REDACTED] richard.c.johnson [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent: Fri Feb 04 09:35:05 2011
Subject: RE: Wivenhoe Dam gate operation

Dear Debbie,

You will recall that in December 2010 and prior to the January 2011 Brisbane Floods you kindly ensured that I, as DDC of Brisbane was placed on the SEQ Water notifications about Dam releases. I want to thank you for that and can say that the support of Dan Spiller and his colleagues in passing information in a timely fashion benefited me in terms of preparations for this event and in the recovery. I was grateful for your support of this initiative.

At the Brisbane DDMG meeting this morning, our Harbour Master for Brisbane, Captain Richard Johnson (Maritime Safety Queensland) raised the importance of him having access to this information given that even minor releases impact upon his safe management of large assets and operations downstream.

Would you kindly consider putting Captain Richard Johnson on the recipient list (emails) for such releases. I know that he would both appreciate it and that this would go towards ensuring public safety particularly relating to maritime assets.

Please feel free to contact me should I be able to clarify any issues concerning this. Naturally, this proposal has my full support.

Thanks again for your assistance,

Kind regards

Peter Martin

Assistant Commissioner

METROPOLITAN NORTH REGION and

DISTRICT DISASTER COORDINATOR, BRISBANE

(t) [REDACTED]

(f) [REDACTED]

(m) [REDACTED]

www.police.qld.gov.au

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, 3 February 2011 5:47 PM

To: Bradley John; Martin.PeterJ [REDACTED]; Best Debbie; [REDACTED]

Cc: Peter Borrows; Rob Drury; SEQWGM Media; Barry Dennien

Subject: Wivenhoe Dam gate operation

All,

For information, Seqwater intends to commence a small gate release tomorrow afternoon to bring Wivenhoe Dam back to FSL. The gate release is required because the cone valve cannot be used until a channel is reinstated downstream of Wivenhoe Dam.

Seqwater plans to increase releases to around a total of 3,000ML/day, including from the hydro scheme. Releases will continue for several day.

We do not intend to provide Technical Situation Reports for this minor release.

Regards,

Dan

Daniel Spiller

Director, Operations

SEQ Water Grid Manager

Phone

Email:

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane

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ABN: 14783 317 630

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3 sheets of A4 paper = 1 litre of water
+-----+

Litsupport Brisbane

From: Bradley John [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 12 February 2011 4:11 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Dan Spiller
Subject: FW: Dam-Wivenhoe release DRAFT 130211.docx
Attachments: Dam-Wivenhoe release DRAFT 130211.docx

Dan Spiller advises Wyaralong has filled 5 years earlier than expected.

John Bradley
Director-General
Department of Environment and Resource Management
Telephone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
www.derm.qld.gov.au

Department of Environment and Resource Management
400 George Street, Brisbane Q 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane Q 4001

From: Bradley John
Sent: Saturday, 12 February 2011 4:03 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Dam-Wivenhoe release DRAFT 130211.docx

[REDACTED]

Please find attached draft release - no significant change in the press release after discussion with Peter B and Barry D.

I have added statement about bridges temporarily closed on page 2. I am still waiting for estimate on how early Wyaralong is full.

I will send through this afternoon from Seqwater

- * the Speaking Notes Peter Borrows is using and
- * his Q&As.
- * the Ministerial Statement Seqwater and WGM have drafted addressing what advice sought/provided when.

thanks
John B

+-----+
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Seqwater to undertake Dam Release

Seqwater intends to reduce the Wivenhoe Dam level for the remainder of the wet season, given the extreme 2011 flood events and current water security of South East Queensland.

Seqwater has formally recommended Wivenhoe Dam's storage level be temporarily reduced to 75 per cent of its current full storage level and expects to implement the release strategy gradually during the next week.

The Minister for Natural Resources, Stephen Robertson, said the release was recommended by Seqwater after its recent hydrology analysis and was a precaution given the second strongest La Nina pattern in history continues to influence the current wet season.

"Seqwater made its recommendation recognising the extreme January 2011 event and its impact on South East Queensland's community, catchments and emergency services.

"While we can't be certain about what rain is yet to come in this wet season, this measure reflects an abundance of caution.

"Seqwater has advised that a reduction in Wivenhoe's Dam storage level to 75 per cent of its Full Supply Level provide appreciable flood mitigation benefits as this rain event approaches," Mr Robertson said.

SEQ Water Grid manager Chief Executive Officer Barry Dennien said he had advised Seqwater a reduction to 75% would be manageable from a water security perspective.

"The January floods also transformed our long term water storage capacity with the recently completed new Wyaralong Dam now full X years Wyaralong Dam now full earlier than expected and storing 103,000 ML which is able to be connected when required.

"With Wyaralong full, other dams full around the region and the Grid in place, Wivenhoe Dam can be operated at a lower level for the rest of the wet season without impacting on water security.

Seqwater Chief Executive Peter Borrows said Seqwater expected to implement the release later this week to reduce the drinking water storage capacity of Wivenhoe Dam from 1,165 gigalitres down to around 874 gigalitres.

"We are likely to begin the transition by next weekend, with a slow release rate over about nine days discharging around 30,000 megalitres each day.

"We will adjust the release to take into account any rainfall and tides as usual and this slow release will ensure no significant downstream impacts," he said.

Mr Borrows said that like other low volume releases in the past, there will be a limited number of bridges immediately downstream of Wivenhoe (Twin Bridges, Colleges Crossing and Savages Crossing) which will be closed during the period.

Mr Robertson said Seqwater's operational decision reflected current circumstances rather than issues which will be under consideration before the Commission of Inquiry.

"As per its terms of reference, the Commission of Inquiry will continue to assess dam operations during the January flood event and whether any changes to the long term framework are required," Mr Robertson said.

Mr Borrows said the dam would be maintained at 75 per cent of the current Full Supply Level until April, after the end of the wet season.

About Wivenhoe Dam

Wivenhoe Dam was built in 1985 to provide flood protection for South East Queensland after the devastation of the 1974 floods .

About 40 per cent of the dam's capacity is devoted to storing drinking water and the remaining 60 per cent is for flood mitigation. The dam is said to be at 100 per cent full supply level when the drinking water component is full.

The strategy and requirements for operating the dam, including flood mitigation and water releases, are outlined in the Dam Operations Manual. This Manual was developed in 1992. Since then it has been revised six times, most recently in January 2010.

The Manual is approved by the State's Dam Safety Regulator, in accordance with the Water Supply Act 2008.

Media contact: 

Litsupport Brisbane

From: Barry Dennien
Sent: Saturday, 12 February 2011 5:26 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: John Bradley [REDACTED] Dan Spiller; peter.borrows [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: MEETING TOMORROW AND MIN OFF QUESTIONS

[REDACTED]

As discussed the Answer to the " what is the cost of the water discharged"

Answer:

To multiply the volume released by the cost of bulk water is misleading, the cost of bulk water in South East Queensland only reflects the cost of owning and operating the assets in the Grid, ie the dams, treatment plants, desalination and recycled plants, pumps and pipes.

In this case the cost of the release is very small because this is just a one off reduction in full supply level for this wet season only and statisically we should get most if not all the water back over the coming years. Therefore it should not be necessary to build more grid assets sooner like desalination plants to accomodate this one off release of water.

Peter can you add this to your Q&A

Regards

Barry

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 12 February 2011 3:58 PM
To: Bradley John; Barry Dennien
Cc: pborrows [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: MEETING TOMORROW AND MIN OFF QUESTIONS

John, I'll be in the office before then if you have any problems. Has everyone signed off on the draft MR. I would like to forward it to GMU asap

From: Bradley John [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 12 February 2011 3:50 PM
To: Dennien Barry [REDACTED]
Cc: pborrows [REDACTED]
Subject: MEETING TOMORROW AND MIN OFF QUESTIONS

Barry /Peter

Min will meet us tomorrow at 10 am in his ministerial office. I will meet you downstairs at 10 am outside 61 Mary Street and walk up with you.

Barry

Can you please add these to the Q&As being coordinated by Seqwater.

Feel free to clarify any with Lance directly thanks

John B

[REDACTED] questions -

-The net cost of water in real terms

-The total production capacity of the grid - in aggregate and broken down by component (PWR/Desal)
-estimate bulk \$ value of water being voided and how that
a) would compare to the capital works estimate raise Wivenhoe's walls to provide same flood mitigation improvement as FSL reduction; and
b) is minute compared to \$X billion damage bill should we have another flood event
Thanks

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[REDACTED]

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Friday, 18 February 2011 1:17 PM
To: 'Bradley John'; 'Martin.PeterJ'; [REDACTED]
'richard.c.johnson'; [REDACTED]
Cc: 'Rob Drury'; 'Mike Foster'; 'Debbie Res'; [REDACTED]; 'Reilly Bob'; [REDACTED]
Barry Dennien; [REDACTED]
Subject: Technical Situation Report
Attachments: Technical_Situation_Report_W70.docx

All,

Seqwater has provided the attached Technical Situation Report for the planned releases, commencing Sunday morning.

The media release from last night is below.

Regards,

Dan



GRID UPDATE THURSDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2011

DAM RELEASES

Wivenhoe Dam

The controlled gate release to temporarily reduce the level of Wivenhoe Dam to 75 per cent will commence Sunday morning, 20 February 2011.

The release is based on balancing the drinking water supply needs of the community while improving the flood mitigation capability of Wivenhoe for the remainder of the wet season.

It is expected that this controlled release will run for 9 days in order to take best advantage of the current mild weather, falling tides and the limited flows into the Brisbane River from other sources downstream.

Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing and Colleges Crossing will likely be closed to all traffic during this time. Local councils are still being consulted on these impacts however there are alternate routes in place for each of the closures. These include Mt Crosby Weir, which is open as an alternative to Colleges Crossing.

While minor tidal flooding along parts of the Brisbane River may occur over the next few days, the Wivenhoe releases will not impact on this.

Note, while a longer release pattern has been considered it has not been recommended by Seqwater, owing to the need to take best advantage of the current weather, tides and flows into the Brisbane River. Also, in order to keep Colleges Crossing open, the release pattern would need to be effectively doubled and would mean that both Twin Bridges and Savages Crossing would be impacted for at least 18 days and longer if there was rainfall in the Brisbane area or at the dam site.

Members of the public seeking information on potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils in due course.

Dam updates are issued daily while release gates at Wivenhoe Dam are in operation.

Daniel Spiller

Director, Operations

SEQ Water Grid Manager

Phone

Email:

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

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TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W70	Date of TSR release	18.2.11	Time of TSR release	8am
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Current status but could change based on inflows or rainfall.

Current objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce level in Wivenhoe dam to 75%
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate low level releases at around 350 to 400cumecs. This will inundate Twin Bridges, Savages and Colleges Crossings. Maintain access to Burtons bridge
Key considerations	Storage levels:
	Inflows:
	Rainfall:
	Lockyer/Bremer:
	Brisbane River:

Wivenhoe Dam

Begin release of between 350 and 400cumecs depending on impact on Burtons Bridge at around 6 or 7am Sunday Morning 20th February 2011. Initially start at 350cumecs and monitor Burtons Bridge and increase to around 400cumecs if possible.

Cease releases at 75% FSL.

This will take approximately 9 days.

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

No need to advise BoM of operational flows of this size.

BoM Technical Officer name	Peter Baddiley
BoM Technical Officer position title	
BoM Technical Officer contact details	

Brisbane City Council(BCC) assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy

BCC Technical Officer name	Chris Lavin
BCC Technical Officer position title	Disaster Operations Manager
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name	Tony Trace
ICC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
ICC Technical Officer contact details	

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name	Tony Jacobs
SRC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
SRC Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	Rob Drury
Contact Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due	Date	21.2.11	Time		or Event	
--------------	------	---------	------	--	----------	--



From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Friday, 18 February 2011 1:19 PM
To: 'Bradley John'
Cc: 'Debbie.Best'; [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Technical Situation Report
Attachments: Technical_Situation_Report_W70.docx

John,

The protocol requires us to also notify the DG DCS if there is a public safety issue. We do not think that this is necessary at this stage.

Peter Martin and Richard Johnson have asked to receive all TSRs.

Dan

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Friday, 18 February 2011 1:17 PM
To: 'Bradley John'; 'Martin, Peter'; [REDACTED]
richard.c.johnson; [REDACTED]
Cc: 'Rob Drury'; 'Mike Foster'; Debbie.Best; [REDACTED] 'Reilly Bob'; [REDACTED]
Barry Dennien; [REDACTED]
Subject: Technical Situation Report

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GRID UPDATE
THURSDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2011

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It is expected that this controlled release will run for 9 days in order to take best advantage of the current mild weather, falling tides and the limited flows into the Brisbane River from other sources downstream.

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Dam updates are issued daily while release gates at Wivenhoe Dam are in operation.

Daniel Spiller
Director, Operations
SEQ Water Grid Manager

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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Key considerations	Storage levels: Inflows: Rainfall: Lockyer/Bremer: Brisbane River:

Wivenhoe Dam

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This will take approximately 9 days.

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

No need to advise BoM of operational flows of this size.

BoM Technical Officer name	Peter Baddiley
BoM Technical Officer position title	
BoM Technical Officer contact details	

Brisbane City Council(BCC) assessment
(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy

BCC Technical Officer name	Chris Lavin
BCC Technical Officer position title	Disaster Operations Manager
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)
(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name	Tony Trace
ICC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
ICC Technical Officer contact details	

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)
(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name	Tony Jacobs
SRC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
SRC Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	Rob Drury
Contact Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due	Date	21.2.11	Time		or Event	
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[REDACTED]

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Monday, 21 February 2011 5:52 PM
To: Best Debbie; Bradley John
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Dam releases

FYI

Begin forwarded message:

From: Mike Foster [REDACTED]
Date: 21 February 2011 5:45:56 PM GMT+10:00
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Dan Spiller
[REDACTED] SEQWGM Media [REDACTED]
Subject: Dam releases

[REDACTED]

Can confirm that we will have to open the gates at North Pine tonight (7pm to 5am). Had 60mm plus across the catchment and dam this afternoon. As per our operating protocols Moreton Bay Regional Council has been notified and is moving to close Young's Crossing.

No change expected to Wivenhoe flows, however we will continue to monitor overnight.

Cheers Mike

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 21 February 2011 5:08 PM
To: Mike Foster
Subject:

Mike, Was any gate action or otherwise taken at Wivenhoe as these storms swept across - just in case some journo asks

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon Stephen Robertson MP
Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Trade
P: [REDACTED]
M: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

This email, together with any attachments, is intended for the named

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-----Safe

Stamp-----

Your Anti-virus Service scanned this email. It is safe from known viruses.

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QLD Bulk Water Supply Authority ABN75450239876 (Trading as Seqwater).

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 7, 2011 6:19 PM
To: 'Bradley John' [REDACTED]
'Debbie.Best' [REDACTED] 'Reilly Bob' [REDACTED]
Cc: Barry Dennier [REDACTED]
Subject: Summary report
Attach: January flood event__Summary of information released__FINAL.PDF

All,

Report as provided to Stark and CM.

Dan

Daniel Spiller

Director, Operations

SEQ Water Grid Manager

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

Please consider the environment before printing this email. It takes 10 litres of water to make one sheet of A4 paper.

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If not an intended recipient of this email, you must not copy, distribute or take any action(s) that relies on it; any form of disclosure, modification, distribution and/or publication of this email is also prohibited. While all care has been taken, the SEQ Water Grid Manager disclaims all liability for loss or damage to person or property arising from this message being infected by a computer virus or other contamination. Unless stated otherwise, this email represents only the views of the sender and not the views of the SEQ Water Grid Manager and/or the Queensland Government.



January 2011 flood event Summary of dam operations

January 2011

1.0 Introduction

A flood event occurred in South East Queensland in January 2011.

Throughout this event, the Water Grid provided regular updates on the levels of key storages and the management of releases. The releases were provided to media outlets and Councils, and made available on the Water Grid website (www.watergrid.com.au). The updates released during the flood event have been collated under **Attachment 1**.

Updates focused on the four dams in South East Queensland that are gated, with the ability to control the rate of release of floodwater. These are Wivenhoe, Somerset, North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams.

The updates include information about the storage levels of each dam and releases from those dams. They also contain most general information about:

- flows from the Lockyer and Bremer, which enter the Brisbane River downstream of Wivenhoe Dam
- impacts on downstream bridges, based on advice from the Councils that own those bridges
- rainfall forecasts, based on advice from the Bureau of Meteorology.

Information about the regulatory framework for the management of Wivenhoe and Somerset dams is contained in Section 2.

Information about the operation of Wivenhoe and Somerset dams is summarised in Section 3.

Information about the operation of North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams is summarised in Section 4. Information on Hinze Dam releases are also included.

All of these dams are owned and operated by Seqwater. The information provided in the updates was based on information provided by Seqwater.

As outlined in Section 5, more detailed information about the impact of dam releases on river levels is being prepared by the Bureau of Meteorology and responsible Councils.

2.0 Regulatory framework

Detailed operational procedures have been approved for each of the gated dams.

Seqwater is the owner and operator of Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams.

Under Section 370 of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*, it is required to prepare a flood mitigation manual for approval by the Dam Safety Regulator.

Seqwater's approved *Manual of Operational Procedures for Flood Mitigation at Wivenhoe Dam and Somerset Dam* (Operations Manual) can be viewed at www.derm.qld.gov.au. At the request of Seqwater, some sections of the published version Operations Manual have been deducted for security reasons relating to critical infrastructure.

The Operations Manual sets out clear priorities for the strategies to manage water supplies in the dams.

The Operations Manual lists the structural safety of the dam as the highest priority, particularly in extreme weather events where there is the threat of the dam over-topping which could lead to damage to the dam wall.

With the structural safety of the dam secure, the next objectives in order of priority are to provide optimum protection of urbanised areas from inundation, minimise disruption to rural life in the valley of the Brisbane and Stanley Rivers, provide full water supply storage after the flood, and minimise impacts to riparian flora and fauna during the drain down phase of the flood event.

The operational procedures outlined in the Operations Manual have been developed and progressively refined over many years, and have been reviewed by Australia's leading water experts.

They include Professor Colin Apelt, Head of Department, Department of Civil Engineering and Chair of the Brisbane City Council flood taskforce; University of Queensland and Mr Eric Lesleighter, Principal Hydraulic Engineer and Chief Engineer Water Resources, Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation. The Operations Manual in its current form was developed in 1992 and has had six revisions since this time, with the latest review taking place in 2009, and finalised in January 2010.

More general information about the operation of Wivenhoe Dam is contained in a factsheet at **Attachment 2**.

3.0 Wivenhoe and Somerset dams

Table 1 summarises the information released during the event, including the dam levels and release rates. For some days, dam levels are not specified. For those days, levels were not specified in the releases or updated on the Seqwater website.

On 13 February 2010, Seqwater announced that Wivenhoe Dam would be reduced to 75 per cent of its full supply level. This is an interim measure for the remainder of the summer, with the longer term approach to be shaped by the Commission of Inquiry's outcomes. Seqwater advises that a reduction in Wivenhoe Dam storage level to 75 per cent of its Full Supply Level will provide appreciable flood mitigation benefits ahead of any major rain events in the remainder of the wet season.

The operational decision reflects current circumstances, rather than issues which likely to be considered by the Commission of Inquiry into the recent floods. The Commission of Inquiry will continue to assess dam operations during the January flood event and whether any changes to the long term framework are required.

Table 1: Wivenhoe and Somerset dam operation

Update	Wivenhoe Dam		Somerset Dam		Bridges inundated							Key statements from updates
	Level	Releases	Level	Releases into Wivenhoe Dam	Twin	Savages	Burtons	Kholo	Colleges	Fernvale	Mt Crosby	
Saturday 1 January	-	130,000 ML/day	-	Through regulator valve	x	x	x	x	x			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The gradual gate closure sequence at Wivenhoe began overnight and by sometime Sunday all gates will be closed.
Sunday 2 January	-	All five gates closed Sunday morning	-	Through regulator valve	x	x						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All five gates were fully closed this morning.
Monday 3 January	-	-	-	-	x							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No update
Tuesday 4 January	102%	Through regulator valve	103%	Through regulator valve								<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No update
Wednesday 5 January	102%	Through regulator valve	103%	Through regulator valve								<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No update
Thursday 6 January	103%	Through regulator valve. Gate operations will be required	104%	Through regulator valve	x	x	x	x	x			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gate operations at Wivenhoe Dam will be required. To minimise downstream impacts, these releases will commence when flood levels in the lower Lockyer Creek subside. Local flows, and the expected Wivenhoe Dam release, may impact upon Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge and Colleges Crossing for several days.
Friday 7 January	106%	Through regulator valve. Gate operations will be required at 130,000 ML/day	107%	Through regulator valve	x	x	x	x	x			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To minimise downstream impacts, these releases will commence when flood levels in the lower Lockyer Creek subside. The rate of release will be similar to last week, at up to 130,000 megalitres per day.
Saturday 8 January	-	100,00 ML/day through all 5 gates	-	Through one gate	x	x	x	x	x			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Releases will be reviewed and may change depending on rainfall, inflows into the dam and river flows.
Sunday 9 January	-	116,000 ML/day	-	Through sluice gates	x	x	x	x	x			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gate operations will continue to be reviewed and may change at short notice depending on rainfall, inflows into the dam and river flows. These releases are expected to continue until next week.

Date	Rainfall (mm)	Water level (m)	Through sluice gates	Flooded areas							Notes
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Monday 10 January (Morning)	140%	170,000 ML/day	150%	Through sluice gates	x	x	x	x	x	x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overnight, Fenwick and Mt Crosby Weir Bridges together with a number of local roads became inundated. They joined the others already impacted, including Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge and Colleges Crossing. In order to relieve the quickly filling flood storage compartment, and with more rain forecast, controlled releases from the dam have been increased today from 116,000 megalitres per day to 170,000 megalitres per day. These releases are a necessity. Releases are being reviewed in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils, utilising a strategy to limit impacts where possible downstream.
Monday 10 January (Evening)	154%	Increasing to 240,000 ML/day	158%	Through sluice gates	x	x	x	x	x	x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to relieve the quickly filling flood storage compartment, and with more rain forecast, controlled releases from the dam have been increased today from 116,000 megalitres per day to 172,000 megalitres per day. Further increases to the release rate are planned, to approximately 240,000 megalitres per day by midnight. These releases are a necessity as, at the peak, Wivenhoe Dam was receiving more than twice the volume of Sydney Harbour each day. Releases are continually being reviewed in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils, utilising a strategy to limit impacts where possible downstream.
Tuesday 11 January (Morning)	173%	Further increases today	160%	Through sluice gates	x	x	x	x	x	x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant rainfall received across catchments has caused waterways upstream of Somerset and Wivenhoe Dams to rise quickly overnight. Controlled releases through the five gates have been

TRIM reference:

Date	Wivenhoe Dam		Somerset Dam		Wivenhoe Dam Releases							Notes
	Level	Release	Level	Release	Top	Centre	Bottom	Left	Right	Centre	Bottom	
Wednesday 12 January (Evening)	189%	215,000 ML/day	186%	123,000 ML/day	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These controlled releases must continue in order to relieve Wivenhoe Dam's swollen flood storage compartment in order to create space for further rainfall and inflows. Wivenhoe's five radial gates continue to release 215,000 megalitres per day. This is considerably down from an overnight peak of 645,000 megalitres and will remain at this level to allow for the Bremer and Lockyer Rivers to subside. After the expected downstream peak in the lower Brisbane River has passed, releases will be increased to 301,000 megalitres per day, however, this increase is unlikely to cause a second significant rise in the river.
Thursday 13 January (Morning)	187%	215,000 ML/day	174%	121,000 ML/day	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wivenhoe Dam is at 187 per cent, and is dropping gradually with controlled releases through all five gates of 215,000 megalitres per day. The dam's slow recession is due in part to inflows of 121,000 megalitres per day via a sluice gate from Somerset Dam. Somerset is at 174 per cent.
Thursday 13 January (Evening)	186%	228,000 ML/day	167%	120,000 ML/day	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wivenhoe Dam is at 186 per cent, and is dropping gradually with controlled releases through all five gates of 228,000 megalitres per day.
Friday 14 January (Morning)	179%	301,000 ML/day	151%	111,800 ML/day	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wivenhoe Dam is at 179 per cent, and continues to drop steadily. Releases have been graduated to 301,000 megalitres per day in a 7 day strategy designed to draw down the flood storage compartment with no noticeable effects downstream. The continuing releases are necessary in order to prepare Wivenhoe for any future weather events

TRIM reference:

Date	Wivenhoe Dam	Flow (ML/day)	Capacity	Discharge (ML/day)	Other Dams								Notes
					Wivenhoe Dam	Wivenhoe Dam	Wivenhoe Dam	Wivenhoe Dam	Wivenhoe Dam	Wivenhoe Dam	Wivenhoe Dam	Wivenhoe Dam	
													should they occur.
Friday 14 January (Evening)	172%	301,000 ML/day	140%	111,800 ML/day	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wivenhoe Dam is at 172 per cent, and continues to drop steadily. Inflows and water levels in the Brisbane and Pine catchments are being continually monitored.
Saturday 15 January (Morning)	163%	301,000 ML/day	129%	79,000 ML/day	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wivenhoe Dam is at 163 per cent, and continues to drop steadily.
Saturday 15 January (Evening)	154%	301,000 ML/day	121%	79,000 ML/day	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wivenhoe Dam is at 154 per cent, and continues to drop steadily.
Sunday 16 January	138%	299,000 ML/day	106%	70,500 ML/day	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wivenhoe Dam is at 138 per cent, and continues to drop steadily. Releases continue at around 299,000 megalitres per day. This flow will be maintained to drain the flood storage compartment this week.
Monday 17 January	123%	299,000 ML/day	100%	Small discharges	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wivenhoe Dam is at 123 per cent capacity and continues to drop steadily. Releases continue at around 299,000 megalitres per day. Somerset Dam is at 100 per cent with small discharges through the cone valves into Wivenhoe.
Tuesday 18 January	107%	176,000 ML/day and reducing with the gate closing sequence	99%	Small discharges	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wivenhoe Dam is at 107 per cent and continues to drop steadily. Releases remained constant overnight at around 176,000 megalitres per day and are now reducing with the commencement of the gate closing sequence which began at 9am this morning.
Wednesday 19 January	99%	Gate closing sequence expected to be completed by Thursday	100%	Sluice gates closed	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wivenhoe Dam is at 99.3 per cent with the gate closing sequence expected to be complete by late afternoon today.

TRIM reference:

Location	Percentage	Release Status	Percentage	Release Status	Notes
Thursday 20 January	99.6%	One gate partially open	100.8%	Sluice gates closed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Somerset Dam is at 100 per cent capacity with all sluice gates currently closed. Depending on inflows into the catchment, further releases into Wivenhoe Dam may be made over the next 24 hours. • Last night's storms over the catchment have resulted in one gate being partially opened at Wivenhoe Dam this morning. This will see a small controlled release over the course of today to maintain the dam at or near 100%.

TRIM reference:

safe

secure

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4.0 Other dams

Controlled releases were made from North Pine, Leslie Harrison and Hinze dams. These releases are summarised in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Other dam operation

Update	North Pine		Hinze		Leslie Harrison	
	Dam level	Releases	Dam level	Releases	Dam level	Releases
Thursday 30 December	99.9%	-	100.0%	Minor releases	97.6%	-
Friday 31 December	100.2%	-	100.0%	Minor releases	97.8%	-
Saturday 1 January	-	Minor releases underway	-	Minor releases	-	-
Sunday 2 January	-	Minor release overnight, gates closed early morning	-	Minor releases	-	-
Monday 3 January	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuesday 4 January	99.0%	-	99.6%	-	98.8%	-
Wednesday 5 January	99.1%	-	99.6%	-	98.8%	-
Thursday 6 January	100.0%	Releases expected today	99.9%	-	98.8%	Releases commenced
Friday 7 January	-	Spillway operations commenced	100.0%	-	96.2%	Releases underway
Saturday 8 January	-	Minor releases underway	-	Releases predicted	-	Releases underway
Sunday 9 January	-	Release operations being reviewed	-	Minor releases underway	-	Releases ceased
Monday 10 January am	103.9%	5 gates open releasing 43,000 ML/day	100.0%	Minor releases 1,200 ML/day	100.0%	Releases underway
Tuesday 11 January am	105.3%	5 gates open releasing 15,000 ML/day	100.0%	Minor releases 1,200 ML/day	96.8%	Releases underway
Wednesday 12 January am	101.8%	5 gates open, releasing 6,800 ML/day	112.1%	Minor releases 8,000 ML/day	96.1%	Releases underway
Thursday 13 January am	100.4%	5 gates open. Expected to close Friday	-	Minor releases 8,000 ML/day	96.9%	Releases ceased
Friday 14 January am	-	Releases ceased	100.0%	Minor releases 8,000 ML/day	97.3%	-
Saturday 15 January am	-	-	-	Minor releases 8,000 ML/day	-	-
Sunday 16 January	96.0%	-	-	Minor releases 6,800 ML/day	-	-
Monday 17 January	99.4%	-	99.8%	Minor releases 6,800 ML/day	97.7%	-

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5.0 Additional information

A range of modelling is required to be undertaken to ascertain the precise downstream impact of releases from Wivenhoe Dam during the January 2011 flood event.

Compiling this technical information requires the following tasks:

- validation the water outflows from Wivenhoe Dam
- calculation and validation Brisbane River levels as a result of the water outflows
- determination of the impact of inundation based on those Brisbane River levels.

Seqwater has responsibility for providing and validating water outflows over the event.

Both the Bureau of Meteorology and the Brisbane City Council have developed models for determining Brisbane River levels for various water outflows from Wivenhoe Dam. This includes taking into account flows down both the Lockyer and Bremer rivers and other localised flows. Brisbane City Council has developed the modelling to determine the impact of Brisbane River levels on the flooding properties and households.

Seqwater dam levels and water outflows during the January event are required to be validated and provided to the Dam Safety Regulator as part of a comprehensive report into the event. This report will also be provided to the Commission of Inquiry into the Queensland floods which is now underway.

In addition, Bureau of Meteorology has agreed to be the clearing house for all data requests in relation to either river or rainfall gauges across the region in relation to the January flood event. Any request for this data should be directed to climate.qld@bom.gov.au.

Attachment 1: Update

TRIM reference:

safe

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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 1/01/11 10:45am
Title : MEDIA UPDATE - 01.01.11	
Summary: Dam safety for South East Queensland over holiday season, Most recreation facilities open	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

**MEDIA UPDATE
1 January 2011**

Dam safety for South East Queensland over holiday season

Controlled floodwater releases over several days will see Wivenhoe Dam return to full supply level this weekend.

With the flood compartment empty, Wivenhoe Dam will be ready for more rain forecast next week.

Over the last week, Wivenhoe Dam's flood storage compartment has significantly reduced the flood risk for Brisbane and Ipswich.

The gradual gate closure sequence at Wivenhoe began overnight and by sometime Sunday all gates will be closed.

Water Grid operators continue to work closely with councils regarding dam releases and Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Colleges Crossing, Kholo and Burton Bridges will continue to be inundated until Sunday.

Somerset Dam continues to make minor releases into Wivenhoe.

A minor release is being made from North Pine Dam however no impact on Youngs Crossing is expected.

No releases are currently being made from Leslie Harrison Dam

Hinze Dam continues to discharge flood waters and this is expected to continue until early next week. There is no public access to the spillway.

For information on local flood impacts, including road closures, members of the public should always contact the local council.

For recorded information on current dam releases in South east Queensland, call **1 800 613 122**.

Most recreation facilities open

Lower dam levels mean that both Somerset and Wivenhoe Dams are now open to water based activities.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

All recreation sites are now open, except for:

- River access at Atkinson's Crossing
- Billies Bay/Hay's Landing

For further information on the Water Grid: www.watergrid.com.au

ENDS

Notes to the editor

About the SEQ Water Grid

Established in June 2008 in response to the crippling Millennium Drought, the SEQ Water Grid represents one of Australia's largest investments in water infrastructure.

Through a network of climate resilient water sources, treatment facilities, new two-way pipes and existing pipelines, the SEQ Water Grid gives the South East Queensland region the ability to support water demands, water quality, economic prosperity and lifestyle - regardless of climate change and population growth.

For further details contact the SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit on:

Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Email: media@seqwgm.com.au

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TRIM reference: D/

Date and time: 2/01/11 9:50am

Title : MEDIA UPDATE - 02.01.11

Summary: Dam safety for South East Queensland over holiday season, Most recreation facilities open

Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland

**MEDIA UPDATE
2 January 2011**

Dam safety for South East Queensland over holiday season

All five gates at Wivenhoe Dam were fully closed on Sunday morning.

This means the flood compartment at Wivenhoe Dam is ready for more rain forecast next week.

Councils have been advised and they will make decisions about opening Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Colleges Crossing, Kholo and Burton Bridges as inundation levels drop.

Somerset Dam continues to make minor releases into Wivenhoe.

A minor release was made overnight at North Pine Dam with gates closed early Sunday morning.

No releases are being made from Leslie Harrison Dam

Flood water releases from Hinze Dam will reduce during today and the gate is expected to close sometime tomorrow. There is no public access to the spillway.

For information on local flood impacts, including road closures, members of the public should always contact the local council.

For recorded information on current dam releases in South East Queensland, call **1 800 613 122**.

Most recreation facilities open

Both Somerset and Wivenhoe Dams are open to water based activities.

All recreation sites are now open, except for:

- River access at Atkinson's Crossing
- Billies Bay/Hay's Landing

which are both expected to re-open sometime today.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

Due to the ground being saturated, care should be taken around all recreation sites. Vehicles must only be parked in designated parking areas and should not be driven on off roads or onto grassed areas.

For further information on the Water Grid: www.watergrid.com.au

ENDS

Notes to the editor

About the SEQ Water Grid

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Through a network of climate resilient water sources, treatment facilities, new two-way pipes and existing pipelines, the SEQ Water Grid gives the South East Queensland region the ability to support water demands, water quality, economic prosperity and lifestyle - regardless of climate change and population growth.

For further details contact the SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit on:
Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Email: media@seqwqm.com.au

TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 6/01/11 4:13pm
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 06.01.11	
Summary: Dam releases, Recreation update, Gold Coast Desalination Plant update	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 06.01.11

MEDIA RELEASE - 6 JANUARY 2011

Dam Releases

With recent heavy rainfall across South East Queensland and the forecast of more to come, releases are being made from some of the region's water storages.

Gate operations at Wivenhoe Dam will be required. To minimise downstream impacts, these releases will commence when flood levels in the lower Lockyer Creek subside.

Local flows, and the expected Wivenhoe Dam release, may impact upon Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge and Colleges Crossing for several days. Local councils should be consulted for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

At this stage, no impacts are expected for Fernvale Bridge or Mt Crosby Weir Bridge.

Water from Somerset Dam is being released into Wivenhoe Dam through a regulator valve, which may increase later today.

A release through the gate at North Pine Dam is expected to commence later today.

A release from Leslie Harrison is underway and may continue until the weekend.

No water is currently being released from Hinze Dam.

The Water Grid is working with local councils regarding the current releases and the likely impacts, which are being managed in accordance with approved flood management plans.

Recreation update

Dams are currently open for water-based recreational activities, however this may change depending on the weather. Visitors should check the Water Grid website for additional information for each recreation site.

Gold Coast Desalination Plant



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

Even though the regions dams are at or near full capacity, recent heavy rains have resulted in high sediment levels in the Brisbane River. These increased levels present challenges for water treatment plants like those at Mt Crosby, which are the main supply for Brisbane.

The Gold Coast Desalination facility was recently brought up to full capacity to address the flood associated issues at Mt Crosby without compromising water security or quality for Brisbane.

The Gold Coast Desalination facility is now operating at 33 per cent capacity to ensure the highest water quality for the South East Queensland region.

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking detailed information on **potential impacts in their local areas including road closures should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:
Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Email: media@seqwgm.com.au

TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 7/01/11 10:03am
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 07.01.11	
Summary: Dam releases, Recreation update, Gold Coast Desalination Plant update	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 07.01.11

MEDIA RELEASE - 7 JANUARY 2011

Dam releases

With recent heavy rainfall across South East Queensland and the forecast of more to come, releases are being made from some of the region's water storages.

Water from Somerset Dam is being released into Wivenhoe Dam through a regulator valve. The releases may be increased to utilise sluice gates later today or over the weekend.

Gate operations at Wivenhoe Dam will be required. To minimise downstream impacts, these releases will commence when flood levels in the lower Lockyer Creek subside. The rate of release will be similar to last week, at up to 130,000 megalitres per day.

Local flows, and the expected Wivenhoe Dam release, may impact upon Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge and Colleges Crossing for several days. Local councils should be consulted for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

At this stage, no impacts are expected for Fernvale Bridge or Mt Crosby Weir Bridge.

Spillway gate operations commenced yesterday evening at North Pine Dam. These releases may continue until next week, depending upon further rainfall.

A release from Leslie Harrison is underway and may continue until the weekend.

No water is currently being released from Hinze Dam.

The Water Grid is working with local councils regarding the current releases and the likely impacts, which are being managed in accordance with approved flood management plans.

Telephone - 1800 613 122 has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland.

Members of the public seeking information on potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

Recreation update

Due to water levels, Wivenhoe Dam is **closed** to all water based recreational activities as of this morning. The closure will most likely extend over the weekend.

At this stage Lake Somerset is open to all water based recreational activities, however this may change with short notice.

Lake Baroon has also been closed to all water based recreational activities but is open for picnics and barbeques. Care should be taken at the recreation sites, and vehicles must be parked in designated parking areas only.

Moogerah and Maroon Dam remains open, but swimming and skiing should be avoiding.

The following recreational sites are currently **closed** to the public –

- O'Sheas Crossing
- Hamon Cove
- Logan inlet
- Captain Logan Camp
- River access at Atkinson's Crossing
- Billies Bay and Hays Landing

Visitors should check the Water Grid website for additional information for each recreation site.

Gold Coast Desalination Plant

Even though the regions dams are at or near full capacity, recent heavy rains have resulted in high sediment levels in the Brisbane River. These increased levels may present challenges for water treatment plants like those at Mt Crosby, which are the main supply for Brisbane.

The Gold Coast Desalination facility was recently brought up to full capacity to address the flood associated issues at Mt Crosby without compromising water security or quality for Brisbane.

The Gold Coast Desalination facility is now operating at 33 per cent capacity to ensure the highest water quality for the South East Queensland region.

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:
Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Email: media@seqwgm.com.au

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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 7/01/11 4:42pm
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 07.01.11	
Summary: Friday Grid Update, Dam releases	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 07.01.11

**WEEKLY GRID UPDATE
FRIDAY 7 JANUARY 2011**

DAM RELEASES

Gate operations have commenced at Wivenhoe Dam and releases are expected to reach around 100,000 megalitres a day by tomorrow afternoon. Releases will be reviewed and may change depending on rainfall, inflows into the dam and river flows.

Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge and Colleges Crossing may be inundated for several days. Local councils should be consulted for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

At this stage, no impacts are expected for Fernvale Bridge or Mt Crosby Weir Bridge.

Water from Somerset Dam is being released into Wivenhoe Dam through a regulator valve. The releases may increase to utilise sluice gates later today or over the weekend to manage rainfall and inflows.

Spillway gate operations commenced yesterday evening at North Pine Dam. These releases may continue into next week, depending upon further rainfall. The local council has been advised that Youngs Crossing Road may be inundated.

A release from Leslie Harrison Dam is underway and may continue until next week.

A release through the emergency gates at Hinze Dam is expected during the weekend.

The Water Grid is working with local councils regarding the current releases and the likely impacts, which are being managed in accordance with approved flood management plans.

Telephone - 1800 613 122 has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland.

Members of the public seeking information on potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils.

RECREATION UPDATE

Due to high water levels, Lake Wivenhoe is currently closed to all water based recreational activities. The closure will most likely extend over the next few days.

The following recreation sites at Wivenhoe are currently closed due to submerged infrastructure, or dangerous conditions:

- O'Sheas Crossing
- Hamon Cove
- Logan inlet
- Captain Logan Camp
- River access at Atkinson's Crossing
- Billies Bay and Hays Landing

Other recreation areas at Wivenhoe are open for land based activities. The Spillway Lookout recreation area is open, however visitors are advised that there may be long delays due to the number of people visiting the site. Security staff and traffic controllers will be on site and all visitors will need to follow their directions.

Lake Somerset will be temporarily closed to all water based recreational activities from 6pm tonight and is expected to remain closed over the weekend and possibly into next week.

Access to Lake Borumba is not available as Yabba Creek Road between Imbil and Borumba Dam is currently closed. Access is expected to remain closed for several days.

Lake Baroon has also been closed to all water based recreational activities but is open for picnics and barbeques. Care should be taken at the recreation sites, and vehicles must be parked in designated parking areas only.

Lake Maroon remains closed to water skiing and swimming but remains open to boating and fishing.

Visitors should check the Water Grid website (www.watergrid.com.au) for additional information on each recreation site.

GOLD COAST DESALINATION PLANT

Even though the regions dams are at or near full capacity, recent heavy rains have resulted in high sediment levels in the Brisbane River. These increased levels may

present challenges for water treatment plants like those at Mt Crosby, which are the main supply for Brisbane.

The Gold Coast Desalination facility was recently brought up to full capacity to address the flood associated issues at Mt Crosby without compromising water security or quality for Brisbane.

The Gold Coast Desalination facility is now operating at 33 per cent capacity to ensure the highest water quality for the South East Queensland region.

GRID TWELVE

The current supply capacity of the **Grid Twelve is 100.0 %**, no change from last week. The Grid Twelve makes up nearly 90 % of South East Queensland's total water storage volume. See below for further breakdowns:

Dam	Current capacity (%)	Change in capacity on last week (%)	Rainfall (mm over past seven days)
Wivenhoe	100%	No change	72mm
Somerset	100%	No change	74mm
North Pine	98.4%	1.8% ↓	82mm
Hinze	100%	No change	72mm
Baroon Pocket	100%	No change	95mm
Leslie Harrison	96.2%	1.6% ↓	121mm
Ewen Maddock	100%	No change	105mm
Cooloolabin	100%	No change	92mm
Lake Kurwongbah	100%	No change	82mm
Lake MacDonald	100%	No change	90mm
Little Nerang	100%	No change	72mm
Wappa	100%	No change	92mm

The current supply capacity of the **Grid Three 3 (Wivenhoe, Somerset and North Pine) is 100 %**, no change from last week.

Note: The Grid Twelve and Grid Three % full is calculated by dividing the combined current storage volume of the dams in the group by the combined full storage volume.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

DID YOU KNOW?

By maintaining the Gold Coast Desalination Plant in standby mode, the Water Grid can ensure that the plant is online and available at any stage. This ensures water quality issues can be addressed without compromising water security for the South East Queensland region. The flexibility of the Water Grid allows us to safely isolate, transfer and blend water from multiple sources across the region.

Notes to the Editor: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance: Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland.

Members of the public seeking information on **potential impacts in their local areas** should **direct inquiries to their local councils**.

About the Water Grid: Established in June 2008 in response to the crippling Millennium Drought, the Water Grid represents one of Australia's largest investments in water infrastructure.

Through a network of climate resilient water sources, treatment facilities, new two-way pipes and existing pipelines, the Water Grid gives the South East Queensland region the ability to support water demands, water quality, economic prosperity and lifestyle - regardless of climate change and population growth.

CONTACT DETAILS

Please direct all media enquiries to the Water Grid Communications Unit:

Phone (07) 3247 3000

Email: media@seqwgm.com.au

Website: www.watergrid.com.au

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Media updates issued during
the January flood event

TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 8/01/11 10:26am
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 08.01.11	
Summary: Dam releases, Recreation update, Gold Coast Desalination Plant update	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 08.01.11

MEDIA RELEASE - 8 JANUARY 2011

Dam releases

With recent heavy rainfall across South East Queensland and the forecast of more to come, releases are being made from some of the region's water storages.

Water from Somerset Dam is being released into Wivenhoe Dam through one gate.

At Wivenhoe Dam, all five gates are now open. Releases are expected to reach around 100,000 megalitres a day by this afternoon. Releases will be reviewed and may change depending on rainfall, inflows into the dam and river flows.

Wivenhoe Dam releases may impact upon Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge and Colleges Crossing for several days. Local councils should be consulted for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

At this stage, no impacts are expected for Fernvale Bridge or Mt Crosby Weir Bridge, although this may change depending on rainfall.

Spillway gate operations commenced during the evening of Thursday 6 January 2011. These releases may continue until next week, depending upon further rainfall.

A release from Leslie Harrison is underway and may continue until the weekend.

Releases through the emergency gates of Hinze Dam is expected to occur sometime over the weekend.

The Water Grid is continuing to work with local councils regarding the current releases and the likely impacts, which are being managed in accordance with approved flood management plans.

Telephone - 1800 613 122 has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland.

Members of the public seeking information on potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils.

Recreation update

Due to water levels, Wivenhoe Dam and Somerset Dam are **closed** for all water based recreational activities and is expected to remain closed for some days.

The following recreational sites are currently **closed** to the public –

- O'Sheas Crossing
- Hamon Cove
- Logan inlet
- Captain Logan Camp
- River access at Atkinson's Crossing
- Billies Bay and Hays Landing
- The Spit
- Lake Somerset Holiday Park Kirkleagh (Boat ramps only)

Other recreation areas at Wivenhoe are open for land based activities. The Spillway Lookout recreation area is open, however visitors are advised that there may be long delays due to the number of people visiting the site. Security staff and traffic controllers will be on site and all visitors will need to follow their directions.

Access to Borumba Dam is currently not available as Yabba Creek Road between Imbil and Borumba Dam is closed.

Lake Baroon has also been closed to all water based recreational activities but is open for picnics and barbeques. Care should be taken at the recreation sites, and vehicles must be parked in designated parking areas only.

Lake Maroon remains closed to water skiing and swimming but remains open to boating and fishing.

Visitors should check the Water Grid website for additional information for each recreation site.

Gold Coast Desalination Plant

Even though the regions dams are at or near full capacity, recent heavy rains have resulted in high sediment levels in the Brisbane River. These increased levels may present challenges for water treatment plants like those at Mt Crosby, which are the main supply for Brisbane.

The Gold Coast Desalination facility was recently brought up to full capacity to address the flood associated issues at Mt Crosby without compromising water security or quality for Brisbane.

The Gold Coast Desalination facility is now operating at 33 per cent capacity to ensure the highest water quality for the South East Queensland region.

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking detailed information on **potential impacts in their local areas including road closures** should direct inquiries to their local councils.

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:
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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 9/01/11 9:29am
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 9.01.11	
Summary: Dam releases, Recreation update, Gold Coast Desalination Plant update	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 09.01.11

MEDIA RELEASE - 9 JANUARY 2011

Dam releases

With recent heavy rainfall across South East Queensland and the forecast of more to come, releases are being made from some of the region's water storages. Based on current forecasts, all release operations may change at short notice.

Water from Somerset Dam is being released into Wivenhoe Dam through the sluice gates.

At Wivenhoe Dam, releases commenced during the evening of Thursday 6 January 2011, with all five gates opened by Saturday 8 January 2011. Releases have reached around 116,000 megalitres a day. Gate operations will continue to be reviewed and may change at short notice depending on rainfall, inflows into the dam and river flows.

Wivenhoe Dam releases may impact upon Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge and Colleges Crossing for several days. Local councils should be consulted for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

At this stage, no impacts are expected for Fernvale Bridge or Mt Crosby Weir Bridge, although this may change depending on rainfall.

These releases are expected to continue until next week.

Release operations at North Pine Dam are being reviewed and may result in the closure of gates later today or tomorrow, however this action is dependent on whether further rainfall is received in the catchment.

Releases from Leslie Harrison Dam have now ceased, however further inflows received may see gate operations re-occur at short notice.

Minor releases through the emergency gates of Hinze Dam have commenced.

The Water Grid is continuing to work with local councils regarding the current releases and the likely impacts, which are being managed in accordance with approved flood management plans.

Telephone - 1800 613 122 has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland.

Members of the public seeking information on potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils.

Recreation update

Due to water levels, Wivenhoe Dam and Somerset Dam are **closed** for all water based recreational activities and is expected to remain closed into next week.

The following recreational sites are currently **closed** to the public –

- O'Sheas Crossing
- Hamon Cove
- Logan inlet
- Captain Logan Camp
- River access at Atkinson's Crossing
- Billies Bay and Hays Landing
- The Spit
- Lake Somerset Holiday Park Kirkleagh (Boat ramps only)

Other recreation areas at Wivenhoe are open for land based activities. The Spillway Lookout recreation area is open, however visitors are advised that there may be long delays due to the number of people visiting the site. Security staff and traffic controllers will be on site and all visitors will need to follow their directions.

Access to Borumba Dam is currently not available as Yabba Creek Road between Imbil and Borumba Dam is closed.

Lake Baroon has also been closed to all water based recreational activities but is open for picnics and barbeques. Care should be taken at the recreation sites, and vehicles must be parked in designated parking areas only.

Lake Maroon remains closed to water skiing and swimming but remains open to boating and fishing.

Visitors should check the Water Grid website for additional information for each recreation site.

Gold Coast Desalination Plant

Even though the regions dams are at or near full capacity, recent heavy rains have resulted in high sediment levels in the Brisbane River. These increased levels may present challenges for water treatment plants like those at Mt Crosby, which are the main supply for Brisbane.

The Gold Coast Desalination facility was recently brought up to full capacity to address the flood associated issues at Mt Crosby without compromising water security or quality for Brisbane.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

The Gold Coast Desalination facility is now operating at 33 per cent capacity to ensure the highest water quality for the South East Queensland region.

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking detailed information on **potential impacts in their local areas including road closures** should direct inquiries to their local councils.

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:
Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Email: media@seqwgm.com.au

TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 10/01/11 7:15am
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 10.01.11 AM	
Summary: Wivenhoe Dam releases	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 10.01.11 AM

MEDIA RELEASE - 10 JANUARY 2011

Wivenhoe Dam releases

Significant rainfall received across catchments has lifted Wivenhoe Dam's level to above 140 per cent and Somerset Dam to above 150 per cent. Although releases are being made, significant quantities of water have been held back to manage impacts downstream and allow for inflows which have occurred below Wivenhoe Dam.

Overnight, this weather has inundated Fernvale Bridge and Mt Crosby Weir bridge together with a number of local roads. They join a number of other bridges already impacted, including Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge and Colleges Crossing.

In order to relieve the dam's flood storage compartment and with more rain forecast, controlled releases are being increased today from 116,000 megalitres per day to 150,000 megalitres per day. This will be done in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils, utilising a strategy to limit impacts where possible downstream, noting that these releases are a necessity.

Residents are urged to contact local councils for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

Telephone - 1800 613 122 has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland.

ENDS

Note to the Editor: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance: Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland.

Members of the public seeking information on **potential impacts in their local areas** should **direct inquiries to their local councils**.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

About the SEQ Water Grid: Established in June 2008 in response to the crippling Millennium Drought, the SEQ Water Grid represents one of Australia's largest investments in water infrastructure.

Through a network of climate resilient water sources, treatment facilities, new two-way pipes and existing pipelines, the SEQ Water Grid gives the South East Queensland region the ability to support water demands, water quality, economic prosperity and lifestyle - regardless of climate change and population growth.

For further information on the Water Grid: www.watergrid.com.au

For further details contact the SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit on:
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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 10/01/11, 10:42am
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 10.01.11 AM	
Summary: Dam releases, Recreation update, Gold Coast Desalination Plant update	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 10.01.11 AM

MEDIA RELEASE - 10 JANUARY 2011

Dam releases

Significant rainfall across the catchment has lifted Wivenhoe Dam's level to above 140 per cent and Somerset Dam to above 150 per cent.

Although releases are being made, large quantities of water continue to flow into the dams and are being held back in order to manage impacts downstream and allow for other inflows from urban runoff, and the Lockyer and Bremer Rivers to subside.

Overnight, Fernvale and Mt Crosby Weir Bridges together with a number of local roads became inundated. They joined the others already impacted, including Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge and Colleges Crossing.

In order to relieve the quickly filling flood storage compartment, and with more rain forecast, controlled releases from the dam have been increased today from 116,000 megalitres per day to 170,000 megalitres per day. These releases are a necessity.

Releases are being reviewed in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils, utilising a strategy to limit impacts where possible downstream.

Water from Somerset Dam is being released into Wivenhoe Dam through the sluice gates.

Spillway gate operations are continuing at North Pine Dam, with all five gates open. These releases may continue until next week, depending upon further rainfall.

At Leslie Harrison Dam, gate releases are underway. A minor release of around 1200 megalitres a day is being made through the emergency gates of Hinze Dam.

The Water Grid is working with local councils regarding the current releases and the likely impacts, which are being managed in accordance with approved flood management plans.

Telephone - 1800 613 122 has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland.

Members of the public seeking information on potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils.

Recreation update

Due to water levels, both Wivenhoe and Somerset are **closed** to all recreational activities, and will remain so for some days.

The following recreation sites are **closed** –

- O'Sheas Crossing
- Hamon Cove
- Logan Inlet
- Captain Logan Camp
- Lumley Hill
- Spillway Common/ Atkinson's Crossing
- Cormorant Bay
- Branch Creek
- Billies Bay/Hays Landing
- The Spit
- Lake Somerset Holiday Park Kirkleagh

Numerous roads are cut including the highway at Kilcoy and Fernvale, and conditions are extremely dangerous.

Moogerah and Maroon Dam remains open, however, swimming and skiing should be avoiding.

Access to Borumba Dam is currently not available as Yabba Creek Road between Imbil and Borumba Dam is closed.

Lake Baroon has also been closed to all water based recreational activities but is open for picnics and barbeques. Care should be taken at the recreation sites, and vehicles must be parked in designated parking areas only.

Visitors should check the Water Grid website for additional information for each recreation site.

Gold Coast Desalination Plant

Even though the regions dams are at or near full capacity, recent heavy rains have resulted in high sediment levels in the Brisbane River. These increased levels may present challenges for water treatment plants like those at Mt Crosby, which are the main supply for Brisbane.

The Gold Coast Desalination facility was recently brought up to full capacity to address the flood associated issues at Mt Crosby without compromising water security or quality for Brisbane.

With Mt Crosby now back to normal the Gold Coast Desalination facility has now been reduced to 33 per cent capacity.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking detailed information on **potential impacts in their local areas including road closures** should direct inquiries to their local councils.

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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 10/01/11 4:50pm
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 10.01.11 PM	
Summary: Dam releases, Recreation update, Gold Coast Desalination Plant update	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 10.01.11 PM

MEDIA RELEASE - 10 JANUARY 2011

Dam releases

Significant rainfall in the catchments has lifted Wivenhoe Dam's level to 154 per cent and Somerset Dam to 158 per cent, despite continuing releases.

Although releases are being made, large quantities of water continue to flow into the dams. Water is being held back in order to manage impacts downstream and allow for other inflows from urban runoff, the Lockyer and Bremer Rivers to subside.

Overnight, Fernvale and Mt Crosby Weir Bridges together with a number of local roads became inundated. They joined the others already impacted, including Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge and Colleges Crossing.

In order to relieve the quickly filling flood storage compartment, and with more rain forecast, controlled releases from the dam have been increased today from 116,000 megalitres per day to 172,000 megalitres per day. Further increases to the release rate are planned, to approximately 240,000 megalitres per day by midnight.

These releases are a necessity as, at the peak, Wivenhoe Dam was receiving more than twice the volume of Sydney Harbour each day.

Releases are continually being reviewed in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils, utilising a strategy to limit impacts where possible downstream.

Water from Somerset Dam is being released into Wivenhoe Dam through the sluice gates.

Spillway gate operations are continuing at North Pine Dam, with all five gates open, releasing around 43,000 megalitres a day. These releases may continue until Wednesday 12 January 2011.

At Leslie Harrison Dam, gate releases are underway. A minor release of around 1200 megalitres a day is being made through the emergency gates of Hinze Dam.

The Water Grid is working with local councils regarding the current releases and the likely impacts. Releases are being managed in accordance with approved flood management plans.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

Telephone - 1800 613 122 has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland.

Members of the public seeking information on potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils.

Recreation update

Due to water levels, both Wivenhoe and Somerset are **closed** to all recreational activities, and will remain so for some days.

The following recreation sites are **closed** -

- O'Sheas Crossing
- Hamon Cove
- Logan Inlet
- Captain Logan Camp
- Lumley Hill
- Spillway Common/ Atkinson's Crossing
- Cormorant Bay
- Branch Creek
- Billies Bay/Hays Landing
- The Spit
- Lake Somerset Holiday Park Kirkleagh

Numerous roads are cut including the highway at Kilcoy and Fernvale, and conditions are extremely dangerous.

Moogerah and Maroon Dam remains open, however, swimming and skiing should be avoiding.

Access to Borumba Dam is currently not available as Yabba Creek Road between Imbil and Borumba Dam is closed.

Lake Baroon has also been closed to all water based recreational activities but is open for picnics and barbeques. Care should be taken at the recreation sites, and vehicles must be parked in designated parking areas only.

Visitors should check the Water Grid website for additional information for each recreation site.

Gold Coast Desalination Plant

Even though the regions dams are at or near full capacity, recent heavy rains have resulted in high sediment levels in the Brisbane River. These increased levels may present challenges for water treatment plants like those at Mt Crosby, which are the main supply for Brisbane.

The Gold Coast Desalination facility was recently brought up to full capacity to address the flood associated issues at Mt Crosby without compromising water security or quality for Brisbane.

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Media updates issued during
the January flood event

With Mt Crosby now back to normal the Gold Coast Desalination facility has now been reduced to 33 per cent capacity.

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking detailed information on **potential impacts in their local areas including road closures** should direct inquiries to their local councils.

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:
Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Email: media@seqwgm.com.au

TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 11/01/11 8:39am
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 11.01.11 AM	
Summary: Unprecedented Wivenhoe Dam releases, Residents urged to conserve water supply, Upper Somerset townships urged to conserve water	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 11.01.11 AM

MEDIA RELEASE - 11 JANUARY 2011

UNPRECEDENTED WIVENHOE DAM RELEASES

NOTE: All SEQ dams are safe, stable and operating within their design specifications.

Significant rainfall received across catchments has caused waterways upstream of Somerset and Wivenhoe Dams to rise quickly overnight.

Wivenhoe Dam is currently at 173% and rising. Somerset Dam is at 160%.

Controlled releases through the five gates have been held at around 236,000 megalitres since early last night but will need to be increased further today.

These releases will are being made in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils and aim to limit downstream impacts where possible.

Note these large releases are necessary for the safe management of the dam.

Release levels will be progressively reviewed depending on rainfall across the catchments today.

Local Councils have been advised that as a result of Lockyer Creek flows, local runoff and Wivenhoe releases, Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge Colleges Crossing, Fernvale Bridge, and Mt Crosby Weir Bridge may be inundated until at Sunday 16 January.

Residents are urged to contact local councils for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

All recreations areas around Somerset and Wivenhoe are **closed**, and given the dam levels and the need for safety around spillways, we will not be able to facilitate any land-based media access to our sites today.

While substantial amounts of water is being released into Wivenhoe from Somerset Dam, water levels in Somerset are expected to continue to rising today and areas around Kilcoy are likely to be impacted by these rising dam levels.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

Five gates are open at North Pine Dam, releasing around 15,000 megalitres a day and will continue until at least Wednesday 12 January.

The local Council is being kept informed regarding Youngs Crossing.

Gate releases at Leslie Harrison Dam are underway due to rainfall and inflows.

A minor release of around 1200 megalitres a day is being made through the emergency gates at Hinze Dam. There is no access to the spillway.

Telephone - 1800 613 122 has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland.

Members of the public seeking detailed information on **potential impacts in their local areas including road closures should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

RESIDENTS URGED TO CONSERVE WATER SUPPLY

All Somerset, Scenic Rim and Lockyer Valley residents are being urged to conserve water due to the impacts of local flooding on water infrastructure.

Water Grid spokesperson Dan Spiller said vital water infrastructure in these regions has been damaged by flood waters, cutting off the raw water supply.

"Although we have a limited supply in the local reservoirs, we are unable to get tankers in to replenish this supply due to flooded roads. We are also facing issues with loss of power at some water treatment plants.

"We are therefore urging residents to restrict all non-essential use until further notice.

The Water Grid Manager, Queensland Urban Utilities and Emergency Management Queensland are working closely to gain access to the plants and to rectify all situations.

"We are working urgently to find ways for tankers to get in and replenish supplies. We are also considering options for getting bottled water in to those areas," said Mr Spiller.

Residents with further enquiries can contact the local water retailer, Queensland Urban Utilities on 13 26 57, or for emergencies please call 13 23 64.

UPPER SOMERSET TOWNSHIPS URGED TO CONSERVE WATER

Residents in the upper Somerset townships of Kilcoy, Jimna and Linville are being urged to conserve water due to the impacts of local flooding on water infrastructure.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

Water Grid spokesperson Dan Spiller said vital water infrastructure in these regions has been damaged by flood waters, cutting off the raw water supply.

"We have a limited supply in local reservoirs that is expected to last one to three days. However, we will ensure that critical supplies are maintained. In the meantime we are asking people to conserve water while we repair equipment and organise alternate supplies," he said.

The power is currently down at the main water treatment plant in Kilcoy, with flood water restricting access to rectify the situation.

In Jimna and Linville rising waters have impacted infrastructure that supports the region's supply.

Approximately 1,000 residents on town water across these three areas are impacted.

"We are asking people to restrict non-essential water use, including limiting shower times and considering alternative water supplies where possible," said Mr Spiller.

The Water Grid Manager is working closely with Emergency Management Queensland to gain access to the plants and to rectify all situations. Current demand and supply levels are being closely monitored and alternate water supplies are being considered.

"We are looking at trucking in tankers to fill the reservoirs and are also considering the supply of bottled water if necessary. Obviously we cannot truck in water while roads are closed," said Mr Spiller.

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking detailed information on **potential impacts in their local areas including road closures should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:
Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Email: media@seqwgm.com.au

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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 11/01/11 5:19pm
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 11.01.11 PM	
Summary: Increased controlled releases from Wivenhoe	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 11.01.11 PM

MEDIA RELEASE - 11 JANUARY 2011

Increased controlled releases from Wivenhoe Dam

NOTE: All SEQ dams are safe, stable and operating within their design specifications.

Wivenhoe Dam is currently at 190 per cent and rising. Somerset Dam is at 176 per cent and also rising.

Controlled releases through Wivenhoe's five radial gates have now been increased to around 490,000 megalitres per day. This is expected to increase. Releases are being made in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils and an effort to limit downstream impacts where possible. Note these large releases are necessary for the safe management of the dam.

Due to a combination of Lockyer Creek, local runoff and Wivenhoe releases, Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge Colleges Crossing, Fernvale Bridge, and Mt Crosby Weir Bridge may be inundated until at least Sunday 16 January. Residents are urged to contact local councils for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

All recreations areas around Somerset and Wivenhoe are closed, and given the dam levels and the need for safety around spillways, **we will not be able to facilitate any land-based media access to our sites today.**

While substantial amounts of water is being released into Wivenhoe from Somerset Dam, water levels in Somerset are expected to continue to rising today and areas around Kilcoy are likely to be impacted by these rising dam levels.

Five gates are open at North Pine Dam, releasing around 15,000 megalitres a day and will continue until at least Wednesday 12 January. The local Council is being kept informed regarding Youngs Crossing.

Gate releases at Leslie Harrison Dam are underway due to rainfall and inflows.

Water has spilled from Wyaralong Dam after it exceeded 100 per cent capacity this morning.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

A minor release of around 6,600 megalitres a day is being made through the emergency gates at Hinze Dam, which is likely to increase to around 8,000 megalitres per day by 6.00 pm Tuesday 11 January .

For detailed information on road crossing closures and other potential impacts, always contact your local council.

ENDS

Note to the Editor: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance: Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland.

Members of the public seeking information on **potential impacts in their local areas** should **direct inquiries to their local councils**.

About the SEQ Water Grid: Established in June 2008 in response to the crippling Millennium Drought, the SEQ Water Grid represents one of Australia's largest investments in water infrastructure.

Through a network of climate resilient water sources, treatment facilities, new two-way pipes and existing pipelines, the SEQ Water Grid gives the South East Queensland region the ability to support water demands, water quality, economic prosperity and lifestyle - regardless of climate change and population growth.

For further information on the Water Grid: www.watergrid.com.au

For further details contact the SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit on:

Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Email: media@seqwgm.com.au

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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 11/01/11 10:30pm
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 11.01.11 PM	
Summary: Controlled releases from Wivenhoe Dam decreasing	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 11.01.11 PM

MEDIA RELEASE - 11 JANUARY 2011

Controlled releases from Wivenhoe Dam decreasing

NOTE: All SEQ dams remain safe, stable and operating within their design specifications.

At 10pm Wivenhoe Dam was at 190 per cent with water levels falling slowly.

Controlled releases through Wivenhoe's five radial gates of 645,000 megalitres per day are expected to reduce slightly overnight due to easing rainfall.

Releases are being made in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils and every effort to limit downstream impacts where possible is being made. Note that these large releases are necessary for the continued safe management of the dam.

Somerset Dam is at 183 per cent and releases into Wivenhoe are expected to recommence overnight however high upstream levels are expected to continue to affect Kilcoy.

Due to a combination of Lockyer Creek, local runoff and Wivenhoe releases, Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge Colleges Crossing, Fernvale Bridge, and Mt Crosby Weir Bridge may be inundated until at least Sunday 16 January. Residents are urged to contact local councils for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

All recreations areas around Somerset and Wivenhoe are closed, and given the dam levels and the need for safety around spillways, **we will not be able to facilitate any land-based media access to our sites today.**

Five gates are open at North Pine Dam and will continue until at least Wednesday 12 January. The local Council is being kept informed regarding Youngs Crossing.

Gate releases at Leslie Harrison Dam are underway due to rainfall and inflows.

Water has spilled from Wyaralong Dam after it exceeded 100 per cent capacity this morning.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

A minor release of around 8,000 megalitres a day is being made through the emergency gates at Hinze Dam. There is no public access to the spillway.

For detailed information on river levels, road and crossing closures and other potential impacts, always contact your local council.

ENDS

Note to the Editor: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance: Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland.

Members of the public seeking information on **potential impacts in their local areas** should **direct inquiries to their local councils**.

About the SEQ Water Grid: Established in June 2008 in response to the crippling Millennium Drought, the SEQ Water Grid represents one of Australia's largest investments in water infrastructure.

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For further details contact the SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit on:

Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Email: media@seqwgm.com.au

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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 12/01/11 8:39am
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 12.01.11 AM	
Summary: Controlled releases from Wivenhoe Dam decreasing	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 12.01.11 AM

MEDIA RELEASE - 12 JANUARY 2011

CONTROLLED RELEASES FROM WIVENHOE DAM DECREASING

NOTE: All SEQ dams are safe, stable and operating within their design specifications.

Currently, Wivenhoe Dam is at 190 per cent down from 191 per cent overnight.

This reflects the current ease in the weather. Somerset Dam is now at 190 per cent.

Wivenhoe's five radial gates are currently releasing 205,000 megalitres per day, down from 370,000 megalitres and an overnight peak of 645,000 megalitres.

This strategy is to allow for the Bremer and Lockyer Rivers to subside.

After the expected downstream peak in the lower Brisbane River has passed, releases will need to be increased to 301,000 megalitres per day.

However, this increase is unlikely to cause a second significant rise in the river.

These controlled releases must continue in order to relieve Wivenhoe Dam's swollen flood storage compartment in order to create space for further rainfall and inflows.

They are being made in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils and every effort is being made to limit downstream impacts where possible.

Due to a combination of Lockyer Creek, local runoff and Wivenhoe releases, Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge Colleges Crossing, Fernvale Bridge, and Mt Crosby Weir Bridge may be inundated until at least Sunday 16 January.

Residents are urged to contact local councils for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

All recreations areas around Somerset and Wivenhoe are **closed**, and given the dam levels and the need for safety around spillways, **we will not be able to facilitate any land-based media access to our sites today.**



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

Five gates are open at North Pine Dam, however with no further rainfall, the gates are expected to close today or tomorrow. The local Council is being kept informed regarding Youngs Crossing.

Gate releases at Leslie Harrison Dam are underway due to rainfall and inflows, however these may cease later today.

Water has spilled from Wyaralong Dam after it exceeded 100 per cent capacity yesterday morning.

A minor release of around 8,000 megalitres a day is being made through the emergency gates at Hinze Dam. There is no public access to the spillway.

Telephone - 1800 613 122 has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland.

Members of the public seeking detailed information on **potential impacts in their local areas including road closures should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking detailed information on **potential impacts in their local areas including road closures should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 12/01/11 12:47pm
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 12.01.11 PM	
Summary: Controlled releases from Wivenhoe Dam are continuing	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 12.01.11 PM

MEDIA RELEASE - 12 JANUARY 2011

CONTROLLED RELEASES FROM WIVENHOE DAM ARE CONTINUING

NOTE: All SEQ dams remain safe, stable and operating within their design specifications.

Currently, Wivenhoe Dam is at 189 per cent, down from 191 per cent overnight. This reflects the current ease in the weather. Somerset Dam is now at 186 per cent, discharging 123,000 megalitres per day into Wivenhoe Dam via a sluice gate.

Wivenhoe's five radial gates continue to release 215,000 megalitres per day. This is considerably down from an overnight peak of 645,000 megalitres and will remain at this level to allow for the Bremer and Lockyer Rivers to subside.

After the expected downstream peak in the lower Brisbane River has passed, releases will be increased to 301,000 megalitres per day, however, this increase is unlikely to cause a second significant rise in the river.

These controlled releases must continue in order to relieve Wivenhoe Dam's swollen flood storage compartment in order to create space for further rainfall and inflows, should they occur.

They are being made in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils and every effort is being made to limit downstream impacts where possible.

Due to a combination of Lockyer Creek, local runoff and Wivenhoe releases, Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge Colleges Crossing, Fernvale Bridge, and Mt Crosby Weir Bridge may be inundated until at least Sunday 16 January.

Residents are urged to contact local councils for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

All recreations areas around Somerset and Wivenhoe are closed, and given the dam levels and the need for safety around spillways, we will not be able to facilitate any land-based media access to our sites today.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

Five gates are open at North Pine Dam releasing 6,800 megalitres per day, however with no further rainfall, the gates are expected to close in the next coming days. The local Council is being kept informed regarding Youngs Crossing.

Gate releases at Leslie Harrison Dam are underway due to rainfall and inflows.

Water has spilled from Wyaralong Dam after it exceeded 100 per cent capacity yesterday morning.

A minor release of around 8,000 megalitres a day is being made through the emergency gates at Hinze Dam. There is no public access to the spillway.

Telephone - 1800 613 122 has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland.

For detailed information on river levels, road and crossing closures and other potential impacts, always contact your local council.

ENDS

Owing to technical issues caused by the flood, a temporary email contact is in use. Please email to watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking information on **potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:
Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Mobile: [REDACTED]
| Email: watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 13/01/11 8:30am
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 13.01.11 AM	
Summary: Controlled releases from Wivenhoe Dam continue	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 13.01.11 AM

MEDIA RELEASE - 13 JANUARY 2011

CONTROLLED RELEASES FROM WIVENHOE DAM CONTINUE

NOTE: All SEQ dams remain safe, stable and operating within their design specifications.

Wivenhoe Dam is at 187 per cent, and is dropping gradually with controlled releases through all five gates of 215,000 megalitres per day. This is down from the peak of 645,000 megalitres earlier in the week.

The dam's slow recession is due in part to inflows of 121,000 megalitres per day via a sluice gate from Somerset Dam. Somerset is at 174 per cent.

After the expected downstream peak in the lower Brisbane River has passed, releases will be increased to 301,000 megalitres per day.

This increase is unlikely to cause a second significant rise in the river and is necessary in order to relieve Wivenhoe Dam's swollen flood storage compartment in order to create space for further rainfall and inflows, should they occur.

All releases are being made in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils and every effort is being made to limit downstream impacts where possible.

Due to a combination of Lockyer Creek, local runoff and Wivenhoe releases, Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge Colleges Crossing, Fernvale Bridge, and Mt Crosby Weir Bridge may be inundated until at least Sunday 16 January.

Residents are urged to contact local councils for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

All recreations areas around Somerset and Wivenhoe are **closed**, and given the dam levels and the need for safety around spillways, **we will not be able to facilitate any land-based media access to our sites today.**

Five gates are open at North Pine Dam, however are expected to close Friday. The local Council is being kept informed regarding Youngs Crossing.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

Gate releases at Leslie Harrison Dam have now ceased.

Water has spilled from Wyaralong Dam after it exceeded 100 per cent capacity yesterday morning.

A minor release of around 8,000 megalitres a day is being made through the emergency gates at Hinze Dam. There is no public access to the spillway.

For detailed information on river levels, road and crossing closures and other potential impacts, always contact your local council.

ENDS

Owing to technical issues caused by the flood, a temporary email contact is in use. Please email to watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking information on **potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

For further details contact the **Water Grid Communications Unit on:**
Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Mobile: [REDACTED] | Email:
watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 13/01/11 5:30pm
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 13.01.11 PM	
Summary: Controlled releases from Wivenhoe Dam continue	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 13.01.11 PM

MEDIA RELEASE - 13 JANUARY 2011

CONTROLLED RELEASES FROM WIVENHOE DAM CONTINUE

NOTE: All SEQ dams remain safe, stable and operating within their design specifications.

Wivenhoe Dam is at 186 per cent, and is dropping gradually with controlled releases through all five gates of 228,000 megalitres per day. This is down from the peak of 645,000 megalitres earlier in the week.

The dam's slow recession is due in part to inflows of 120,000 megalitres per day via a sluice gate from Somerset Dam. Somerset is at 167 per cent.

Releases are being made in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils and every effort is being made to limit downstream impacts where possible.

Due to a combination of Lockyer Creek, local runoff and Wivenhoe releases, Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge Colleges Crossing, Fernvale Bridge, and Mt Crosby Weir Bridge may be inundated until at least Sunday 16 January.

Residents are urged to contact local councils for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

All recreations areas around Somerset and Wivenhoe are **closed**, and given the dam levels and the need for safety around spillways, **we will not be able to facilitate any land-based media access to our sites today.**

Five gates are open at North Pine Dam, however, are expected to close Friday. The local Council is being kept informed regarding Youngs Crossing.

Gate releases at Leslie Harrison Dam have now ceased.

Water has spilled from Wyaralong Dam after it exceeded 100 per cent capacity earlier this week.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

A minor release of around 8,000 megalitres a day is being made through the emergency gates at Hinze Dam. There is no public access to the spillway.

For detailed information on river levels, road and crossing closures and other potential impacts, always contact your local council.

ENDS

Owing to technical issues caused by the flood, a temporary email contact is in use. Please email to watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking information on **potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

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| Email: watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 14/01/11 8:00am
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 14.01.11 AM	
Summary: Controlled releases from Wivenhoe Dam continue	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 14.01.11 AM

MEDIA RELEASE - 14 JANUARY 2011

CONTROLLED RELEASES FROM WIVENHOE DAM CONTINUE

NOTE: All SEQ dams remain safe, stable and operating within their design specifications.

Wivenhoe Dam is at 179 per cent, and continues to drop steadily. Releases have been graduated to 301,000 megalitres per day in a 7 day strategy designed to draw down the flood storage compartment with no noticeable effects downstream.

The continuing releases are necessary in order to prepare Wivenhoe for any future weather events should they occur. Somerset Dam is at 151 percent and also dropping steadily with 111,800 megalitres per day being released into Wivenhoe via the sluice gates.

Inflows and water levels in the Brisbane and Pine catchments are being continually monitored.

Releases are being made in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils and every effort is being made to limit downstream impacts where possible.

Due to a combination of Lockyer Creek, local runoff and Wivenhoe releases, Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge Colleges Crossing, Fernvale Bridge, and Mt Crosby Weir Bridge may be inundated until at least Sunday 16 January.

Residents are urged to contact local councils for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

All recreations areas around Somerset and Wivenhoe are **closed**, and given the dam levels and the need for safety around spillways, **we will not be able to facilitate any land-based media access to our sites today.**

People are advised not to travel to any recreation sites during the flood crisis, even if the roads are open.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

Recreation sites may need to remain closed until they can be properly inspected and any public safety issues assessed.

All five gates at North Pine Dam closed this morning.

Gate releases at Leslie Harrison Dam have ceased.

Water has spilled from Wyaralong Dam after it exceeded 100 per cent capacity earlier this week.

A minor release of around 8,000 megalitres a day is being made through the emergency gates at Hinze Dam.

This release may reduce slowly over the next few days but will continue until next week. There is no public access to the spillway.

For detailed information on river levels, road and crossing closures and other potential impacts, always contact your local council.

ENDS

Owing to technical issues caused by the flood, a temporary email contact is in use. Please email to watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking information on **potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

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| Email: watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 14/01/11 4:00pm
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 14.01.11 PM	
Summary: Non-flood affected residents urged to use water wisely	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 14.01.11 PM

MEDIA RELEASE - 14 JANUARY 2011

NON-FLOOD AFFECTED RESIDENTS URGED TO USE WATER WISELY

Despite significant operational challenges caused by flooding, the major water supplies remain reliable in the Water Grid supplying Brisbane, Ipswich and the Gold Coast.

Deputy Premier Paul Lucas said that the region's major water treatment plant at Mount Crosby had been partly flooded and impacted by poor water quality in the Brisbane River.

"While production is increasing, some of our water treatment infrastructure was impacted by floods and the output is still being affected by turbidity in the Brisbane and North Pine Rivers.

"One of Mount Crosby's two water treatment plants, East Bank, was flooded resulting in substantial mechanical damage to large pumps moved by the force of the water.

"Both Mt Crosby plants are now back on line and gradually being brought up to maximum production.

"We are also using the desalination plant and transfers across the Water Grid to resupply local water reservoirs where water levels declined while Mount Crosby was off line."

Mr Lucas urged residents and businesses in Brisbane, Logan and Ipswich who had not been affected by floods to use only what they need for the next few days.

"Our key priority in these areas is maintaining sufficient water for those households and businesses who need to use more in the immediate flood recovery.

"Flood affected residents and businesses will need to use a lot more water than normal, so its important that people who haven't been affected try to use water wisely," he said.

"In suburbs not directly, affected like Wynnum and Manly, we don't need to use a lot of water, so I'd ask every one to do their part in the Queenslander tradition."



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

Water Grid Manager CEO Barry Dennien said that people who haven't been affected by the flood can help by using the same cautious water use practices that saw us through the drought. These include:

- take only short 4 minute showers
- don't water gardens
- don't hose buildings, driveways and footpaths
- delay washing your cars
- don't fill pools
- only use dishwashers when you have a full load
- turn-off taps when you don't need water

"During the drought South East Queenslanders showed how well we could conserve water. This latest crisis means residents and businesses outside the directly flooded affected areas need to do the same again" Mr Dennien said.

"I can assure everyone who has not been directly impacted by flooding that by conserving valuable water over the next few days you will make a real and important contribution to the flood recovery effort" said Mr Dennien.

The Water Grid is working closely with local councils to prioritise water use for the cleanup of key roads first, followed by other areas later after water treatment plants are operating normally again.

ENDS

Owing to technical issues caused by the flood, a temporary email contact is in use. Please email to watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking information on **potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:

Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Mobile: [REDACTED]
| Email: watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 14/01/11 6:00pm
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 14.01.11 PM	
Summary: Controlled releases from Wivenhoe Dam continue	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 14.01.11 PM

MEDIA RELEASE - 14 JANUARY 2011

CONTROLLED RELEASES FROM WIVENHOE DAM CONTINUE

NOTE: All SEQ dams remain safe, stable and operating within their design specifications.

Wivenhoe Dam is at 172 per cent, and continues to drop steadily. Releases have been graduated to 301,000 megalitres per day in a 7 day strategy designed to draw down the flood storage compartment without contributing to further flooding.

The continuing releases are necessary in order to prepare Wivenhoe for any future weather events should they occur.

Somerset Dam is at 140 per cent and also dropping steadily with 111,800 megalitres per day being released into Wivenhoe via the sluice gates. Inflows and water levels in the Brisbane and Pine catchments are being continually monitored.

Releases are being made in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils and every effort is being made to limit downstream impacts where possible.

Due to a combination of Lockyer Creek, local runoff and Wivenhoe releases, Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge Colleges Crossing, Fernvale Bridge, and Mt Crosby Weir Bridge may be inundated until the middle of next week.

Residents are urged to contact local councils for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

All recreations areas around Somerset and Wivenhoe are **closed**, and given the dam levels and the need for safety around spillways, **we will not be able to facilitate any land-based media access to our sites.**

People are advised not to travel to any recreation sites during the flood crisis, even if the roads are open.

Recreation sites may need to remain closed until they can be properly inspected and any public safety issues assessed.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

All five gates at North Pine Dam closed this morning.

Gate releases at Leslie Harrison Dam have ceased.

Water has spilled from Wyaralong Dam after it exceeded 100 per cent capacity earlier this week.

A minor release of around 8,000 megalitres a day is being made through the emergency gates at Hinze Dam. This release may reduce slowly over the next few days but will continue until next week. There is no public access to the spillway.

For detailed information on river levels, road and crossing closures and other potential impacts, always contact your local council.

ENDS

Owing to technical issues caused by the flood, a temporary email contact is in use. Please email to watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking information on **potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:

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| Email: watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 15/01/11 9:30am
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 15.01.11 AM	
Summary: Controlled releases from Wivenhoe Dam continue, Water quality	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 15.01.11 AM

MEDIA RELEASE - 15 JANUARY 2011

CONTROLLED RELEASES FROM WIVENHOE DAM CONTINUE

NOTE: All SEQ dams remain safe, stable and operating within their design specifications.

Wivenhoe Dam is at 163 per cent, and continues to drop steadily. Releases continue at around 301,000 megalitres per day as part of a strategy designed to draw down the flood storage compartment by mid-next week without contributing to further flooding.

The continuing releases are necessary in order to prepare Wivenhoe for any future weather events should they occur.

Somerset Dam is at 129 per cent and also dropping slowly with about 79,000 megalitres per day being released into Wivenhoe via the sluice gates.

Inflows and water levels in the Brisbane and Pine catchments are being continually monitored.

Releases are being made in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils and every effort is being made to limit downstream impacts where possible.

Due to a combination of Lockyer Creek, local runoff and Wivenhoe releases, Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge Colleges Crossing, Fernvale Bridge, and Mt Crosby Weir Bridge may be inundated until the middle of next week.

Residents are urged to contact local councils for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

All recreations areas around Somerset and Wivenhoe are **closed**, and given the dam levels and the need for safety around spillways, **we will not be able to facilitate any land-based media access to our sites.**

People are advised not to travel to any recreation sites during the flood crisis, even if the roads are open.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

Recreation sites may need to remain closed until they can be properly inspected and any public safety issues assessed.

All five gates at North Pine Dam closed this morning.

Gate releases at Leslie Harrison Dam have ceased.

Water has spilled from Wyaralong Dam after it exceeded 100 per cent earlier this week.

A minor release of around 8,000 megalitres a day is being made through the emergency gates at Hinze Dam.

This release may reduce slowly over the next few days but will continue until next week.

There is no public access to the spillway.

For detailed information on river levels, road and crossing closures and other potential impacts, always contact your local council.

RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES STRONGLY URGED TO USE WATER WISELY

The connected Water Grid continues to maintain safe and secure water supplies in the face of unprecedented flooding impacts.

Water Treatment Plants across the connected Water Grid are producing at maximum rates however very high demand associated with the clean-up of flood impacts is expected over the weekend.

Given the critical need to ensure adequate water supplies for the clean-up, residents and businesses in areas not directly impacted by flooding are strongly urged to use water wisely.

Within areas affected by flooding, residents should use what water is needed to clean-up immediate flood impacts.

Sensible water conservation practices are strongly encouraged such as using a high pressure hose or trigger nozzle.

Outside immediately impacted areas, residents and businesses are urged to conserve water by adopting the same water use practices that saw us through the drought. These include:

- take only short 4 minute showers
- don't water gardens
- delay washing your cars
- don't fill pools
- only use dishwashers when you have a full load
- turn-off taps when you don't need water

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Media updates issued during
the January flood event

WATER QUALITY

Water across Brisbane and the Sunshine and Gold Coasts remains safe to drink. While some people may see minor discolouration of their tap water, they should not be concerned.

Water Grid suppliers are continually monitoring water quality across the network as well working closely with Queensland Health.

While Queensland Urban Utilities have a precautionary Boiled Water Alert currently in place for Marburg, water in the Ipswich area is also safe to drink.

Boil water alerts are in place for locations in the Lockyer Valley and Somerset council areas and residents and businesses are urged to visit the Queensland Urban Utilities website www.urbanutilities.com.au for more details.

ENDS

Owing to technical issues caused by the flood, a temporary email contact is in use. Please email to watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking information on **potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:

Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Mobile: [REDACTED]

| Email: watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 15/01/11 6:00pm
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 15.01.11 PM	
Summary: Controlled releases from Wivenhoe Dam continue, Water Quality	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 15.01.11 PM

MEDIA RELEASE - 15 JANUARY 2011

CONTROLLED RELEASES FROM WIVENHOE DAM CONTINUE

NOTE: All SEQ dams remain safe, stable and operating within their design specifications.

Wivenhoe Dam is at 154 per cent, and continues to drop steadily. Releases continue at around 301,000 megalitres per day as part of a strategy designed to draw down the flood storage compartment by mid-next week without contributing to further flooding.

The continuing releases are necessary in order to prepare Wivenhoe for any future weather events should they occur.

Somerset Dam is at 121 per cent and also dropping slowly with about 79,000 megalitres per day being released into Wivenhoe via the sluice gates.

Inflows and water levels in the Brisbane and Pine catchments are being continually monitored.

Releases are being made in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils and every effort is being made to limit downstream impacts where possible.

Due to a combination of Lockyer Creek, local runoff and Wivenhoe releases, Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge Colleges Crossing, Fernvale Bridge, and Mt Crosby Weir Bridge may be inundated until the middle of next week.

Residents are urged to contact local councils for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

All recreations areas around Somerset and Wivenhoe are **closed**, and given the dam levels and the need for safety around spillways, **we will not be able to facilitate any land-based media access to our sites.**

People are advised not to travel to any recreation sites during the flood crisis, even if the roads are open.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

Recreation sites may need to remain closed until they can be properly inspected and any public safety issues assessed.

All five gates at North Pine Dam closed this morning.

Gate releases at Leslie Harrison Dam have ceased.

As at 7:00am today, 1,693 megalitres was passing over the spillway at Wyaralong Dam. This represents a water depth of 0.19m over the spillway.

A minor release of around 8,000 megalitres a day is being made through the emergency gates at Hinze Dam.

This release may reduce slowly over the next few days but will continue until next week.

There is no public access to the spillway.

For detailed information on river levels, road and crossing closures and other potential impacts, always contact your local council.

RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES STRONGLY URGED TO USE WATER WISELY

The connected Water Grid continues to maintain safe and secure water supplies in the face of unprecedented flooding impacts.

Water Treatment Plants across the connected Water Grid are producing at maximum rates however very high demand associated with the clean-up of flood impacts is expected over the weekend.

Given the critical need to ensure adequate water supplies for the clean-up, residents and businesses in areas not directly impacted by flooding are strongly urged to use water wisely.

Within areas affected by flooding, residents should use what water is needed to clean-up immediate flood impacts.

Sensible water conservation practices are strongly encouraged such as using a high pressure hose or trigger nozzle.

Outside immediately impacted areas, residents and businesses are urged to conserve water by adopting the same water use practices that saw us through the drought. These include:

- take only short 4 minute showers
- don't water gardens
- delay washing your cars
- don't fill pools
- only use dishwashers when you have a full load
- turn-off taps when you don't need water

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Media updates issued during
the January flood event

WATER QUALITY

Water across Brisbane and the Sunshine and Gold Coasts remains safe to drink. While some people may see minor discolouration of their tap water, they should not be concerned.

Water Grid suppliers are continually monitoring water quality across the network as well working closely with Queensland Health.

While Queensland Urban Utilities have a precautionary Boiled Water Alert currently in place for Marburg, water in the Ipswich area is also safe to drink.

Boil water alerts are in place for locations in the Lockyer Valley and Somerset council areas and residents and businesses are urged to visit the Queensland Urban Utilities website www.urbanutilities.com.au for more details.

ENDS

Owing to technical issues caused by the flood, a temporary email contact is in use. Please email to watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking information on **potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:

Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Mobile: [REDACTED]
| Email: watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 15/01/11 3:30pm
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 15.01.11	
Summary: Water Grid gears-up for the clean-up	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 15.01.11

MEDIA RELEASE - 15 JANUARY 2011: Issued at 3:30pm

Water Grid gears-up for the clean-up

The expected spike in water use this weekend has started with every asset in the Water Grid currently in use.

Real-time bulk water consumption data from LinkWater today showed water use increasing rapidly due to the big clean-up across Brisbane and Ipswich now taking place.

Water Grid spokesperson Barry Dennien said typically Brisbane and Ipswich areas use about 700 megalitres over a weekend period, but already these areas had reached 215 megalitres by mid morning today.

"We've noticed a rapid rise in water use over the last few hours and expect the total to reach over 950 megalitres by tomorrow evening," said Mr Dennien.

"If people see minor discolouration of their tap water, they should not be concerned - Brisbane's water is absolutely safe to drink.

"A precautionary boil water notice has been issued for Marburg, however water across Ipswich and the Sunshine and Gold Coasts also remains safe to drink," he said.

Seqwater maintenance and operations staff are working around the clock to get major water treatment plants back to full production.

"A large spike in water demand so soon after flooding presents a real challenge - but it's a challenge that with the communities help we are up to," he said.

Brisbane's biggest water treatment plant at Mt Crosby is now stretching production to 410 megalitres per day after recovering from significant flood impacts.

The Gold Coast Desalination Plant currently at 66% or 88 megalitres per day is also making an important contribution.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

The enormous demand means that within areas affected by flooding, residents should sensibly use whatever water is needed.

Outside flood impacted areas, consumers are also asked to make an extra effort to conserve water by adopting the same water use practices that saw us through the drought.

Together the Water Grid and Queensland Urban Utilities have been working to ensure Lowood, Gatton, Helidon, Fernvale and Laidley are resupplied with drinking water as fast as possible.

Lowood's severely affected pump station and water treatment plant are back on line and are about to supply Lowood, Gatton, Helidon, Fernvale and Laidley.

Queensland Urban Utility crews, who worked through the night, remain on site repairing the town's reticulation system.

"These crews have done a tremendous job to get water supply to these local communities back on line so quickly after some considerable damage" said Mr Dennien.

For more information on boil water notices in the Queensland Urban Utilities supply area, including Somerset and Lockyer Valley, go to www.urbanutilities.com.au.

ENDS

Owing to technical issues caused by the flood, a temporary email contact is in use. Please email to watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking information on **potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:

Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Mobile: [REDACTED]
| Email: watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 16/01/11
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 16.01.11	
Summary: Controlled releases from Wivenhoe Dam continue	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 16.01.11

MEDIA RELEASE - 16 JANUARY 2011

CONTROLLED RELEASES FROM WIVENHOE DAM CONTINUE

NOTE: All SEQ dams remain safe, stable and operating within their design specifications.

Wivenhoe Dam is at 138 per cent, and continues to drop steadily. Releases continue at around 299,000 megalitres per day. This flow will be maintained to drain the flood storage compartment this week.

The continuing releases are necessary in order to prepare Wivenhoe for any future weather events should they occur.

Inflows and water levels continue to be monitored in the Brisbane and Pine catchments.

Somerset Dam is at 106 per cent and also dropping slowly with about 70,500 megalitres per day being released into Wivenhoe via the sluice gates.

Water levels in Somerset will fall slowly in the next 24 hours.

Releases are being made in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils and every effort is being made to limit downstream impacts where possible.

Due to a combination of Lockyer Creek, local runoff and Wivenhoe releases, Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge, Colleges Crossing, Fernvale Bridge, and Mt Crosby Weir Bridge may be inundated until the middle of next week.

Residents are urged to contact local councils for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

All recreations areas around Somerset and Wivenhoe are **closed**, and given the dam levels and the need for safety around spillways, **we will not be able to facilitate any land-based media access to our sites.**



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

People are advised not to travel to any recreation sites during the flood crisis, even if the roads are open.

Recreation sites may need to remain **closed** until they can be properly inspected and any public safety issues assessed.

North Pine Dam is at 96 per cent and all five gates remain closed.

Water has spilled from Wyaralong Dam after it exceeded 100 per cent capacity earlier this week.

A minor release of around 6,800 megalitres a day is being made through the emergency gates at Hinze Dam. This release may reduce slowly over the next few days but will continue until next week.

There is no public access to the spillway.

For detailed information on river levels, road and crossing closures and other potential impacts, always contact your local council.

RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES STRONGLY URGED TO USE WATER WISELY

The connected Water Grid continues to maintain safe and secure water supplies in the face of unprecedented flooding impacts.

Water Treatment Plants across the connected Water Grid are producing at maximum rates however very high demand associated with the clean-up of flood impacts is expected over the weekend.

Given the critical need to ensure adequate water supplies for the clean-up, residents and businesses in areas not directly impacted by flooding are strongly urged to use water wisely.

Within areas affected by flooding, residents should use what water is needed to clean-up immediate flood impacts.

Sensible water conservation practices are strongly encouraged such as using a high pressure hose or trigger nozzle.

Outside immediately impacted areas, residents and businesses are urged to conserve water by adopting the same water use practices that saw us through the drought. These include:

- take only short 4 minute showers
- don't water gardens
- delay washing your cars
- don't fill pools
- only use dishwashers when you have a full load
- turn-off taps when you don't need water

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Media updates issued during
the January flood event

WATER QUALITY

Water across Brisbane and the Sunshine and Gold Coasts remains safe to drink. While some people may see minor discolouration of their tap water, they should not be concerned.

Water Grid suppliers are continually monitoring water quality across the network as well working closely with Queensland Health.

While Queensland Urban Utilities have a precautionary Boiled Water Alert currently in place for Marburg, water in the Ipswich area is also safe to drink.

Boil water alerts are in place for locations in the Lockyer Valley and Somerset council areas and residents and businesses are urged to visit the Queensland Urban Utilities website www.urbanutilities.com.au for more details.

ENDS

Owing to technical issues caused by the flood, a temporary email contact is in use. Please email to watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking information on **potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:

Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Mobile: [REDACTED]
| Email: watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 17/01/11 11:05am
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 17.01.11	
Summary: Controlled releases from Wivenhoe Dam continue, Water Quality	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 17.01.11

MEDIA RELEASE - 17 JANUARY 2011

CONTROLLED RELEASES FROM WIVENHOE DAM CONTINUE

NOTE: All SEQ dams remain safe, stable and operating within their design specifications.

Wivenhoe Dam is at 123 per cent capacity and continues to drop steadily. Releases continue at around 299,000 megalitres per day and this flow will be maintained to drain the flood storage compartment.

The continuing releases are necessary in order to prepare Wivenhoe for any future weather events should they occur. It is expected that releases from Wivenhoe Dam will cease mid-week.

Inflows and water levels continue to be monitored in the Brisbane and Pine catchments.

Somerset Dam is at 100 per cent with small discharges through the cone valves into Wivenhoe.

Releases are being made in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils and every effort is being made to limit downstream impacts where possible.

Due to a combination of Lockyer Creek, local runoff and Wivenhoe releases, Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Burtons Bridge, Kholo Bridge, Colleges Crossing, Fernvale Bridge, and Mt Crosby Weir Bridge may be inundated until the middle the week.

Residents are urged to contact local councils for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

All recreations areas around Somerset and Wivenhoe are **closed**, and given the dam levels and the need for safety around spillways, **we will not be able to facilitate any land-based media access to our sites.**

People are advised not to travel to any recreation sites during the flood crisis, even if the roads are open.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

Recreation sites may need to remain **closed** until they can be properly inspected and any public safety issues assessed.

North Pine Dam is at 99 per cent and all five gates remain closed.

Water has spilled from Wyaralong Dam after it exceeded 100 per cent capacity earlier last week.

A minor release of around 6,800 megalitres a day is being made through the emergency gates at Hinze Dam. This release may reduce slowly over the next few days but will continue until mid-week. There is no public access to the spillway.

For detailed information on river levels, road and crossing closures and other potential impacts, always contact your local council.

WATER QUALITY

Water across Brisbane and the Sunshine and Gold Coasts remains safe to drink. While some people may see minor discolouration of their tap water, they should not be concerned.

Water Grid suppliers are continually monitoring water quality across the network as well working closely with Queensland Health.

While Queensland Urban Utilities have a precautionary Boiled Water Alert currently in place for Marburg, water in the Ipswich area is also safe to drink.

Boil water alerts are in place for locations in the Lockyer Valley and Somerset council areas and residents and businesses are urged to visit the Queensland Urban Utilities website www.urbanutilities.com.au for more details.

ENDS

Owing to technical issues caused by the flood, a temporary email contact is in use. Please email to watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking information on **potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 18/01/11 11:45am
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 18.01.11	
Summary: Gate closure commenced at Wivenhoe	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 18.01.11

MEDIA RELEASE - 18 JANUARY 2011

GATE CLOSURE COMMENCED AT WIVENHOE DAM

NOTE: All SEQ dams remain safe, stable and operating within their design specifications.

Wivenhoe Dam is at 107 per cent and continues to drop steadily. Releases remained constant overnight at around 176,000 megalitres per day and are now reducing with the commencement of the gate closing sequence which began at 9am this morning.

The five radial gates are expected to be shut by Thursday to allow for the high tides that have been predicted for later this week.

Subject to weather, it is expected that the dam's flood storage compartment will have been returned to near zero from Thursday with any smaller excesses discharged via a smaller cone valve.

Inflows and water levels continue to be monitored in the Brisbane and Pine catchments.

Somerset Dam is at 99 per cent with small discharges through the cone valves into Wivenhoe.

All sluice gates at Somerset are closed.

Releases are being made in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils and every effort is being made to limit downstream impacts where possible.

Residents are urged to contact local councils for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

Recreation areas around Somerset and Wivenhoe remain **closed** until further notice due to safety.

People are advised not to travel to any recreation sites during the flood situation, even if the roads are open.



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

North Pine Dam is at 99 per cent and all five gates remain closed.

The gates at Hinze Dam closed this morning.

For detailed information on river levels, road and crossing closures and other potential impacts, always contact your local council.

A single dam update will now be issued mid-morning each day.

ENDS

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking information on **potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 19/01/11 10:00am
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 19.01.11	
Summary: Dam update, Water quality	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 19.01.11

MEDIA RELEASE - 19 JANUARY 2011

DAM UPDATE

Wivenhoe Dam is at 99.3 per cent with the gate closing sequence expected to be complete by late afternoon today.

Inflows and water levels continue to be monitored in the Brisbane and Pine catchments, with more than 20mm of rain received in the Wivenhoe Dam catchment over the last 24 hours.

Small excesses will continue to be released through the cone valve at the base of the Wivenhoe Dam wall once all gates are closed.

Somerset Dam is at 100 per cent capacity with all sluice gates currently closed. Depending on inflows into the catchment, further releases into Wivenhoe Dam may be made over the next 24 hours.

All dam releases are being made in consultation with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils and every effort is being made to limit downstream impacts where possible.

Residents should contact local councils for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

Recreation areas around Somerset and Wivenhoe dams remain **closed** until further notice due to safety.

Further releases from North Pine Dam were made overnight, to cater for the inflows from yesterday's storms. All gates at North Pine Dam were closed at 5.00am this morning.

There have been no further releases from Hinze Dam or Leslie Harrison Dam.

WATER QUALITY



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

Water across Brisbane and the Sunshine and Gold Coasts remains safe to drink. Water Grid suppliers are continually monitoring water quality across the network and are working closely with Queensland Health.

While Queensland Urban Utilities have a precautionary Boil Water Alert currently in place for Marburg, water in the Ipswich area is also safe to drink.

Boil water alerts are in place for locations in the Lockyer Valley and Somerset council areas and residents and businesses are urged to visit the Queensland Urban Utilities website www.urbanutilities.com.au for more details.

A single dam update will now be issued mid-morning each day.

ENDS

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking information on **potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 20/01/11 10:42am
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 20.01.11	
Summary: Small releases from Wivenhoe Dam after overnight storms	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 20.01.11

MEDIA RELEASE - 20 JANUARY 2011

SMALL RELEASES FROM WIVENHOE DAM AFTER OVERNIGHT STORMS

Last night's storms over the catchment have resulted in one gate being partially opened at Wivenhoe Dam this morning. This will see a small controlled release over the course of today to maintain the dam at or near 100 per cent.

The Bureau of Meteorology has forecast showers and possible thunderstorms later today meaning water releases will be reassessed over the next 24 hours.

Somerset Dam is just over 100 per cent capacity with all sluice gates currently closed. Depending on catchment inflows, further releases into Wivenhoe Dam may be made over the next 24 hours.

The Flood Operations Centre continues to monitor rainfalls and water levels throughout the Brisbane and Pine River catchments and consult with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils to limit downstream impacts where possible.

While Twin Bridges remains inundated, overnight rainfall in the Lockyer catchment may affect inundation of Savages and Colleges Crossing in coming days. Residents should always contact the local council for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

Further releases from North Pine Dam began overnight to cater for the inflows from last night's storms. All five gates are currently open and are expected to operate throughout the day.

There have been no further releases from Hinze Dam or Leslie Harrison Dam.

Recreation areas around Somerset and Wivenhoe dams remain closed until further notice due to safety.

Water has spilled from Wyaralong Dam after it exceeded 100 per cent capacity on Tuesday 11 January 2011.

WATER QUALITY



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

Water across Brisbane and the Sunshine and Gold Coasts remains safe to drink. Water Grid suppliers are continually monitoring water quality across the network and are working closely with Queensland Health.

While Queensland Urban Utilities have a precautionary Boil Water Alert currently in place for Marburg, water in the Ipswich area is also safe to drink.

Boil water alerts are in place for locations in the Lockyer Valley and Somerset council areas and residents and businesses are urged to visit the Queensland Urban Utilities website www.urbanutilities.com.au for more details.

A single dam update will now be issued mid-morning each day.

ENDS

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

Please direct the community to contact **telephone - 1800 613 122**. This number has been established for members of the public seeking information on which dams are spilling in South East Queensland. Members of the public seeking information on **potential impacts in their local areas should direct inquiries to their local councils**.

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TRIM reference: D/	Date and time: 20/01/11 12:30pm
Title : SEQ dam release and flooding update - 20.01.11	
Summary: Gates now closed at Wivenhoe Dam, Water quality	
Note: Issued to all key media and stakeholders in South East Queensland	

SEQ dam release and flooding update - 20.01.11

MEDIA RELEASE - 20 JANUARY 2011

GATES NOW CLOSED AT WIVENHOE DAM

All gates are now closed at Wivenhoe Dam, after last night's small water release in the wake of storms.

The Bureau of Meteorology has forecast showers and possible thunderstorms later today meaning water releases will be reassessed over the next 24 hours.

Somerset Dam is just over 100 per cent capacity with all sluice gates currently closed. Depending on catchment inflows, further releases into Wivenhoe Dam may be made over the next 24 hours.

The Flood Operations Centre continues to monitor rainfalls and water levels throughout the Brisbane and Pine River catchments and consult with the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils to limit downstream impacts where possible.

While Twin Bridges remains inundated, overnight rainfall in the Lockyer catchment may affect inundation of Savages and Colleges Crossing in coming days. Residents should always contact the local council for detailed information on road crossing closures and other impacts.

Further releases from North Pine Dam began overnight to cater for the inflows from last night's storms. All five gates are currently open and are expected to operate throughout the day.

There have been no further releases from Hinze Dam or Leslie Harrison Dam.

Recreation areas around Somerset and Wivenhoe dams remain closed until further notice due to safety.

Water has spilled from Wyaralong Dam after it exceeded 100 per cent capacity on Tuesday 11 January 2011.

WATER QUALITY



Media updates issued during
the January flood event

Water across Brisbane and the Sunshine and Gold Coasts remains safe to drink. Water Grid suppliers are continually monitoring water quality across the network and are working closely with Queensland Health.

While Queensland Urban Utilities have a precautionary Boil Water Alert currently in place for Marburg, water in the Ipswich area is also safe to drink.

Boil water alerts are in place for locations in the Lockyer Valley and Somerset council areas and residents and businesses are urged to visit the Queensland Urban Utilities website www.urbanutilities.com.au for more details.

A single dam update will now be issued mid-morning each day.

ENDS

PLEASE NOTE: While releases are being made from the region's water storages, routine updates will be provided.

Community Assistance:

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Attachment 2: Wivenhoe Dam factsheet

TRIM reference:

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Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams

Providing water supply and flood control for South East Queensland

A FEW FACTS

Wivenhoe Dam was built in response to the 1974 floods and is an award-winning feat of hydrological and structural engineering.

Connected to Wivenhoe Dam, Somerset Dam was completed in 1959. In the event of heavy rains, which may cause Somerset Dam to reach capacity, water is released downstream from Somerset to Wivenhoe Dam.

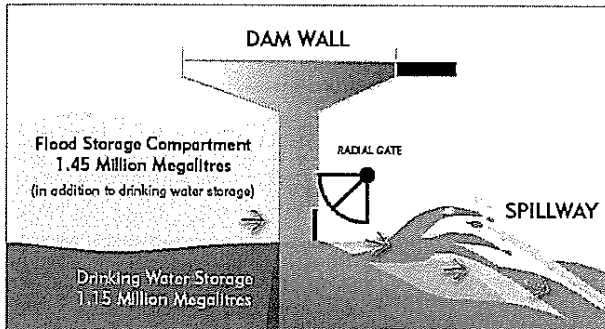
On top of storing 1.15 million megalitres of precious drinking water, Wivenhoe Dam can also store an additional 1.45 million megalitres, equal to 2.5 times the volume of Sydney Harbour. This additional space is known as the dam's flood storage compartment and works to hold back the flood waters which gather in the Brisbane Valley. These flood waters can threaten Brisbane after heavy weather events.

The flood storage compartment at Wivenhoe Dam temporarily stores flood water and releases it at a controlled rate to minimise downstream impacts. Flood levels along the Brisbane River and in the Ipswich and Brisbane urban areas would be much higher without the support of Wivenhoe and Somerset dams.

The Wivenhoe Dam wall is designed to withstand an extreme flood event, much worse than anything on record to date.

In a flood event similar to 1974, there would still be a large amount of local flooding in and around the Ipswich and Brisbane regions, simply due to the heavy local rainfalls. However, water levels along the Brisbane River would be reduced due to the mitigating impacts of Somerset and Wivenhoe dams.

Wivenhoe Dam Flood Storage Compartment



If it wasn't for Wivenhoe and Somerset dams, a considerable number of people, properties and infrastructure could be at an even greater risk of serious flooding. These dams are a crucial component of South East Queensland's flood mitigation plan and something Queenslanders can be proud of.

Spectacular pictures – but why does Wivenhoe Dam have to release stored flood water?

South East Queensland has a weather pattern that often sees prolonged or multiple rain events in close succession.



As soon as Wivenhoe Dam's flood storage compartment begins to fill, it has to be carefully emptied in order to make room for additional heavy rainfall events that may occur. Wivenhoe Dam's flood storage compartment can fill in less than three days following heavy rainfalls. This highlights the need for strategic management of dam levels. Controlled releases consider the following flood factors: catchment rainfall below the dam wall, urban runoff and river levels.

Following heavy rainfall in October 2010, Wivenhoe Dam received inflows equivalent to almost half the flood storage compartment capacity - in just a few days.

Wivenhoe Dam controls 50 per cent of the Brisbane catchment. It is therefore possible for Brisbane to flood from other sources such as rainfall in the catchment below the dam wall.

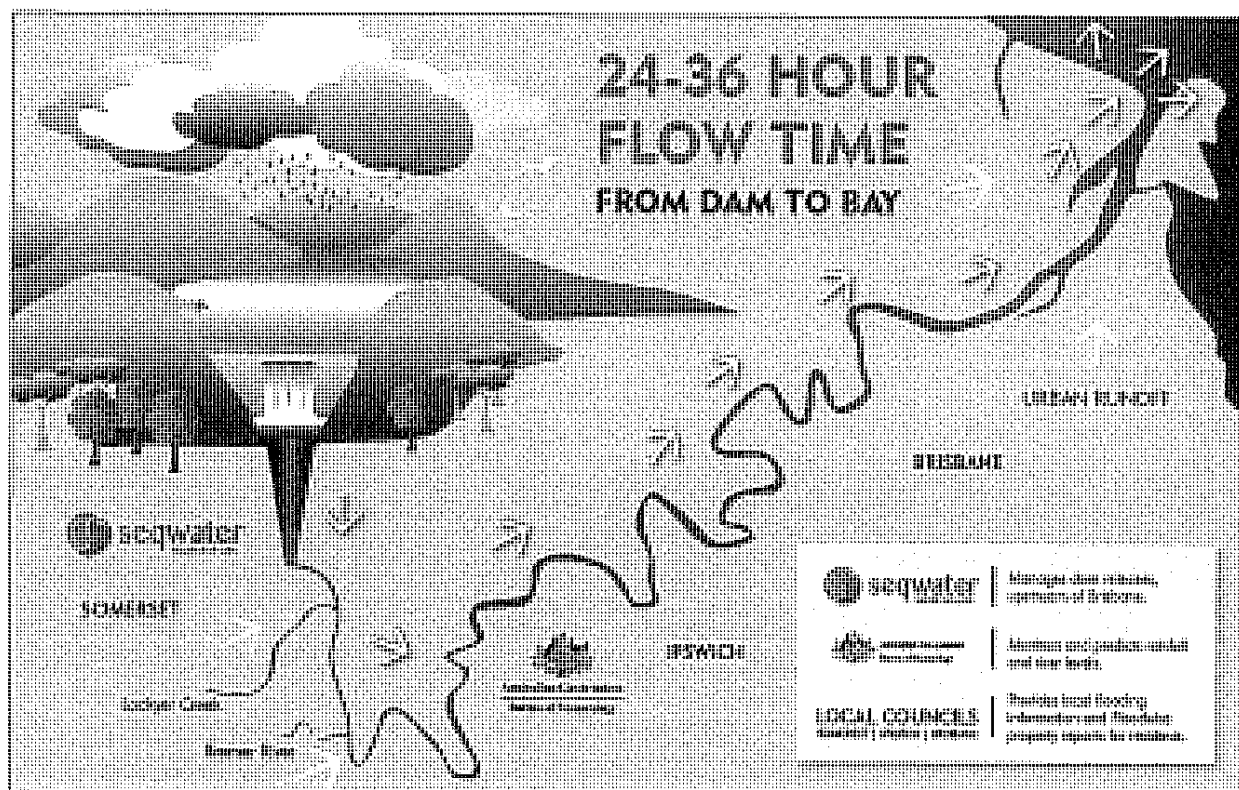
A fundamental principle in the management of Wivenhoe Dam is that all floodwater should be released within seven days. This means the greater the volume received in the flood storage compartment, the greater the discharge required.

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How are the releases managed?

Before Wivenhoe Dam begins a controlled release from its flood storage compartment, a dedicated 24-hour Flood Operations Centre is activated. The specific purpose of the centre is to manage any potential impacts of releases downstream.

The actions of the Flood Operations Centre are guided by a Flood Mitigation Manual. The Queensland State Government, local councils and relevant emergency services are consulted before the water releases from dams take place, to ensure communities are warned and can take all necessary precautions.

The amount of water released from Wivenhoe Dam depends on the level of water inside the flood storage compartment, as well as the incoming flows and downstream tributaries.

During a major flooding event, the SEQ Water Grid Manager, Seqwater (the dam operators), the Bureau of Meteorology and local councils work together to formulate recommendations. Members of the public and relevant emergency services are then advised on how to best manage impending localised flooding.

Rainfall is continually monitored throughout all South East Queensland catchments during a flood event. The Bureau of Meteorology provides rainfall forecasts to Seqwater who then monitor the surrounding catchments.

Together with weather predictions, a comprehensive network of river sensors, providing real-time data, work to inform the basis for a formulated schedule of controlled dam releases. The schedule works to ensure the maximum protection from flooding in urban areas is achieved.

Based on the weather forecast from the Bureau of Meteorology, and Seqwater's decisions to release water from Wivenhoe Dam, councils then work with residents regarding local area impacts. Councils know their areas best and work to advise residents about road and bridge closures, as well as local flooding.

The following priorities are considered when determining how much water is to be released from Wivenhoe Dam, and at what capacity:

- the structural safety of the dam
- maximising protection from flooding in urbanised areas
- minimising disruption to rural industries along the Brisbane River and Stanley River valleys
- minimising impacts to flora and fauna during the water release phase of a flood event
- the ability to retain the dam at full supply level at the conclusion of a flood event.

How do I find out further information?

For more information on the status of dam levels and Water Grid recreation sites visit www.watergrid.com.au

For information on local flooding, including road closures, contact your local council or visit their website.

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Litsupport Brisbane

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Sunday, 12 December 2010 4:31 PM
To: John Bradley [REDACTED]
Cc: Peter Borrows; Barry Dennien; bob.reilly [REDACTED]
Subject: Wivenhoe Dam release
Attachments: Technical Stuation Report W1.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

John,

Technical report attached for your notification, as flagged this morning. Notification to you is required under the draft protocol.

Details of the proposed release are outlined in the report, as drafted by the Seqwater team.

Note that this event is expected to be smaller than the October event. Seqwater is expecting release 70,000 to 80,000 ML at this time, compared to 650,000 ML released during the October event. More importantly, the flow rate will be only 20 per cent of the October event.

Seqwater has advised the downstream councils and BOM, as outlined in the report and as per the draft protocol. Councils and BOM have not provided written assessments at this stage. Seqwater will continue to consult with them.

We are preparing a media release for this afternoon, flagging the gate release and providing an overview of levels across Water Grid storages. We intend to keep it low key, reflecting that this is a smaller release than October (no TV interviews today). We are consulting with Lance on content. Let me know if you want an opportunity to comment.

Please call me if you require any further information.

Regards,
Daniel Spiller

TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W1	Date of TSR release	12.12.2010	Time of TSR release	2pm
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Somerset/Wivenhoe Dams

Operational releases have been made from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams over the last week discharging water that has come into the dams, however this is not sufficient to handle the current inflows. Rainfall in the last 24 hours will result in significant inflows to Somerset and Wivenhoe Dams which will require gate operations in the next few days.

At Somerset, two regulators have been opened around midday Sunday and remain open until at least Thursday. This will release approximately 45,000ML into Wivenhoe Dam. Water level in Somerset Dam is expected to peak around 99.7m AHD during Monday.

There is a peak flow of about 150m³/s expected in the mid Brisbane during Monday, mostly resulting from Lockyer Ck. This will be similar to, if not slightly higher than, the peak of 130 m³/s which occurred on Monday 6/12/2010.

Some 30,000 ML is expected to flow into Wivenhoe Dam from the upper Brisbane R during the next week. Coupled with the Somerset release, this will result in a rise at Wivenhoe during the next 24 to 48 hours with a peak water level around 67.6 m AHD. Releases from Wivenhoe will not be made until the runoff from the Lockyer and local areas has passed Savages Crossing so as not to exacerbate local flooding.

Releases from Wivenhoe are expected to commence on Monday afternoon depending on flows downstream and further possible rainfall, ramping up from the current release of 50m³/s to 300m³/s. The regulator will be closed and Gate 3 will be progressively opened to 3.0m. It is expected to remain at this level until Thursday when it will be reduced back to 50m³/s, at which stage the water level in the dam is expected to be below 67.25m AHD. Low level releases of 50m³/s through the hydro and regulator will then continue

It should be noted that a release of 300m³/s will impact upon Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing and Colleges Crossing. The release strategy is to discharge the stored floodwaters as quickly as possible to return the flood buffer in the dams in case there is further rainfall but in a manner that attempts to minimize disruption downstream.

The Dam Regulator has been advised of the planned actions to confirm the suitability of the planned release strategy.

Councils were contacted by phone and a follow up email sent however their phone advice is considered sufficient considering the minor actions required of councils. They can offer further comments if they desire at any stage.

The planned release strategy has been provided around 10am on 12.12.2010 by phone to
Brisbane City Council – Chris Lavin
Ipswich City Council – Tony Trace
Somerset Regional Council – Tony Jacobs

Although informal operational advice to Councils occurs at other times.

Issues raised by Councils were only a request to be advised when releases began to enable bridge closures. Somerset requested Burton's Bridge to remain open if possible or notice provided if we intend to release sufficient water to close it on purpose.

Actions taken will be to mobilise the flood centre on Monday and advise Councils as requested regarding releases.

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

BoM was advised of planned releases via their flood information email. No formal advice is required of them as the release is a minor drawdown however there is ongoing advice provided by them on predicted rainfall and flows.

Actions taken will be to mobilise the flood centre on Monday and advise Councils as requested regarding releases and keep BoM up to date.

BoM Technical Officer name	
BoM Technical Officer position title	
BoM Technical Officer contact details	

Brisbane City Council (BCC) assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

BCC will advise internally for information purposes mainly re bridge closures in other council areas that may affect Brisbane residents.

Actions taken will be to mobilise the flood centre on Monday and advise Councils as requested regarding releases.

BCC Technical Officer name	Chris Lavin
BCC Technical Officer position title	Disaster Operations Manager
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)
(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Ipswich will coordinate closure of Colleges Crossing as necessary and any other actions.

Actions taken will be to mobilise the flood centre on Monday and advise Councils as requested regarding releases

ICC Technical Officer name	Tony Trace
ICC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
ICC Technical Officer contact details	

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)
(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Somerset Council will coordinate closure of Twin Bridges and Savages Crossing as necessary and any other actions.

Actions taken will be to mobilise the flood centre on Monday and advise Councils as requested regarding releases

SRC Technical Officer name	Tony Jacobs
SRC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
SRC Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	Rob Drury
Contact Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due	Date	13.12.2010	Time		or Event	
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Litsupport Brisbane

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Thursday, 23 December 2010 3:47 PM
To: stephen.robertson [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: SEQ dam releases: Technical Situation Report
Attachments: Technical Situation Report W17.docx

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Thursday, 23 December 2010 3:41 PM
To: 'Stephen.Robertson' [REDACTED]; 'Bradley John'; 'Best Debbie'; [REDACTED]
Cc: Barry Dennien; 'Mike Foster'; 'Rob Drury'
Subject: SEQ dam releases: Technical Situation Report

All,

For information, this afternoon's:

- Technical Situation Report is attached
- Media update is below.

Please contact me if you require any further information.

Regards,
Dan

23 December 2010 - Afternoon

Media update: Dam releases

As at 3pm today the following water releases are being made: Please note that the release strategy is continually being updated based on weather conditions.

Four of the five gates at Wivenhoe Dam are now closed. One gate is still open as a result of the forecast of increasing rain tomorrow. Around 30 000 megalitres is being released through this gate and it is expected that this will be reassessed tomorrow.

It is expected that Kholo Bridge and Burtons Bridge will be open to traffic this evening. Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing and Colleges Crossing are expected to remain closed until at least Christmas Day. Local councils have been consulted regarding the re-opening of the major downstream crossings.

Members of the public seeking information on potential impacts in their local areas, including road closures, should direct inquiries to their local councils.

The gates at Somerset Dam were closed at around 9am this morning.

Further rainfall and inflows may result in overnight gate openings at North Pine Dam. Council will be consulted ahead any gate openings.

For recorded information on current dam releases in South East Queensland, members of the public are encouraged to call **1800 613 122**.

Recreation update

Wivenhoe and Somerset dams are open for all water-based recreational activities, however this may change at short notice depending on weather.

The following recreation sites at Wivenhoe Dam remain closed:

- Billies Bay
- River access at Atkinsons Crossing

All other recreational sites have reopened however this status could change due to weather.

While every effort will be made to keep recreational sites open, public safety is paramount and it is possible that some sites may be closed at short notice due to poor weather.

Members of the public who are considering recreational activities, including camping, at South East Queensland dams over the Christmas/New Year period are urged to consider alternative arrangements.

PLEASE NOTE: Conditions will be extremely dangerous as flood conditions exist in some areas.

For further information on the Water Grid: www.watergrid.com.au

Daniel Spiller

Director, Operations

SEQ Water Grid Manager

Phone:

Email:

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

Please consider the environment before printing this email. It takes 10 litres of water to make one sheet of A4 paper.

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TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W17	Date of TSR release	23.12.2010	Time of TSR release	2.30pm
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Somerset/Wivenhoe Dams

Somerset Dam

Sluice gate operations ceased at 09:00 today with the lake level at 99.10 m AHD. Base flows will result in the lake level rising over the next few days.

Further gate operations may be necessary in coming days if forecast rainfall results in subsequent river rises.

Wivenhoe Dam

Wivenhoe Dam is currently discharging around 350 m³/s with Gate 3 open 3.5 m. The scheduled cessation of gate operations at Wivenhoe Dam has been extended until tomorrow afternoon (Friday 24 December 2010) with a target of 1.00pm as base flows and the overnight rain has meant the lake level has not dropped as quickly as anticipated. The current lake level is 67.23 m AHD.

Continued gate operations may be necessary if forecast rainfall results in subsequent river rises. The gate closure sequence will be reviewed throughout today and discussions with impacted Local Authorities will be ongoing.

Impact of Wivenhoe Dam Releases

The releases from Wivenhoe Dam have resulted in elevated levels in the Brisbane River downstream to Colleges Crossing. Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Colleges Crossing, Burtons Bridge and Kholo Bridge are currently all closed due to inundation resulting from these releases. In accordance with the current operational strategy Kholo Bridge and Burtons Bridge should be trafficable by this evening.

Projected "early side" times for bridges becoming clear of water based on the current gate closure sequence and concurrent Lockyer Creek flows are as follows:-

Burtons Bridge – 18:00 Thursday 23 December 2010.

Kholo Bridge – 21:00 Thursday 23 December 2010.

The remaining bridges will most likely remain closed until Christmas Day.

Rainfall

There have been falls of between 10 and 30 mm in the catchments over the last 24 hours. This has led to small rises in the Stanley, Pine, Lockyer and Bremer Rivers. The Lockyer Creek flow is likely to impact the middle-Brisbane River tomorrow and this may prevent the opening of Savages Crossing and Colleges Crossing.

Rainfall across the region is expected to increase up to 06:00 on 25 December 2010 before easing and further heavy rainfall may commence late on 29 December 2010.

Tide levels continue to be monitored closely with peak tide estimates being adjusted by BOM to account for Wivenhoe Dam outflows.

Seqwater Technical Officer name

Robert Drury

Seqwater Technical Officer position title

Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and ather updates/comments if needed)

BoM has been advised.

BoM Technical Officer name

Peter Baddiley

BoM Technical Officer position title

BoM Technical Officer contact details

Brisbane City Council (BCC) assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

BCC Technical Officer name

Chris Lavin

BCC Technical Officer position title

Disaster Operations Manager

BCC Technical Officer contact details

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name

Tony Trace

ICC Technical Officer position title

Local Disaster Response Coordinator

ICC Technical Officer contact details

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)
(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name	Tony Jacobs
SRC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
SRC Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	Rob Drury
Contact Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due	Date		Time		or Event	Closure
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Litsupport Brisbane

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Friday, 24 December 2010 2:41 PM
To: stephen.robertson; John Bradley; Debbie Best; [REDACTED]
Cc: Barry Dennien; John Adcock; bob.reilly; Damien Brown; [REDACTED]; mfooster; Rob Drury
Subject: Technical Situation Report and Kholo Bridge damage
Attachments: Technical Situation Report W19.docx
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

All,

The Wivenhoe Dam gate closed at 1pm today, with the dam just above FSL. Releases through the valve will continue, with ongoing monitoring of inflows. Some more detail is contained in the attached technical report.

We have just been advised by BCC that Kholo Bridge has been severely damaged (I will forward photos separately). They are preparing Community Service Announcement now claiming this is due to dam releases. The bridge will be unserviceable until early 2011.

We will try to work with BCC officers regarding the wording of the release. For this event, the flows were due to a combination of the gate opening and significant Lockyer Valley flows. Flows have been no more than in October. In October, College's Crossing was damaged with Ipswich City Council making public statements at that time. EMQ dealt with the claims for damages. Seqwater is not liable, provided it made releases in accordance with the management plan.

For information, today's media updates is below. With the gate now closed, we will only issue updates as the situation changes. (Aside from the release to the CM on Monday around the Wivenhoe Dam fact sheet.)

From today, I am A/CEO. Please call on [REDACTED] if you have any queries or require any further information.

Regards,
Dan

WEEKLY GRID UPDATE FRIDAY 24 DECEMBER 2010

Please note, this will be the last formal update from the Water Grid team until Tuesday 4 January, unless there are significant changes to current operational procedures.

WATER GRID READY FOR HOLIDAY SEASON

Over the last few weeks, Water Grid operators have been managing controlled releases from the region's key storages to ensure the Grid is prepared for further rains this summer.

Water Grid spokesperson, Barry Dennien, said Brisbane's key storage, Wivenhoe Dam, has released more than 320,000 megalitres since the gates were opened earlier this month.

"With further rain expected this summer it is important we retain the dam at just below full drinking water supply level for the safety of South East Queensland," Mr Dennien said.

On top of storing 1.15 million megalitres of drinking water, Wivenhoe Dam can also temporarily store an additional 1.45 million megalitres, equal to 2.5 times the volume of Sydney Harbour.

"Although this may sound like a large flood buffer, Wivenhoe's flood storage compartment can fill in less than three days following heavy rainfall," Mr Dennien said.

"In fact, following heavy rainfall in October, Wivenhoe Dam received inflows equivalent to almost half the flood compartment capacity in just a few days.

"It is important for the flood storage compartment to be emptied through controlled releases following heavy rainfall and inflows into the dam. As a result of the recent releases, the flood compartment is now empty, ready for any inflows over the holiday season."

DAM RELEASES

As at 8am today the following water releases are being made: Please note that the release strategy may change according to weather conditions.

One gate at Wivenhoe Dam remains open, releasing a daily average of around 30,000 megalitres.

Kholo Bridge and Burtons Bridge have re-opened to traffic. Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing and Colleges Crossing are currently closed.

Releases from Wivenhoe will continue over the holiday period depending on rainfall and inflows. Releases from other key storages may also occur depending on the weather.

Water Grid representatives have been working closely with councils since the releases from Wivenhoe and other dams began to ensure any likely impacts in surrounding areas were minimised.

Members of the public seeking information on potential impacts in their local areas, including road closures, should direct inquiries to their local councils.

For recorded information on current dam releases in South East Queensland, members of the public are encouraged to call **1800 613 122**.

For information on local flooding, including road closures, contact the local council or visit their website.

The council areas that are affected by Wivenhoe Dam releases are:

- o Somerset Regional Council; 5424 4000; www.somerset.qld.gov.au
- o Ipswich City Council; 3810 6666; www.ipswich.qld.gov.au
- o Brisbane City Council; 3403 8888; www.brisbane.qld.gov.au

WEATHER CONSIDERATIONS FOR CAMPERS

Campers heading to South East Queensland dams are being urged to consider alternative arrangements this holiday season, with further wet weather expected over coming weeks.

Water Grid spokesperson Barry Dennien said every effort will be made to keep recreational sites open, however public safety is paramount.

"It is possible that some sites may be closed at short notice due to heavy weather and we are asking campers to explore other options."

The region's dam operators, Seqwater, are closely monitoring the levels, inflows and releases at all of South East Queensland's major dams.

Seqwater is offering a refund to those campers who wish to cancel bookings at Water Grid assets due to raised dam levels and flooding.

Mr Dennien said those campers wishing to continue with their plans are being advised that if lakes rise to unsafe levels, Seqwater rangers will be asking people to leave.

"Safety is a top priority for us, and we are asking members of the public to cooperate with all warnings and requests, to ensure everyone is kept safe."

Wivenhoe and Somerset dams are currently open for all water-based recreational activities, however this may change at short notice depending on weather.

The following recreation sites at Wivenhoe Dam remain closed:

- Billies Bay
- River access at Atkinsons Crossing

All other recreational sites have reopened however this status could change due to weather.

For more information on the status of Water Grid recreation sites visit www.watergrid.com.au

Some camping grounds are fully booked, but if further heavy rainfall is received, it may be necessary for one or more of the campgrounds to close. Please contact the operators of the various camp grounds of information specific to each site.

GRID TWELVE

The current supply capacity of the **Grid Twelve is 100.0 %**, no change from last week. The Grid Twelve makes up nearly 90 % of South East Queensland's total water storage volume. See below for further breakdowns:

Dam	Current capacity (%)	Change in capacity on last week (%)	Rainfall (mm over past seven days)
Wivenhoe	100%	No change	93mm
Somerset	100%	No change	111mm
North Pine	97.0%	2.6% ↓	86mm
Hinze	97.2%	3.6% ↑	73mm
Baroon Pocket	100%	No change	110mm
Leslie Harrison	96.8%	2.5% ↓	81mm

Ewen Maddock	100%	No change	134mm
Cooloolabin	100%	No change	149mm
Lake Kurwongbah	100%	No change	86mm
Lake MacDonald	100%	No change	109mm
Little Nerang	100%	No change	73mm
Wappa	100%	No change	149mm

The current supply capacity of the **Grid Three 3 (Wivenhoe, Somerset and North Pine)** is **100 %**, no change from last week.

Note: The Grid Twelve and Grid Three % full is calculated by dividing the combined current storage volume of the dams in the group by the combined full storage volume.

DID YOU KNOW?

In times of heavy rainfall, the strategic management of dams is essential to assist in the protection of South East Queensland against flood. In accordance with the requirements of the Water Supply Act 2008, Seqwater, who are part of the Water Grid, maintains a comprehensive Dam Safety Management Program covering its 25 referable dams.

CONTACT DETAILS

Please direct all media enquiries to the Water Grid Communications Unit:

Phone (07) 3247 3000

Email: media@seqwgm.com.au

Website: www.watergrid.com.au

TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W19	Date of TSR release	24.12.2010	Time of TSR release	1.30pm
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Current status but could change based on inflows or rainfall.

Current objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor the rain overnight and ongoing inflows. 										
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close gates at Wivenhoe at 1.00pm Wivenhoe continues to release 4,200ML per day through hydro and valves. 										
Key considerations	<table> <tr> <td>Storage levels:</td><td>Just above FSL</td></tr> <tr> <td>Inflows:</td><td>Ongoing base flows</td></tr> <tr> <td>Rainfall:</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Lockyer/Bremer:</td><td>Flows increasing. With further rainfall, may inundate local bridges with further rainfall.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Brisbane River:</td><td>Any minor impact on tides still decreasing.</td></tr> </table>	Storage levels:	Just above FSL	Inflows:	Ongoing base flows	Rainfall:		Lockyer/Bremer:	Flows increasing. With further rainfall, may inundate local bridges with further rainfall.	Brisbane River:	Any minor impact on tides still decreasing.
Storage levels:	Just above FSL										
Inflows:	Ongoing base flows										
Rainfall:											
Lockyer/Bremer:	Flows increasing. With further rainfall, may inundate local bridges with further rainfall.										
Brisbane River:	Any minor impact on tides still decreasing.										

Somerset Dam

Sluice Gate and valve operations have ceased for the time being.

Wivenhoe Dam

Radial Gate operations ceased at 1.00pm.
A regulator and hydro will be opened to release around 4,200ML per day.

The Flood Centre will monitor overnight and consider options tomorrow morning based on inflows and rainfall.

Further gate operations may be necessary in coming days.

Impacts of Wivenhoe Dam Releases

Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing and Colleges Crossing may still be affected by flows from the Lockyer.

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

BoM has been advised.

BoM Technical Officer name	Peter Baddiley
BoM Technical Officer position title	
BoM Technical Officer contact details	

Brisbane City Council (BCC) assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

BCC Technical Officer name	Chris Lavin
BCC Technical Officer position title	Disaster Operations Manager
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name	Tony Trace
ICC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
ICC Technical Officer contact details	

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name	Tony Jacobs
SRC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
SRC Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	Rob Drury
Contact Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due	Date		Time		or Event	Gate opening
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Litsupport Brisbane

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Saturday, 25 December 2010 10:25 AM
To: stephen.robertson [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cc: Debbie Best [REDACTED]
Rob Drury [REDACTED] mfoster [REDACTED]
bob.reilly [REDACTED] Damien Brown [REDACTED] SEQWGM
Media
Subject: Technical Situation Report
Attachments: Technical Situation Report W20.docx
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

All,

Updated report attached.

 Note:

- About 10 to 20 mm in dam catchments, generating some inflows
- Lockyer Valley flows dropping
- Wivenhoe Dam gates to reopen tomorrow morning. Limited releases only at this stage, with objective of not inundating Burtons Bridge (meaning no isolation caused)
- Leslie Harrison Dam operated overnight
- North Pine Dam to operate tonight
- Seqwater continuing to monitor.

Next media update will be tomorrow, noting dam gate reopened.

Please call on [REDACTED] if you require any further information.

Merry Christmas!

Dan



TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W20	Date of TSR release	25.12.2010	Time of TSR release	9.30am
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Current status but could change based on inflows or rainfall.

Current objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin discharging tomorrow now Lockyer is dropping
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor today and begin releases Sunday morning to maximise release but not affecting anything more than low level bridges. Planned release is 300-400m3/s Currently still releasing 4200ML per day from valve and hydro
Key considerations	<div>Storage levels: Above FSL</div> <div>Inflows: Ongoing inflows plus last nights rain</div> <div>Rainfall:</div> <div>Lockyer/Bremer: Flows decreasing..</div> <div>Brisbane River:</div>

Somerset Dam

All regulators and sluices are currently closed at Somerset Dam.

In the 24 hours to 0600 25/12/2010 rainfall totals have varied from 10 to 20mm with an average of about 20mm. Some small rises have being recorded at Peachester, Woodford and Mt Kilcoy. Lake level has risen from 99.18m at 0600 24/12/2010 to 99.33 at 0730 25/12/2010. The runoff from the overnight rain plus baseflow will result in approximately 13,000 ML over the next few days. Without gate ops, water level could reach 99.5m later on Sunday 26/12/2010.

Wivenhoe Dam

Wivenhoe Dam is currently releasing 4,200ML through the hydro and regulator.

In the 24 hours to 0600 25/12/2010 rainfall totals have varied from 10 to 20mm with an average of about 20mm. Recessions are expected to be prolonged. An additional 15,000ML is expected to flow into Wivenhoe just from the upper Brisbane in the next few days. Downstream of Wivenhoe, water levels are continuing to fall in Lockyer Ck and the overnight rain is not expected to cause renewed rises. Some small rises are expected in the Bremer and Warrill systems during today. Lake level has risen from 67.12m when gates were closed at 1400 24/12/2010 to 67.28m at 0600 25/12/2010.

Twin Bridges, Savages and Colleges Crossing remain impacted by Wivenhoe releases and Lockyer and local runoff. Burtons and Kholo Bridges would be currently unaffected. Kholo will no doubt still be closed by Council regarding repairs.

Strategy is to begin operation Sunday morning of Wivenhoe gates and probably Somerset valves. Councils have been notified and are fine with strategy.

Burtens and Kholo (apart from repairs) will not be affected by this release strategy at this stage however it depends on rainfall over next few days.

Rainfall Forecast for SEQld

Sat 25/12/2010 10-15mm

Sun 26/12/2010 25-50mm

Mon 27/12/2010 50-100mm

Tue 28/12/2010 50-100mm

Wed 29/12/2010 15-25mm

BOM confirm that heaviest rain is likely to be Sunday/Monday.

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

BoM has been advised.

BoM Technical Officer name	Peter Baddiley
BoM Technical Officer position title	
BoM Technical Officer contact details	

Brisbane City Council (BCC) assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

BCC Technical Officer name	Chris Lavin
BCC Technical Officer position title	Disaster Operations Manager
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name	Tony Trace
ICC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator

ICC Technical Officer contact details

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name

Tony Jacobs

SRC Technical Officer position title

Local Disaster Response Coordinator

SRC Technical Officer contact details

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature**Contact Officer name**

Rob Drury

Contact Officer position title

Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due**Date****Time****or Event**

Gate opening

Litsupport Brisbane

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Sunday, 26 December 2010 10:58 AM
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cc: Debbie Best
Rob Drury [REDACTED] mfooster [REDACTED] SEQWGM Media;
Damien Brown [REDACTED] bob.reilly [REDACTED]
Subject: Water Grid technical and media reports: 26/12
Attachments: Technical Stuation Report W21.docx
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

All,

Updated technical report attached. Key points are:

- only about 10 mm of rain in catchments over the last 24 hours (on top of about 20 mm the previous day)
- as flagged yesterday, one of five Wivenhoe Dam gates reopened at 9am
- increased releases required to empty the flood compartment in advance of heavier rainfall forecast over coming days
- future releases depend upon actual rainfall.

Below is the draft media update for information. Seperately, as requested by the DG, we are trying to interest the CM in doing a more detailed piece on Wivenhoe Dam flood management, based on the fact sheet. We are aiming for Tuesday publication, once dam levels have been brought down towards FSL again and before heavier rain is forecast.

Please call on mobile if you require any further information.

Regards,
Dan

26 December 2010

Flood safety for South East Queensland over holiday season

Water Grid operators have reopened one gate at Wivenhoe Dam to empty the flood compartment.

About 30mm of rainfall has been recorded over the dam catchments over the past 48 hours, increasing dam levels to more than 103 per cent of the full supply level.

With heavy rain forecast over coming days, it is important that the flood compartment be emptied.

Releases from Wivenhoe are expected to continue until at least mid-week.

At this stage, these releases are not expected to result in any additional road closures. However, members of the public seeking information on local flooding impacts, including road closures, should contact the local council.

Depending upon rainfall, further gates may need to be open.

Somerset Dam is now releasing approximately 12,000 megalitres per day into Wivenhoe Dam, with valves expected remain open until mid-week.

At North Pine Dam, gates closed early Sunday morning after a small release was made overnight.

For recorded information on current dam releases in South East Queensland, members of the public are encouraged to call **1 800 613 122**.

Recreation update

Both Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams are currently open for water-based recreation activities, however this may change at short notice depending on weather.

Billies Bay and river access at Atkinsons Crossing at Wivenhoe Dam remain closed.

All other recreational sites have reopened however this status may change at short notice depending on the weather.

While some low-lying camp grounds at Wivenhoe have been inundated due to rain, most camping facilities are open, though some are fully booked.

If further heavy rain occurs, it may be necessary for some camping grounds to close.

Please contact the operators of the various camping grounds for information regarding each site.

ENDS

TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W21	Date of TSR release	26.12.2010	Time of TSR release	8.00am
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Current status but could change based on inflows or rainfall.

Current objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin releases to drain stored flood waters only impacting on low level bridges and monitoring predicted rainfall
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin releases of around 300m³/sec Monitor rainfall
Key considerations	Storage levels: Above FSL
	Inflows: Ongoing inflows plus last nights rain
	Rainfall:
	Lockyer/Bremer: Flows decreasing.
	Brisbane River:

Rainfall

Only relatively minor rainfall has been experienced in the dam catchments in the last 24 hours, with a catchment average of around 10mm experienced at all three dams. However the QPF issues at 1600 yesterday was for 40 to 60mm and BOM radar indicates that rain is approaching the catchments from the north. Additionally at 0445, BOM issued a severe weather warning that takes in the dam catchment areas that is associated with a rain depression moving down from Mackay towards the NSW border. The current BOM forecast is:

Sunday 26 December Rain
Monday 27 December Rain periods
Tuesday 28 December Rain at times
Wednesday 29 December Rain at times
Thursday 30 December Rain easing to showers
Friday 31 December Mostly fine
Saturday 31 December Mostly fine

With the current wet catchments, there is a high probability that the forecast rain will result in further flood releases from the dams over the coming week.

Somerset Dam

Sluice Gate operations ceased on 23 December 2010 and since that time the lake has risen steadily to currently be around 99.46m or 460mm above the full supply level. At least two regulators will be opened later today to drain the lake to near full supply level, plan is for 9.00am at a discharge of about 140m³/s. Draining will take at least until Tuesday. Further gate operations may be necessary in coming days if forecast rainfall results in subsequent river rises.

Wivenhoe Dam

Radial Gate operations ceased on 24 December 2010 and since that time the lake has risen steadily to currently be around 67.37m or 370mm above the full supply level. A radial gate will be opened later today following discussions with the impacted Local Authorities to drain the lake to near full supply level. Draining will take at least until Tuesday. Further gate operations may be necessary in coming days if forecast rainfall results in subsequent river rises.

Impacts of Wivenhoe Dam Releases

With no radial gate releases from Wivenhoe dam since 24 December 2010, the crossings downstream of the dam are currently impacted primarily by non-controlled river flows only. Lockyer Creek outflows into the Brisbane River are currently in the order of 60 cumecs.

Twin Bridges, Savages and Colleges Crossings will be inundated but the plan is to release around 300-350cumecs depending on flows downstream so as to not impact Burtons Bridge.

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

BoM has been advised.

BoM Technical Officer name	Peter Baddiley
BoM Technical Officer position title	
BoM Technical Officer contact details	

Brisbane City Council (BCC) assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

BCC Technical Officer name	Chris Lavin
BCC Technical Officer position title	Disaster Operations Manager
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name	Tony Trace
ICC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
ICC Technical Officer contact details	

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name	Tony Jacobs
SRC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
SRC Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	Rob Drury
Contact Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due	Date		Time		or Event	Significant Change
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Litsupport Brisbane

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Monday, 27 December 2010 10:37 AM
To: stephen.robertson

Cc: Debbie Best
SEQWGM Media: mtoste
Damien Brown

Subject: Water Grid technical and media update: 27/12
Attachments: Technical Stuation Report W22.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Rob Drury
bob.reilly

All,

Updated Seqwater technical report attached.

Key points are:

- Above 50mm of rainfall in dam catchments over past 24 hours
- Wivenhoe and Somerset Dam reached 106% of combined capacity despite a single gate being opened yesterday morning
- The other four gates will be opened tonight or early tomorrow in order to empty the flood compartment. The release rate will be similar to the peak last week and in October
- Burtons Bridge will be inundated, initially due to Lockyer Valley flows. We are seeking to ensure that Council notifies residents who will be isolated - as per Councils agreement with us on Friday - and to delay closure until at least mid afternoon
- The increased releases will not reach Brisbane until Wednesday. By that time, peak tides will be at least 0.5 metres lower than last week. For comparison, dam releases contributed about 0.2 metres to peak river levels last week. Other factors impact on river levels and local flooding, including local rainfall
- Releases are also being made from North Pine, Hinze and Leslie Harrison dams, with some local impacts

Draft Water Grid media update for today is below. This will be issued in the next half hour.

Regards,
Dan

27 December 2010

Flood safety for South East Queensland over holiday season

Rainfall has resulted in increased releases from Water Grid dams.

About 50mm of rainfall has been recorded in the dam catchments over the past 24 hours.

Wivenhoe and Somerset dams have increased to 106% of combined capacity, despite continuing minor releases.

At Wivenhoe Dam, one of five gates was opened at 9am on Boxing Day. The remaining four gates will be opened late this afternoon or early tomorrow morning.

The gates are expected to remain open until at least Thursday, depending upon inflows.

With further rain forecast over coming days, it is important that the flood compartment be emptied.

Burtons Bridge is expected to be closed, with the status of other local bridges remaining unchanged.

Somerset Dam is now releasing approximately 12,000 megalitres per day into Wivenhoe Dam, with valves expected remain open until mid-week.

At North Pine Dam, a release commenced around 8pm last night and is expected to continue until at least early tomorrow morning. Youngs Crossing is inundated.

Releases from Hinze Dam also commenced last night. Weedons Crossing was inundated prior to the gate release.

A gate release is also continuing from Leslie Harrison Dam, but is expected to cease later on 27 December.

For recorded information on current dam releases in South East Queensland, members of the public are encouraged to call **1 800 613 122**.

Members of the public seeking information on local flooding impacts, including road closures, should contact the local council.

Recreation update

Both Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams are currently open for water-based recreation activities, however this may change at short notice depending on weather.

Billies Bay and river access at Atkinsons Crossing at Wivenhoe Dam remain closed.

All other recreational sites have reopened however this status may change at short notice depending on the weather.

While some low-lying camp grounds at Wivenhoe have been inundated due to rain, most camping facilities are open, though some are fully booked.

If further heavy rain occurs, it may be necessary for some camping grounds to close.

Please contact the operators of the various camping grounds for information regarding each site.

For further information on the Water Grid: www.watergrid.com.au

ENDS

TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W22	Date of TSR release	27.12.2010	Time of TSR release	8.00am
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Current status but could change based on inflows or rainfall.

Current objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue reducing releases until Lockyer increases to flow sufficient to inundate Burtons and then begin releasing stored water during week. Continue to store floodwaters to minimise impacts downstream and then release in a controlled manner
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin increasing release from Wivenhoe later today or early tomorrow as Lockyer rises to give overall river flow of around 1500cumecs and drain flood compartments within 7 days.
Key considerations	Storage levels: Above FSL
	Inflows: Ongoing inflows plus last nights rain
	Rainfall:
	Lockyer/Bremer: Flows increasing significantly due to rain last 24 hours
	Brisbane River:

Rainfall

Reasonably significant rainfalls in the order of 40 to 50 mm have been experienced in the dam catchments in the last 24 hours, but the rainfall has only been in the order of 5 to 10mm in the last 6 hours. The QPF issued at 1600 yesterday was for 50 to 100mm and the severe weather warning associated with possible widespread rainfall in the dam catchments remains current and was re-issued by BOM at 0445 today. The current BOM forecast is:

Monday 27 December Rain periods
Tuesday 28 December Rain at times
Wednesday 29 December Rain at times
Thursday 30 December Shower or two
Friday 31 December Fine
Saturday 31 December Fine
Sunday 1 January Fine

With the current wet catchments, there is a high probability that the forecast rain will result in further flood releases from the dams over the coming week.

Somerset Dam

Two regulators were opened yesterday morning, to provide a release of 12000ML/day. Since that time the lake has continued to rise steadily to currently be around 99.60m or 600mm above the full supply level. Further gate operations may be necessary today if forecast rainfall results in subsequent river rises. Draining will take at least until Wednesday.

Currently at 107.7% with 30,000ML over FSL.

Wivenhoe Dam

Radial Gate operations recommenced yesterday at 0900 and since that time the lake has risen steadily to currently be around 67.57m or 570mm above the full supply level. Because of outflows from Lockyer Creek, outflows from Wivenhoe Dam have been steadily reduced during the night to ensure Burtons Bridge remained open. Radial gates at Wivenhoe Dam have been progressively wound back this morning as the Lockyer Creek outflows into the Brisbane River increase above 250 cumecs. This will keep Burtons Bridge open until late this afternoon. However it is anticipated that Lockyer Creek outflows will peak above 500 cumecs later today/tomorrow and these flows will inundate Burtons Bridge. As this occurs, outflows from Wivenhoe Dam will be increased to drain the lake to near full supply level. Draining will take at least until Thursday. Further gate operations may be necessary in coming days if forecast rainfall results in subsequent river rises.

Wivenhoe is around 105.6% and 65,000ML over FSL.

Impacts of Wivenhoe Dam Releases

Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing and Colleges Crossing are currently closed and will remain so until at least Thursday. Burtons Bridge is currently open, but will be closed later today/tomorrow and is likely to remain closed until at least Wednesday. However, the length of time that Burtons Bridge will be closed is dependant upon the rainfall experienced over the next several days. Kholo Bridge remains unserviceable due to flood damage. There is no current expectation that either Mt Crosby Weir Bridge or Fernvale Bridge will be impacted by the current event.

An updated estimate of the time of closure of Burtons Bridge this afternoon will be provided to Council, but at this stage it is not expected to be before 1600 today. This will change as rainfall is experienced during the day.

Tide levels in Brisbane are decreasing generally so Wivenhoe releases should have minimal impact.

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

BoM has been advised.

BoM Technical Officer name	Peter Baddiley
BoM Technical Officer position title	
BoM Technical Officer contact details	

Brisbane City Council (BCC) assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

BCC Technical Officer name	Chris Lavin
BCC Technical Officer position title	Disaster Operations Manager
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name	Tony Trace
ICC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
ICC Technical Officer contact details	

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name	Tony Jacobs
SRC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
SRC Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	Rob Drury
Contact Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due	Date		Time		or Event	Change in strategy
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Litsupport Brisbane

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Tuesday, 28 December 2010 8:08 AM
To: stephen.robertson [REDACTED]; Ken
[REDACTED] Smith [REDACTED] Debbie Besi [REDACTED]
Martin.Peter [REDACTED]
Cc: Rob Drury [REDACTED] mroster [REDACTED] SEQWGM Media;
Damien Browr [REDACTED] bob.reilly [REDACTED]
Subject: Water Grid technical report: 28/12
Attachments: Technical Stuation Report W23.docx
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

All,

Attached is an updated version of the Technical Situation Report, thanks to Seqwater. Key points are:

- Rainfall of about 20 to 40mm was recorded in the Wivenhoe and Somerset Dam catchments over the past 24 hours
- The two dams are now storing about 210,000 ML above FSL with inflows reducing (for comparison, total flood compartment volume is 1.45 million ML)
- Releases were scaled back yesterday as flows from the Lockyer Valley increased. On Sunday, the release rate with one gate open was up to 30,000 ML/day. Yesterday this was reduced to 4,000 ML/day. (For comparison, the peak release rate last week was about 115,000 ML/day)
- Releases will be increased today as flows from the Lockyer Valley reduce. The rate and extent of the increase will depend on the Lockyer Valley. Because of the Lockyer, peak releases may be less than was envisaged yesterday and continue for longer
- Seqwater operators will continue to liaise with Councils.

A separate update will be provided later today about proposed operations, other storages and the media update.

Regards,
Dan

TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W23	Date of TSR release	28.12.2010	Time of TSR release	7.00am
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Current status but could change based on inflows or rainfall.

Current objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue storing flood waters to minimise impacts downstream until Lockyer flows peak and begin releasing flood water as downstream flows decrease Drain flood compartment as quickly as possible without impacting Mt Crosby or Fernvale bridges. 										
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current release still minimal of 4,000ML per day Begin increasing releases from current minimal release , probably later today but dependant on Lockyer flows. Aim to have most of floodwaters drained by end of week. 										
Key considerations	<table> <tr> <td>Storage levels:</td><td>Above FSL</td></tr> <tr> <td>Inflows:</td><td>Ongoing inflows plus yesterdays rain</td></tr> <tr> <td>Rainfall:</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Lockyer/Bremer:</td><td>Flows beginning to decrease</td></tr> <tr> <td>Brisbane River:</td><td>Releases planned to start late today will not impact on Brisbane River downstream until Thursday when other impacts have decreased. As per BoM advice, impact on tides minimal.</td></tr> </table>	Storage levels:	Above FSL	Inflows:	Ongoing inflows plus yesterdays rain	Rainfall:		Lockyer/Bremer:	Flows beginning to decrease	Brisbane River:	Releases planned to start late today will not impact on Brisbane River downstream until Thursday when other impacts have decreased. As per BoM advice, impact on tides minimal.
Storage levels:	Above FSL										
Inflows:	Ongoing inflows plus yesterdays rain										
Rainfall:											
Lockyer/Bremer:	Flows beginning to decrease										
Brisbane River:	Releases planned to start late today will not impact on Brisbane River downstream until Thursday when other impacts have decreased. As per BoM advice, impact on tides minimal.										

Rainfall

Rainfalls in the order of 20 to 40 mm have been experienced in the dam catchments in the last 24 hours, but the rainfall has only been in the order of 5 mm in the last 12 hours. The QPF issued at 1600 yesterday was reduced to 25 to 35mm and the severe weather warning associated with possible widespread rainfall in the dam catchments is no longer current. The current BOM forecast is:

Tuesday 28 December Shower or two.

Wednesday 29 December Shower or two.

Thursday 30 December Fine.

Friday 31 December Fine

Saturday 31 December Mostly Fine

Sunday 1 January Few showers

Monday 27 December Showers

Although the dam catchments are saturated, BOM forecasts are currently indicating that dam inflows have peaked for the current event.

Somerset Dam

A flood release through the regulator cone valves at the dam commenced at 0900 on Sunday 26 December 2010. The current release rate is 18000ML/day. Since commencing the release the lake has continued to rise steadily to currently be around 99.96m AHD or 960mm above the full supply level. Inflows into the dam are subsiding and unless further rainfall in the dam catchment is experienced, the lake will soon start to fall slowly to be back near the dam full supply level by Thursday. Sluice gate operations will commence this morning as Wivenhoe levels are approaching the point at which the regulator cone valves should not be used due to back water impacts. The total volume of water released since the release commenced on 26 December 2010 is 37,000ML, with the current projected total release volume for this event may be as high as 80,000ML. Somerset is currently storing around 42,000ML above FSL.

Wivenhoe Dam

Radial Gate operations for the current event commenced at 0900 on Sunday 26 December 2010. After scaling up to an initial release rate of 30,000ML/day, the release was scaled back yesterday to the minimum radial gate release rate of 4,000ML/day to ensure that Burtons Bridge remained open until yesterday afternoon and to reduce flooding impacts in the Brisbane River caused by outflows into the river from Lockyer Creek. The current release rate remains at 4,000ML/day, but will be scaled up later today as Lockyer Creek flows subside. The timing still depends on Lockyer flows. The current lake level is 68.55m AHD or 1550mm above the full supply level. Inflows into the dam are subsiding and unless further rainfall in the dam catchment is experienced, the lake will fall slowly once the release rate is scaled up, for the level to be back near the dam full supply level by around Sunday. The total volume of water released since the release commenced on 26 December 2010 is 28,000ML, with the current projected total release volume for this event being in the order of 375,000ML (includes inflows from Somerset Dam). The next update will be provided at around 1600 today.

Wivenhoe currently is storing 172,000ML above FSL.

Impacts of Wivenhoe Dam Releases

Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Colleges Crossing, Burtons Bridge and Kholo Bridge are currently closed and will remain so until at least Friday. There is no current expectation that either Mt Crosby Weir Bridge or Fernvale Bridge will be impacted by the current event, but Lockyer Creek outflows are being closely monitored and may come close to impacting upon the Mt Crosby Weir Bridge. An updated estimate of the likely time of opening of Burtons Bridge will be provided tomorrow. England Creek access is not impacted yet but will be at some stage today or tomorrow.

Tide levels in Brisbane are decreasing generally so Wivenhoe releases should have minimal impact.

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

BoM has been advised.

BoM Technical Officer name	Peter Baddiley
BoM Technical Officer position title	
BoM Technical Officer contact details	

Brisbane City Council (BCC) assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

BCC Technical Officer name	Chris Lavin
BCC Technical Officer position title	Disaster Operations Manager
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name	Tony Trace
ICC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
ICC Technical Officer contact details	

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name	Tony Jacobs
SRC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
SRC Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	Rob Drury
Contact Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due	Date	29.12.2010	Time		or Event	
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Litsupport Brisbane

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 29 December 2010 8:29 AM
To: 'Stephen.Robertson' [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 'ken.smith' [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 'debbie.besi' [REDACTED] 'Martin.Peter' [REDACTED]
Cc: 'Rob Drury'; 'mfoster' [REDACTED] SEQWGM Media;
'damien.brown' [REDACTED] 'bob.reilley' [REDACTED]
Subject: Water Grid technical report: 29/12
Attachments: Technical Stuation Report W24.docx

All,

Attached is the updated technical report. Key points are:

- Very little rainfall in the catchments over the past day
- Lockyer flows peaked around midday yesterday
- Increases from Wivenhoe Dam are now increasing, with all five gates now open to varying degrees. From later today, the release rate will be similar to during the October and early December events
- Releases will continue until the end of the week, with total releases in the order of 385,000 ML.

Hinze Dam will also continue releases until the end of the week. North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams have ceased releases.

Somerset Dam has been reopened to on-water activities. Wivenhoe Dam and some recreation facilities remain closed.

We are coordinating today's media update with [REDACTED]

Please call me on [REDACTED] if you require any further information.

Regards,
Dan

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TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W24	Date of TSR release	29.12.2010	Time of TSR release	7.00am
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Current status but could change based on inflows or rainfall.

Current objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drain flood compartment as quickly as possible (by about Sunday) without impacting Mt Crosby or Fernvale bridges. 										
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue increasing releases from current release as Lockyer drops up to maximum of 1500cumecs. Twin Bridges, Savages, Burtons, Kholo and Colleges will be inundated until Sunday. 										
Key considerations	<table> <tr> <td>Storage levels:</td><td>Above FSL</td></tr> <tr> <td>Inflows:</td><td>Ongoing inflows plus yesterdays rain</td></tr> <tr> <td>Rainfall:</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Lockyer/Bremer:</td><td>Flows beginning to decrease</td></tr> <tr> <td>Brisbane River:</td><td>Releases increasing from yesterday, other inflows downstream dropping away rapidly so releases will not impact on Brisbane River downstream. As per BoM advice, impact on tides minimal.</td></tr> </table>	Storage levels:	Above FSL	Inflows:	Ongoing inflows plus yesterdays rain	Rainfall:		Lockyer/Bremer:	Flows beginning to decrease	Brisbane River:	Releases increasing from yesterday, other inflows downstream dropping away rapidly so releases will not impact on Brisbane River downstream. As per BoM advice, impact on tides minimal.
Storage levels:	Above FSL										
Inflows:	Ongoing inflows plus yesterdays rain										
Rainfall:											
Lockyer/Bremer:	Flows beginning to decrease										
Brisbane River:	Releases increasing from yesterday, other inflows downstream dropping away rapidly so releases will not impact on Brisbane River downstream. As per BoM advice, impact on tides minimal.										

Rainfall

No rainfall has fallen in the past 12 hours to 0600 Wednesday with the exception of 2-4 mm in the upper Somerset Dam catchment.

The rainfall forecast issued by BOM at 1600 Tuesday indicated only 3-5 mm in the Somerset and Wivenhoe catchments and 5-10mm in the North Pine catchment for the next 24 hours. The current BOM forecast for SE Qld over the next few days is mostly fine with a few showers

However, catchments remain saturated and are primed for additional runoff in the event of rain.

Somerset Dam

A flood release through the regulator cone valves at the dam commenced at 0900 on Sunday 26 December 2010. Early Tuesday the regulators were closed and sluices progressively opened throughout the day. At 1800 Tuesday 2 sluices were open, releasing about 35,000 ML/day into Wivenhoe. A further two sluice gates were opened overnight in an attempt to bring the lake level down to 99.75 to enable recreational use of Somerset water activities to resume on Wednesday. At 1800, the lake level was 99.83m AHD and falling slowly. Two sluice gates will be closed by 12:00 29/12/2010 and two sluice gates are expected to remain open until Thursday and will be closed when the lake returns to the full supply level of 99m AHD. The total volume of water released since the event commenced on 26 December 2010 is 66,000ML, with the current projected total release volume for this event approaching 110,000ML (includes inflows still coming in).

Currently Somerset is at around 110% with 36,000ML above FSL.

Wivenhoe Dam

Radial gate operations for the current event commenced at 0900 on Sunday 26 December 2010. After scaling up to an initial release rate of 30,000ML/day, the release was scaled back Monday to the minimum radial gate release rate of 4,000ML/day to ensure that Burtons Bridge remained open and to reduce flooding impacts in the Brisbane River caused by flows from Lockyer Creek. Lockyer Ck outflow peaked at midday Tuesday and Wivenhoe gates were commenced to be re-opened at 1500 Tuesday, releasing on the back of the Lockyer recession. It is intended to gradually increase the Wivenhoe releases during Tuesday and Wednesday so that the combined release and Lockyer flow is maintained at about 1600m³/s (140,000 ML/day) in the mid Brisbane R. Note this is similar to the flows in the mid Brisbane in mid October and mid December 2010. This will be maintained until at least Saturday when it is expected that shut down procedure will commence. Gate closure sequencing will be such that the releases will mimic the natural pre-dam flows.

At 0600, the Wivenhoe water level was 69.26m AHD and rising slowly with the current release rate at 60,000ML/day. Inflows into the dam are subsiding and the lake will fall slowly once the release rate is scaled up 130,000 ML/day during Wednesday. It is aimed to return the dam to full supply level by Sunday. The total volume of water released since the event commenced on 26 December 2010 is 56,000ML, with the current projected total release volume for this event being in the order of 385,000ML (includes inflows from Somerset Dam).

Currently Wivenhoe is at 122.3% about 260,000ML above FSL.

Impacts of Wivenhoe Dam Releases

Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Colleges Crossing, Burtons Bridge and Kholo Bridge are currently closed and will remain so until at least Sunday. There is no current expectation that either Mt Crosby Weir Bridge or Fernvale Bridge will be impacted by the current event. At this stage, it is estimated that the flow at Burtons Bridge will fall below the bridge deck on Sunday morning.

Wivenhoe releases should have minimal impact on tides based on planned releases. BoM advice confirmed this. Impacts from Bremer and other inflows should have mostly passed by the time any release from Wivenhoe gets to downstream river reaches.

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

BoM has been advised.

BoM Technical Officer name	Peter Baddiley
BoM Technical Officer position title	

BoM Technical Officer contact details**Brisbane City Council (BCC) assessment**

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

BCC Technical Officer name

Chris Lavin

BCC Technical Officer position title

Disaster Operations Manager

BCC Technical Officer contact details**Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)**

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name

Tony Trace

ICC Technical Officer position title

Local Disaster Response Coordinator

ICC Technical Officer contact details**Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)**

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name

Tony Jacobs

SRC Technical Officer position title

Local Disaster Response Coordinator

SRC Technical Officer contact details

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature**Contact Officer name**

Rob Drury

Contact Officer position title

Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due**Date**

30.12.2010

Time**or Event**

Litsupport Brisbane

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Thursday, 30 December 2010 7:40 AM
To: 'stephen.robertson'; 'ken.smith'; 'debbie.best'; 'Martin.Peter'; 'rdrury'; 'mfoster'; SEQWGM Media; 'damien.brown'; 'bob.reilly'
Cc:
Subject: Water Grid gate releases technical report: 30/12
Attachments: Technical Stuation Report W25.docx
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

All,

Attached is the updated technical report regarding gate releases. Key points are:

- All gates at Wivenhoe Dam are open, releasing at about 130,000 ML/day (about 140,000 ML/day with Lockyer Valley flows). This is similar to the peak release rate in October and early December
- Shutdown will commence Friday and be complete by Sunday, without further rainfall
- Local bridges and crossings likely to continue to be inundated until Sunday
- Downstream river levels continue to reduce with tides and reduced local flows.

Releases from North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams have ceased, pending any further rainfall. Hinze Dam releases will continue until the weekend.

Separately, extremely poor water quality in the Brisbane River caused operational issues for the Mt Crosby WTP yesterday. The WTP was back online by mid afternoon at reduced output. A number of other operational changes have been made, including operating the desalination facility and Southern Regional Water Pipeline at capacity. I will provide an update on these issues after 9.30am and continue to report as necessary.

Please call me on [REDACTED] if you require any further information.

Regards,
Dan

TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W25	Date of TSR release	30.12.2010	Time of TSR release	7.00am
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Current status but could change based on inflows or rainfall.

Current objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drain flood compartment as quickly as possible (by about Sunday) without impacting Mt Crosby or Fernvale bridges. 										
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue current releases of around 1500cumecs. Twin Bridges, Savages, Burtons, Kholo and Colleges will be inundated until Sunday. 										
Key considerations	<table> <tr> <td>Storage levels:</td><td>Above FSL</td></tr> <tr> <td>Inflows:</td><td>Ongoing inflows</td></tr> <tr> <td>Rainfall:</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Lockyer/Bremer:</td><td>Flows continue to decrease</td></tr> <tr> <td>Brisbane River:</td><td>Releases increased from yesterday, other inflows downstream dropping away rapidly so releases will not impact on Brisbane River downstream. As per BoM advice, impact on tides minimal.</td></tr> </table>	Storage levels:	Above FSL	Inflows:	Ongoing inflows	Rainfall:		Lockyer/Bremer:	Flows continue to decrease	Brisbane River:	Releases increased from yesterday, other inflows downstream dropping away rapidly so releases will not impact on Brisbane River downstream. As per BoM advice, impact on tides minimal.
Storage levels:	Above FSL										
Inflows:	Ongoing inflows										
Rainfall:											
Lockyer/Bremer:	Flows continue to decrease										
Brisbane River:	Releases increased from yesterday, other inflows downstream dropping away rapidly so releases will not impact on Brisbane River downstream. As per BoM advice, impact on tides minimal.										

Rainfall

There has been no significant rainfall in the North Pine, Somerset and Wivenhoe catchments since 09:00 on Wednesday 29 December 2010. The current BOM forecast for SE Qld over the next few days is mostly fine with a few light showers, although there is a chance of storms on Tuesday and Wednesday next week.

The catchments remain saturated and are primed for additional runoff in the event of rain.

Somerset Dam

At 06:00 Thursday 30 December 2010, two sluices remain open, releasing about 35,000 ML/d into Lake Wivenhoe and are expected to remain open until Thursday afternoon when the lake returns to the full supply level of 99.00m AHD. The total volume of water released since the event commenced on 26 December 2010 is 104,000ML, with the current projected total release volume for this event approaching 123,000ML.

Wivenhoe Dam

Releases were gradually increased during Wednesday and Thursday morning until the combined release and Lockyer flow reached about 1,600m³/s (140,000 ML/d) in the middle Brisbane River. (Note this is similar to the flows in the releases made in mid-October and earlier in December 2010). This release will be maintained until mid-day Friday 31 December 2010, when the shut down procedure will commence and gates are expected to be fully closed by Sunday morning 2 January 2010. The proposed gate closure sequence will be such that the releases will mimic the natural pre-dam

recessional flows.

Gauge board readings indicate that the Wivenhoe dam water level peaked at 69.33m at noon Wednesday 29 December 2010, about 2.3m above the full supply level. At this level, the dam was temporarily storing over 270,000ML of flood water. At 06:00 on Thursday 30 December 2010, the level had fallen slightly to 69.07m AHD and was releasing about 1,530m³/s (132,000ML/d). The total volume of water released from Wivenhoe dam since the event commenced on 26 December 2010 is 160,000ML, with the current projected total release volume for this event being in the order of 425,000ML (includes inflows from Somerset Dam).

Impacts of Wivenhoe Dam Releases

Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Colleges Crossing, Burtons Bridge and Kholo Bridge are currently closed due to inundation and will remain so until at least Sunday 2 January 2011. There is no current expectation that either Mt Crosby Weir Bridge or Fernvale Bridge will be impacted by this event. At this stage, it is estimated that the flow at Burtons Bridge will fall below the bridge deck on Sunday morning.

Wivenhoe releases should have minimal impact on tides based on planned releases. BoM advice confirmed this earlier in the week. Impacts from Bremer and other inflows should have mostly passed by the time any release from Wivenhoe gets to downstream river reaches.

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

BoM has been advised.

BoM Technical Officer name	Peter Baddiley
BoM Technical Officer position title	
BoM Technical Officer contact details	

Brisbane City Council (BCC) assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

BCC Technical Officer name	Chris Lavin
BCC Technical Officer position title	Disaster Operations Manager
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name	Tony Trace
ICC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
ICC Technical Officer contact details	

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name	Tony Jacobs
SRC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
SRC Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	Rob Drury
Contact Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due	Date		Time		or Event	Closing sequence or change in strategy

Litsupport Brisbane

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Thursday, 30 December 2010 10:08 AM
To: 'stephen.robertson'; 'ken.smith'; 'debbie.bes'; 'Martin.Peter'; 'mfoster'; 'bob.reilly'; SEQWGM Media: 'damien.brown'
Cc:
Subject: RE: Water Grid gate releases technical report: 30/12

All,

Water Grid operations are now stable.

With the Mt Crosby WTP offline, key reservoirs in Brisbane and the Gold Coast were drawn down to low levels. Reservoirs in northern Brisbane and on the Gold Coast are now full. Some key reservoirs in south Brisbane remain at about 30% of capacity, and are only increasing slowly.

Key actions over the next 24 hours will be to:

- Increase storage in the south Brisbane reservoirs back to target levels
- Bring the second of the two Mt Crosby WTPs back on line. This is expected to take another 24 hours. About 20 ML of poor quality treated water is being discharged today (diluted by about 130,000 ML of releases from Wivenhoe Dam). The second WTP is not required to meet demand, but provides resilience to the Grid should problems emerge elsewhere.

With those actions, supply will be secure. From that time, we will focus on monitoring water quality - with the potential for increased taste and odour issues. In terms of water quality, QUU has advised that it did not receive any customer complaints from 24/12 to yesterday (when it compiled results).

The desalination facility has had a key role in the response to this water quality incident:

- The plant has been operating at full capacity since yesterday, and will continue to do so until this afternoon
- Production at capacity has enabled us to fill the Gold Coast reservoirs while also transferring water north at the capacity of the Southern Regional Water Pipeline
- From this afternoon, we will throttle back to two-thirds capacity and maintain that level of output until at least next week
- Ongoing operation at two-thirds capacity will enable us to reduce demand on the Mt Crosby and Molendinar WTPs, which have some water quality taste and odour issues. We can also blend with dam water
- This type of operation was envisaged in the recommendation to move to standby mode. We had two standby trials before Christmas, with a permanent move planned from mid January. We were very pleased by how quickly the facility was returned to full capacity yesterday.

Elsewhere, we are seeking to bring the Capalaba WTP back online today. This has been complicated by the water quality in the dam degrading overnight. However, the plant is not essential - with the area currently being supplied from NSI. Trial water will be discharged.

Please call me on [REDACTED] if you have any queries or require any further information.

Regards,
Dan

From: Dan Spiller

Sent: Thursday, December 30, 2010 7:40 AM

To: 'stephen.robertson'; [REDACTED]

'ken.smith'; [REDACTED]

'debbie.best'; [REDACTED]

'Martin.Pete'; [REDACTED]

Cc: 'rdrury'; [REDACTED]
bob.reilly; [REDACTED]

'mfoster'; [REDACTED]

; SEOWGM Media; 'damien.brown'; [REDACTED]

Subject: Water Grid gate releases technical report: 30/12

All,

Attached is the updated technical report regarding gate releases. Key points are:

- All gates at Wivenhoe Dam are open, releasing at about 130,000 ML/day (about 140,000 ML/day with Lockyer Valley flows). This is similar to the peak release rate in October and early December
- Shutdown will commence Friday and be complete by Sunday, without further rainfall
- Local bridges and crossings likely to continue to be inundated until Sunday
- Downstream river levels continue to reduce with tides and reduced local flows.

Releases from North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams have ceased, pending any further rainfall. Hinze Dam releases will continue until the weekend.

Separately, extremely poor water quality in the Brisbane River caused operational issues for the Mt Crosby WTP yesterday. The WTP was back online by mid afternoon at reduced output. A number of other operational changes have been made, including operating the desalination facility and Southern Regional Water Pipeline at capacity. I will provide an update on these issues after 9.30am and continue to report as necessary.

Please call me on [REDACTED] if you require any further information.

Regards,
Dan

Litsupport Brisbane

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Friday, 31 December 2010 7:50 AM
To: stephen.robertson [REDACTED] Ken
[REDACTED] Smith [REDACTED] Debbie Best [REDACTED]
Martin.Pete [REDACTED]
Cc: mfoster [REDACTED] Rob Drury [REDACTED] SEQWGM Media;
Damien Brown [REDACTED] bob.reilly [REDACTED]
Subject: Water Grid gate releases: 31/12
Attachments: Technical Stuation Report W26.docx

All,

Attached is todays technical situation report for releases from Wivenhoe Dam. Key points are:

- About 130,000 ML/day is currently being released, through all five gates
- Gates will begin closing from late tonight or early tomorrow. Final closure is planned for Sunday
- Total releases for this release will be about 450,000 ML.

Hinze Dam will continue releases until next week. Leslie Harrison and North Pine dams have ceased releases.

Unless there is a change to the operating plan, we will provide the next report on Sunday once Wivenhoe Dam gates are closed.

I will provide a sepearate report about Water Grid operations after a 9am teleconference.

Please call me if you have any queries.

Regards,
Dan Spiller

TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W26	Date of TSR release	31.12.2010	Time of TSR release	7.00am
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Current status but could change based on inflows or rainfall.

Current objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drain flood compartment as quickly as possible (by about Sunday) without impacting Mt Crosby or Fernvale bridges.
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue current releases of around 1500cumecs. Twin Bridges, Savages, Burtons, Kholo and Colleges will be inundated until Sunday.
Key considerations	Storage levels: Above FSL
	Inflows: Ongoing inflows
	Rainfall:
	Lockyer/Bremer: Flows continue to decrease
	Brisbane River: Releases not changing greatly, other inflows downstream dropping away rapidly so releases will not impact on Brisbane River downstream. As per BoM advice, impact on tides minimal.

Rainfall

There has been no significant rainfall in the North Pine, Somerset and Wivenhoe catchments since 0900 on Wednesday 29 December 2010. The current BOM forecast for SE Qld over the next few days is mostly fine with a few light showers, although there is a chance of storms on Tuesday and Wednesday next week.

The catchments remain wet and are likely to generate additional runoff in the event of rain.

Somerset Dam

At 0500 on Friday 31 December 2010, the lake level was 99.01m AHD falling from a peak of 100.0m AHD reached around noon Tuesday 28 December 2010. Two regulators are currently operating and will remain open until the lake returns to the full supply level of 99.00m AHD. The total volume of water released since the event commenced on 26 December 2010 is 126,000 ML, with the current projected total release volume for this event approaching 130,000ML.

Wivenhoe Dam

Releases were gradually increased during Wednesday and Thursday morning until the combined release and Lockyer flow reached about 1,600m³/s (140,000 ML/d) in the middle Brisbane River. (Note this is similar to the flows in the releases made in mid-October and earlier in December 2010). Flow measurement carried out by the Department of Environment and Heritage during Thursday has confirmed this flow. This release will be maintained until late Friday 31 December 2010, when the shut down procedure will commence and gates are expected to be fully closed by Sunday 2 January 2010.

The proposed gate closure sequence will be such that the releases will mimic the natural pre-dam recession flows.

At 0500 on Friday 31 December 2010, the level had fallen slightly to 68.40m AHD and was releasing about 1,550m³/s (132,000ML/d). The total volume of water released from Wivenhoe dam since the event commenced on 26 December 2010 is 293,000ML, with the current projected total release volume for this event being in the order of 450,000ML (includes inflows from Somerset Dam).

Impacts of Wivenhoe Dam Releases

Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Colleges Crossing, Burtons Bridge and Kholo Bridge are currently closed due to inundation and will remain so until at least Sunday 2 January 2011. There is no current expectation that either Mt Crosby Weir Bridge or Fernvale Bridge will be impacted by this event. At this stage, it is estimated that the flow at Burtons Bridge will fall below the bridge deck on Sunday morning.

Wivenhoe releases should have minimal impact on tides based on planned releases. BoM advice confirmed this earlier in the week. Impacts from Bremer and other inflows should have mostly passed by the time any release from Wivenhoe gets to downstream river reaches.

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

BoM has been advised.

BoM Technical Officer name	Peter Baddiley
BoM Technical Officer position title	
BoM Technical Officer contact details	

Brisbane City Council (BCC) assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

BCC Technical Officer name	Chris Lavin
BCC Technical Officer position title	Disaster Operations Manager
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name	Tony Trace
ICC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
ICC Technical Officer contact details	

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised and do not have a problem with the new strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name	Tony Jacobs
SRC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
SRC Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	Rob Drury
Contact Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due	Date		Time		or Event	Final closing of gates
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Litsupport Brisbane

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Friday, 31 December 2010 9:47 AM
To: stephen.robertson; [REDACTED]; Ken Smith; Debbie Best
Cc: Martin.Peter; mfoster; Rob Drury; SEQWGM Media; Damien Brown; bob.reilly
Subject: Water Grid operational update
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

All,

Operation of the Water Grid is now stable, and reservoir levels are recovering.

The second of the two Mt Crosby WTPs is expected to be operational by midnight tonight, from which time supply from North Pine WTP and the Southern Regional Water Pipeline will be reduced.

All reservoirs on the Gold Coast are now full, meaning that production from the desalination facility has been reduced to one-third. The desalination facility remains at a high level of readiness, should there be further issues.

Please contact me on [REDACTED] should you require any further information.

Dan

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Friday, 31 December 2010 7:49 AM
To: stephen.robertson; [REDACTED]; Ken Smith; Debbie Best
Cc: Martin.Peter; mfoster; Rob Drury; SEQWGM Media; Damien Brown; bob.reilly
Subject: Water Grid gate releases: 31/12

All,

Attached is todays technical situation report for releases from Wivenhoe Dam. Key points are:

- About 130,000 ML/day is currently being released, through all five gates
- Gates will begin closing from late tonight or early tomorrow. Final closure is planned for Sunday
- Total releases for this release will be about 450,000 ML.

Hinze Dam will continue releases until next week. Leslie Harrison and North Pine dams have ceased releases.

Unless there is a change to the operating plan, we will provide the next report on Sunday once Wivenhoe Dam gates are closed.

I will provide a seperate report about Water Grid operations after a 9am teleconference.

Please call me if you have any queries.

Regards,
Dan Spiller

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, January 1, 2011 12:00 PM
To: stephen.robertson [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Ken Smith [REDACTED] Debbie Best [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Martin.PeterJ [REDACTED]
Cc: mfoster [REDACTED] Rob Drury [REDACTED] SEQWGM
Media [REDACTED]; Damien Brown [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] bob.reilly [REDACTED]
Subject: Water Grid update

All,

From tomorrow, the Water Grid will essentially be back to normal operations.

In relation to flood releases, at Wivenhoe Dam the gate closure sequence has commenced. All gates are scheduled to be closed tomorrow. Councils will decide upon the reopening of their local roads, taking into account any damage - such as occurred to Kholo Bridge prior to Christmas. Hinze Dam is continuing releases. Gates at North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams are closed.

In relation to recreation, Wivenhoe and Somerset dams are now both reopened to water based activities. Most recreation areas have also reopened - the exceptions being river access at Atkinson's Crossing and Billie's Bay/Hays Landing.

In relation to treatment and water quality, reservoir levels are now at target levels with demand relatively low. Key treatment plants are available, but there are some ongoing operational issues (including Mt Crosby East Bank and Capalaba water treatment plants). There was a slight increase in customer complaints about taste and odour on 30/12, which we are monitoring.

Finally, Brisbane City Council has advised that it may issue a CSA about potential local tidal flooding over the next week (see draft below, for potential issue late today). Dam releases will have a limited impact, with gates now closing (note that water takes 24 to 36 hours to flow from the dam to Brisbane City). We will continue to liaise with Council.

Please call me on [REDACTED] if you require any further information.

Regards,
Dan

Potential for minor tidal flooding

01 January, 2011

Residents are advised that minor tidal flooding is possible in low lying areas of Brisbane in coming days as a result of an atmospheric anomaly causing higher than usual tides. Tomorrow, minor tidal flooding may occur before and after the high tide peak of 2.93 metres around 8am (City Gauge) in low lying areas near tidal waters including:

- **Albion:** In the vicinity of Albion Park raceway at Albion, including Park, Amy, Agnes,

Yulestar, Narial, Higgs, Hutchieson, Pedder, Bogan and Fox streets, Abbotsford Road and the intersection of Wallace Street and Sandgate Road

- **Newstead:** In the vicinity of Edmonstone and Commercial roads and Ann, Ross, Waterloo, Argyle and Durong streets
- **Windsor:** In the vicinity of Northey Street and its intersection with Bowen Bridge Road and Victoria, Bryden, Somerset, Edgar, Downey, Cullen and Nicholas streets and O'Doherty Lane
- **Hemmant:** Low lying land in the vicinity Youngs Road
- **Lota:** Low lying land in the vicinity of the Esplanade and Bellevue Parade
- **Brisbane CBD:** Low lying parts of the Coronation Drive bikeway/pedestrian pathways and Southbank bikeway/pedestrian pathways

Monday's high tide of 2.96 metres is expected around 9am (City Gauge).

Motorists are advised to avoid parking in the areas that may be affected by tidal flooding over coming days and be aware that some sections of these roads and bikeways may be closed to vehicles and bikes during and following the high tide peak.

Residents can find out where flooding may occur from creeks, rivers and storm tides by downloading the Flood Flag map for their suburb. These maps are free for download and are available from Council's website at www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/floodwise

For more information, phone Council on 3403 8888.

-ENDS-

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, January 2, 2011 10:01 AM
To: 'stephen.robertson' [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
'Best Debbie' [REDACTED] 'Ken Smith' [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 'Martin.Peter' [REDACTED]
Cc: 'Rob Drury' [REDACTED] 'mfoster' [REDACTED]
SEQWGM Med [REDACTED] 'bob.reilly' [REDACTED]
'Damien Brown' [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: Water Grid event closed

All,

For the Water Grid, the recent flood event is now closed. No further reports will be provided.

As of 9am this morning, all gates at Wivenhoe Dam were closed. Fish recovery is underway. Once completed, minor releases will continue to be made through a cone valve.

Councils have been advised and will make decisions about opening Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing, Colleges Crossing, Kholo and Burtons bridges as inundation levels drop.

Releases from Hinze Dam will continue until tomorrow. Further releases will be made as required, including night-time releases from North Pine Dam.

The second Mt Crosby WTP recommenced production yesterday, providing a high level of resilience in the event of further issues. The desalination is currently operating at one-third capacity, with implementation of standby mode over coming weeks.

Brisbane City Council has advised that they released the Community Service Announcement contained in this update yesterday. They did an interview yesterday evening with 4BC regarding expected local flooding. During the interview they responded to a direct question asking if flooding is due to Wivenhoe Dam releases, saying the flooding is due to 'atmospheric anomalies' causing higher than usual tides. They expect further media interest throughout the day. We will continue to coordinate.

Regards,
Dan Spiller

[REDACTED]

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 8 January 2011 9:48 AM
To: Best Debbie
Subject: RE: Water Grid operations update: 8/1/11

Debbie,

We expect river levels to be similar to yesterday, and again due to tides rather than releases.

River yesterday peaked at about 1.85 metres at the Port Office gauge. The high peak was due almost entirely due to tides and a 0.4 to 0.5 metre atmospheric anomaly.

BoM and Seqwater agree that flows of 1500 cumecs over Mt Crosby will contribute about 0.05m (50mm) to peak river levels at the Port Office gauge. We are planning to release at 1200 cumecs from midday, with an allowance for Lockyer Valley flows (which peaked at about 500 cumecs this week and are reducing). For interest only, the impact on low tide levels is greater - meaning that there is less variation in river levels.

The key risk will be if the high rainfall eventuates (200mm over four days). We will review as this occurs, but in the meantime it is important that we get the flood storage compartment down to give ourselves some flexibility.

Looking forward, we are preparing a more detailed brief on potential scenarios with the upcoming January and February peak tides. The challenge is that river levels are due to about five different factors, of which only tides can be predicted this far out. Atmospheric anomalies can only be predicted a few days out.

Short answer is that we expect ongoing low level flooding (defined by BCC as 1.7m at the Port Office gauge). Moderate Brisbane River flooding as defined by BCC would still require significantly larger releases than have been made at any time since Wivenhoe Dam was completed, potentially combined with another large atmospheric anomaly. Note that local flooding can occur for a range of other reasons, as flagged in the CM today.

Hope this helps.

Dan

From: Best Debbie [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 8 January 2011 9:28 AM
To: Dan Spiller
Subject: Fw: Water Grid operations update: 8/1/11

Dan you give detail?
Debbie

----- Original Message -----

From: Ken Smith [REDACTED]
To: Best Debbie
Sent: Sat Jan 08 09:26:23 2011
Subject: Re: Water Grid operations update: 8/1/11

Thanks Deb. Can't access the attachment at home. Likelihood of localised flooding?

----- Original Message -----

From: Best Debbie [REDACTED]
To: Ken Smith
Sent: Sat Jan 08 09:16:40 2011
Subject: Fw: Water Grid operations update: 8/1/11

Ken

A bit of action in SE which you need to be aware of. WGM is liaising with the LDMG. Debbie

----- Original Message

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
To: stephen.robertson [REDACTED]

; Best Debbie:

Martin.Pete [REDACTED]

Cc: Rob Drury [REDACTED]

; mfoster [REDACTED]

Media @ SEQWGM; Brown Damien; Reilly Bob; [REDACTED]

Sent: Sat Jan 08 08:59:30 2011
Subject: Water Grid operations update: 8/1/11

All,

Dam releases

Attached is the current technical situation report.

Releases are being made from Somerset, Wivenhoe, North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams, with forecasts of high rainfall totals over the next four days.

For Wivenhoe Dam:

- * All five gates are now open with the release rate planned to increase to 1200 cubic metres per second by midday today. This release rate is less than peak release from October 2010.
- * The release strategy will continue to be reviewed based on actual rainfall. With significant inflows, it may need to be increased.
- * As advised yesterday, a number of local bridges have been inundated by releases and local flows. The Fernvale and Mt Crosby Weir Bridges could potentially also be affected if predicted rainfall totals eventuate.
- * The BoM and Seqwater concur that current releases will increase the level of the lower Brisbane River by about 50 to 100mm. There is currently a 40 to 50mm atmospheric anomaly.

Releases from North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams are continuing. Releases from Hinze Dam are expected to be required over the weekend.

Water treatment

In terms of operations, Lockyer Valley flows have again caused a turbidity spike in the Brisbane River. Impacts are expected to peak today at Mt Crosby today, before being diluted by dam releases. There are similar issues at some other locations.

Despite the spike, all key plants are currently operating within critical limits with any impacts being monitored. Seqwater and Linkwater have prepared for potential issues by increasing treated water storage and staffing at some treatment plants. Desalination is at one-third capacity and ready to increase production within two hours of an instruction (but is unlikely to be required in this event).

With forecast rainfall, these type of issues are likely to recur over the remainder of the wet season.

Please call me on [REDACTED] if you require any further information.

Regards,
Dan

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○

+-----+

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+-----+

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○

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From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2011 11:16 AM
To: John Bradley [REDACTED] Debbie Best
[REDACTED] bob.reilly [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Martin.Peter [REDACTED]
Cc: SEQWGM Media [REDACTED] Rob Drury
[REDACTED]
watergridmedia [REDACTED]
Subject: Water Grid gate releases
Attach: Technical_Situation_Report_W65.docx

All,

Updated Technical Situation Report attached.

A minor gate release will commence at midday. The release rate will be 100 cubic metres per second, compared to 1500 cubic metres per second in December 22 when high tides and atmospheric anomalies previously resulted in high river levels. Seqwater and BoM calculated that a release of about 1500 cubic metres per second release increased river levels by up to about 50mm at that time. Transit time to Brisbane City is at least 24 hours, by which time peak tides will have passed.

Note that the release is required for water supply reasons and to draw down dam levels. Seqwater expects to continue releases until Tuesday or Wednesday. Seqwater has consulted BCC.

Peter: I would appreciate your advice about whether you wish to continue to receive updates for minor releases, such as this.

Regards,
Dan

TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W65	Date of TSR release	21.1.11	Time of TSR release	10am
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Current status but could change based on inflows or rainfall.

Current objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain flows in the Brisbane River for water supply requirements and continue to reduce levels in the dams
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open a cone valve at Somerset to reduce back to 100% after base flow has increased levels. Reinstate release from Wivenhoe via a minor gate opening as cone valve is damaged and hydro cannot release sufficient water.
Key considerations	Storage levels:
	Inflows:
	Rainfall:
	Lockyer/Bremer:
	Brisbane River:

North Pine

All gates closed.

Somerset Dam

One regulator will be opened at Somerset to discharge 69cumecs and reduce back to FSL by sometime tomorrow.
Somerset is currently 101.6% and 385,809ML.

Wivenhoe Dam

An operational release will be initiated to reinstate flows downstream for water supply purposes and dropping levels back to FSL. There is a need to ensure consistent flows at Lowood while emergency pumps are in use. Water releases for Mt Crosby are also required to assist in water quality issues.

Wivenhoe Dam is currently 100.4% and 1,169,571ML.

The release will be around 100cumecs through one central gate opening which will keep Twin Bridges inundated. Savages and Colleges bridges depend on the recession of the Lockyer flows.

This flow will continue until Tuesday or Wednesday next week depending on base flows and then may need to be reduced however it depends on water supply and quality issues.

Strategy

Councils have been informed of the current release strategy.
BCC advised they have no concerns regarding the flows in terms of tides. The release will not reach the lower Brisbane until Saturday night or early Sunday morning.
ICC and Somerset are both aware of the strategy and Somerset has no concerns re Twin Bridges remaining out and accept that Savages may become inundated depending on the Lockyer flows..

Leslie Harrison Dam:

Gates closed.

Hinze Dam:

Closed.

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

No need to advise BoM of operational flows of this size.

BoM Technical Officer name	Peter Baddiley
BoM Technical Officer position title	
BoM Technical Officer contact details	

Brisbane City Council (BCC) assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy

BCC Technical Officer name	Chris Lavin
BCC Technical Officer position title	Disaster Operations Manager
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name	Tony Trace
ICC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
ICC Technical Officer contact details	

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)
(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name	Tony Jacobs
SRC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
SRC Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	Rob Drury
Contact Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due	Date		Time		or Event	Change in Strategy
--------------	------	--	------	--	----------	--------------------

[REDACTED]

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2011 9:19 AM
To: John Bradley [REDACTED]; bob.reilly [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Martin.Peter [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cc: SEOWGM Media [REDACTED] Rob Drury [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; Mike Foster [REDACTED]
<mfoster [REDACTED]>

Subject: Water Grid gate releases
Attach: Technical_Situation_Report_W66.docx

All,

Current Technical Situation Report attached.

Seqwater advise that both Wivenhoe and Somerset dams are at 101.1%. A small release (90 cubic metres per second) is expected to continue until Tuesday or Wednesday to bring storages back to FSL and for water supply purposes.

Given the small scale of releases, we do not propose to provide a report tomorrow unless there are changes to the strategy. Please advise if you require a report.

Regards,
Dan

TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W66	Date of TSR release	22.1.11	Time of TSR release	9am
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Current status but could change based on inflows or rainfall.

Current objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain flows in the Brisbane River for water supply requirements and continue to reduce levels in the dams
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open a cone valve at Somerset to reduce back to 100% after base flow has increased levels. Reinstate release from Wivenhoe via a minor gate opening as cone valve is damaged and hydro cannot release sufficient water.
Key considerations	Storage levels:
	Inflows:
	Rainfall:
	Lockyer/Bremer:
	Brisbane River:

North Pine

All gates closed.

Somerset Dam

One regulator will be opened at Somerset discharge varying minor amounts to reduce back to FSL over next few days.
Somerset is currently 101.1% and 384,106ML.

Wivenhoe Dam

Currently releasing 90cumecs through one gate and also using the hydro to release a total of around 100cumecs downstream for water supply purposes and dropping levels back to FSL.

Wivenhoe Dam is currently 101.1% and 1,178,238ML.

Twin Bridges is inundated. Savages and Colleges bridges depend on the recession of the Lockyer flows.

This flow will continue until Tuesday or Wednesday next week depending on base flows and then may need to be reduced however it depends on water supply and quality issues.

Strategy

Councils have been informed of the current release strategy.
BCC advised they have no concerns regarding the flows in terms of tides. ICC and Somerset are both aware of the strategy and Somerset has no concerns re Twin Bridges remaining inundated.

Leslie Harrison Dam:

Gates closed.

Hinze Dam:

Closed.

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

No need to advise BoM of operational flows of this size.

BoM Technical Officer name	Peter Baddiley
BoM Technical Officer position title	
BoM Technical Officer contact details	

Brisbane City Council (BCC) assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy

BCC Technical Officer name	Chris Lavin
BCC Technical Officer position title	Disaster Operations Manager
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name	Tony Trace
ICC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
ICC Technical Officer contact details	

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name	Tony Jacobs
SRC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
SRC Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	Rob Drury
Contact Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due	Date		Time		or Event	Change in Strategy
--------------	------	--	------	--	----------	--------------------

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 22, 2011 10:30 AM
To: 'Bradley John' [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
stephen.robertson [REDACTED] Ken.Smith [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] 'Best
Debbie' [REDACTED] Barry
Dennien [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plant
Attach: MIN - Mt Crosby WTP loss of SCADA.PDF

All,

Current update attached for info.

Mt Crosby is now producing 100 ML/day in manual mode (having not routinely operated in that mode for at least 20 years). Seqwater is stabilising production at this level, prior to increasing to 150 ML/day and then 200 ML/day (aiming to do this no later than tomorrow morning).

Storages are at about 250 ML, being drawn down at about 100 ML/day. Storages have not previously been below 120 ML.

We are preparing contingency plans and communications materials. We will assess the need for these following a midday teleconference.

The emergency room has been activated and is available on [REDACTED]. I will brief QH officers and have invited them to our midday teleconference.

I am available on [REDACTED] if you have any other queries.

Regards,
Dan

From: Bradley John [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 22, 2011 8:49 AM
To: [REDACTED] stephen.robertson [REDACTED] Ken.Smith [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Dan Spiller
Subject: Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plant

[REDACTED] Ken [REDACTED]

Just FYI at this stage – not yet a problem to supply.

Mt Crosby water treatment plant (both East Bank and West Bank) are both currently offline due to electrical failure in last night's storms.

- There is about 270 ML in storage in reservoirs across Central SEQ but the issue of concern will be the ability to resupply **reservoirs in the western areas, closest to Mt Crosby.**
- Southern Regional Water Pipeline is transferring max (95 ML/d) into Central SEQ zone and the North Pine treatment plant is at maximum (due to low quality inflow water) at about 100 ML/d.

There is urgent work underway by Seqwater to get Westbank back online by lunchtime, which will provide at least 100 ML/d in the first stage. Provided this all goes to plan, there should be no interruption to water

supply.

Dan Spiller at SEQWGM will provide SITREPs and updates during the day, escalating if there any concerns.

John Bradley
Director-General
Department of Environment and Resource Management
Telephone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
www.derm.qld.gov.au

Department of Environment and Resource Management
400 George Street, Brisbane Q 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane Q 4001

+-----+

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1 ream of paper = 6% of a tree and 5.4kg CO₂ in the atmosphere

3 sheets of A4 paper = 1 litre of water

+-----+



Incident Notification: Level 4 - MIN - Mt Crosby WTP loss of SCADA

Minister agency: Minister for Natural Resources, Mines & Energy and Minister for Trade

INCIDENT DETAILS:

Event: Mt Crosby WTP Loss of SCADA Control 0830-22FEB11
Report date: 22/02/2011 09:45 AM
Lodging agency: SEQ WGM
Severity level: Level 4
Incident status: Active
Next briefing: 12:30pm

CONTACT DETAILS:

Contact: Dan Spiller
Role: WGM Emergency Manager
Phone: [REDACTED]
Mobile: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Reason for briefing A new Water Grid level 4 emergency has been declared per the SEQ Water Grid Emergency Management Plan.

Asset Mt Crosby WTP

Location Mt Crosby

Timing At approximately 3.15pm yesterday severe storms caused the loss of communications to the Chlorine dosing controls at Holts Hill. Chloramination operations continued at Holts Hill via manual intervention, however both WTPs were later tripped out by storm activity with Eastbank WTP returned to service shortly after.

During the second wave of storms around 8pm power supply was lost and the SCADA system completely failed. This resulted in both plants being inoperable, repair work progressed throughout the night and contractors are on site this morning. An estimated time for repairs is not known.

What we know There has been no production from either plant since 8pm last night.

Disinfection is being controlled manually at Holt's Hill. No flows or reservoir levels are available to Seqwater or Linkwater so levels are being manual checked each hour.

Work is now underway to operate Eastbank in complete manual mode of operation. This mode of operation has not been undertaken previously and requires a significant team approach to accomplish.

LinkWater have been advised of the loss of production.

What we are doing The following actions have been taken or are planned to be undertaken to mitigate further risks:

- Contractors have been engaged to complete SCADA repairs
- Alternate water supplies have been sourced from the SRWP
- Operating Eastbank WTP on full manual control, 100 ML a day being produced
- Once manual operation stabilised, will increase production in manual mode if possible
- Communications messaging currently being drafted to encourage efficient water use



SEQ Water Grid Emergency Management R01 Minister's Notification

should it be required

- Contingency planning underway with QUU including large water use identification.

Action required

Endorse communications messages in anticipation of them being required.

The map displays the state of Queensland, Australia, with major cities and towns labeled. A red arrow points to the location of the Mt Crosby WTP Loss of SCADA Control incident, which occurred on 0830-22FEB11. The incident is located near Brisbane, specifically in the area of Forest Lake. The map also shows the Sunshine Coast and Gold Coast regions, as well as various national parks and forests. Major roads and highways are indicated by numbered markers.

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 22, 2011 11:47 AM
To: 'Bradley John' [REDACTED]
'Martin.Peter' [REDACTED]
'richard.c.johnson' [REDACTED]
Cc: 'Rob Drury' [REDACTED] 'Mike Foster'
<mfooster [REDACTED]> 'Debbie.Bes' [REDACTED] 'Reilly Bob'
<Bob.Reilly [REDACTED]>
Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Subject: Technical Situation Report
Attach: Technical_Situation_Report_W72.docx

All,

Seqwater has provided the attached Technical Situation Report.

Planned releases were reduced slightly last night to allow for the storm activity. This will increase the release time, with the extent of the increase not yet known.

Regards,
Dan

Daniel Spiller

Director, Operations

SEQ Water Grid Manager

Phone [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

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TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W72	Date of TSR release	22.2.11	Time of TSR release	10.30am
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Current status but could change based on inflows or rainfall.

Current objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce level in Wivenhoe dam to 75%
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate low level releases at around 350 to 400cumecs. This will inundate Twin Bridges, Savages and Colleges Crossings. Maintain access to Burtons bridge
Key considerations	Storage levels:
	Inflows:
	Rainfall:
	Lockyer/Bremer:
	Brisbane River:

Wivenhoe Dam

Releases commenced Sunday morning 20.2.11 at 6am.

Releases were increased slightly to 380cumecs as planned however due to the rain in the Lockyer last night, they were reduced to 325cumecs late last night.

Currently they are still 325cumecs while we monitor the Lockyer, it may be necessary to reduce another 50cumecs depending on the flows. Once the Lockyer flow has passed, releases will be increased back to around 380cumecs. This will increase the release period slightly.

Level this morning was 96.7%.

There are also flows occurring in the upper Brisbane and Stanley Rivers (which will need to be released into Wivenhoe). This will further increase the release period however an estimate is not available yet until there is a better indication of what impacts the rain will have on flows.

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

BoM were advised.

BoM Technical Officer name	Peter Baddiley
BoM Technical Officer position title	
BoM Technical Officer contact details	

Brisbane City Council (BCC) assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy

BCC Technical Officer name	Chris Lavin
BCC Technical Officer position title	Disaster Operations Manager
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name	Tony Trace
ICC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
ICC Technical Officer contact details	

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name	Tony Jacobs
SRC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
SRC Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	Rob Drury
Contact Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due	Date		Time		or Event	Change
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From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2011 5:19 PM
To: 'Bradley John' [REDACTED]
'Martin.Peter' [REDACTED]
'richard.c.johnson' [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cc: 'Rob Drury' [REDACTED] 'Mike Foster' [REDACTED]
<mfostr [REDACTED] 'Debbie.Best' [REDACTED] 'Reilly Bob' [REDACTED]
< [REDACTED]
Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: Technical Situation Report
Attach: Technical_Situation_Report_W73.docx

All,

Current Technical Situation Report attached. Releases have increased back to 371 cubic metres per second.

Regards,
Dan

Daniel Spiller
Director, Operations
SEQ Water Grid Manager

Phone [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W73	Date of TSR release	23.2.11	Time of TSR release	5.00pm
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Current status but could change based on inflows or rainfall.

Current objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce level in Wivenhoe dam to 75%
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate low level releases at around 350 to 400cumecs. This will inundate Twin Bridges, Savages and Colleges Crossings. Maintain access to Burtons bridge
Key considerations	Storage levels:
	Inflows:
	Rainfall:
	Lockyer/Bremer:
	Brisbane River:

Wivenhoe Dam

Releases commenced Sunday morning 20.2.11 at 6am.

Releases were increased slightly to 380cumecs as planned however due to the rain in the Lockyer Monday night they were reduced to 325cumecs as flows coming in from surrounding streams and the Lockyer could have inundated Burtons Bridge with no warning. The flows from local creeks and down the Lockyer have passed sufficiently to increase releases again from 325cumecs to 371cumecs as of this afternoon.

This has put us just over half a day behind in releases.

This will further increase as water coming down creeks and streams flow into Wivenhoe and Somerset (inflows into Somerset that are coming down the Stanley River may need to be released into Wivenhoe as well). Although relatively minor, they will add to the storage. It is difficult to determine exact amounts as they are from minor flows from various spots.

Level this afternoon was 93.4%.

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

BoM were advised.

BoM Technical Officer name	Peter Baddiley
BoM Technical Officer position title	
BoM Technical Officer contact details	

Brisbane City Council (BCC) assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy

BCC Technical Officer name	Chris Lavin
BCC Technical Officer position title	Disaster Operations Manager
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name	Tony Trace
ICC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
ICC Technical Officer contact details	

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name	Tony Jacobs
SRC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
SRC Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	Rob Drury
Contact Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due	Date		Time		or Event	Change
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From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 3:35 PM
To: 'Bradley John [REDACTED]';
'Martin.Peter [REDACTED]';
'richard.c.johnson([REDACTED])';
[REDACTED]
Cc: 'Rob Drury [REDACTED]'; 'Mike Foster' <mfoster@seqwater.com.au>; 'Debbie.Best' <Debbie.Best@seqwater.com.au>; 'Reilly Bob' <Bob.Reilly@seqwater.com.au>; Barry Dennier [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Technical Situation Report
Attach: Technical_Situation_Report_W74.docx

All,

Current Technical Situation Report attached. Seqwater has advised that the release strategy has been extended to Wednesday afternoon.

Regards,
Dan

Daniel Spiller

Director, Operations

SEQ Water Grid Manager

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

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TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W74	Date of TSR release	28.2.11	Time of TSR release	2.00pm
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Current status but could change based on inflows or rainfall.

Current objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce level in Wivenhoe dam to 75%
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate low level releases at around 350 to 400cumecs. This will inundate Twin Bridges, Savages and Colleges Crossings. Maintain access to Burtons bridge Extend releases until the afternoon of Wednesday 2nd March 2011
Key considerations	Storage levels:
	Inflows:
	Rainfall:
	Lockyer/Bremer:
	Brisbane River:

Wivenhoe Dam

- Water releases to reduce Wivenhoe Dam to 75 per cent of Full Supply Level (FSL) commenced Sunday 20 February 2011 at 6.00 am and was scheduled to continue for nine days.
- The 9 day release period to reduce Wivenhoe Dam to 75 per cent of FSL was always dependent on further rainfall across the dam and catchment as well as rainfall downstream.
- Storm activity across the Wivenhoe Dam catchment and Brisbane River catchment below the dam on Monday, 21 February 2011 impacted on the release strategy. Wivenhoe Dam release rates were reduced to allow flows down the Lockyer to sufficiently pass.
- As a result of this storm as of 9.00am Monday 28 February 2011, Wivenhoe Dam had received inflows of up to 40,000 megalitres (or the equivalent of about four per cent capacity) from the surrounding catchment, with minor inflows continuing.
- As of 9.00 am, Monday 28 February 2011, Wivenhoe Dam is 82.2 per cent of full supply level. Wivenhoe Dam FSL has been reduced by total of about 208,000 megalitres.
- Releases have averaged between 350 cumecs to 400 cumecs.
- The current Bureau of Meteorology forecast is for 10-15 millimetres of rainfall until Thursday, 3 March 2011. Storm activity is forecast from Friday, 4 March 2011 with 50-100 millimetres of rainfall forecast over the following four days until Tuesday, 8 March 2011.

Current Strategy

- The nine day release strategy was scheduled to be completed in the morning of Tuesday, 1 March 2011. By this stage, Seqwater estimates Wivenhoe Dam levels will between 79-80 per cent of FSL (depending on further inflows).
- Seqwater estimates the impact of storm activity on Monday 21 February 2011 added at least 36 hours to the release strategy.

- Based on the current BoM forecasts, Seqwater will now be extending the current release strategy for Wivenhoe Dam until close of business, Wednesday, 2 March 2011 to get as close to 75% as possible and so that any ongoing releases do not coincide with potential rainfall events and increased river flows downstream of Wivenhoe Dam. After closure, minor releases only will be made of about 25 to 30 cumecs to get exactly 75% and allow water to be released from Somerset Dam through Wivenhoe.
- By continuing releases until close of business Wednesday, 2 March 2011, Seqwater estimates Wivenhoe Dam will be between 75-77 per cent of FSL.

Impacts

- Somerset Regional Council, Ipswich Regional Council and Brisbane City Council have been consulted and had raised no issues with the extended release strategy.
- Under the extended release strategy it is expected Twin Bridges and Savage's Crossing will no longer be inundated by Thursday, 3 March 2011 and College's Crossing no longer inundated by Friday, 4 March 2011. The extended release strategy has extended inundation time by around 36 hours.
- Local Councils are responsible for road closures as a result of spilling dams or controlled releases.

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

BoM were advised.

BoM Technical Officer name	Peter Baddiley
BoM Technical Officer position title	
BoM Technical Officer contact details	

Brisbane City Council(BCC) assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy

BCC Technical Officer name	
BCC Technical Officer position title	Disaster Operations Manager
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)
(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name	Tony Trace
ICC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
ICC Technical Officer contact details	

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)
(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name	Tony Jacobs
SRC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
SRC Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	Rob Drury
Contact Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due	Date		Time		or Event	Change
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From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2011 5:32 PM
To: 'Bradley John' [REDACTED]
'Martin.Peter' [REDACTED]
'richard.c.johnson' [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cc: 'Rob Drury' [REDACTED] 'Mike Foster' [REDACTED]
<mfoster@seqwater.com.au> [REDACTED] 'Debbie.Best' [REDACTED] 'Reilly Bob' [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Technical Situation Report
Attach: Technical_Situation_Report_W77.docx

All,

Current Technical Situation Report from Seqwater attached.

Releases will continue at 100 cumecs to bring Wivenhoe Dam down to 75 percent of its FSL.

Regards,
Dan

Daniel Spiller
Director, Operations
SEQ Water Grid Manager

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

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TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W77	Date of TSR release	7.3.11	Time of TSR release	11.00am
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Current status but could change based on inflows or rainfall.

Current objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce level in Wivenhoe dam back to 75%
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recent rain has increased Wivenhoe by 4 to 5% with inflows continuing for some time. Rain has also increased Somerset levels. Options were a release of up to 400cumecs for 3 or 4 days (with opening and closing sequences) taking out Twin Bridges, Savages and Colleges or a slow release over 2 weeks or so but only affecting Twin Bridges. Councils preferred the latter and it seems reasonable considering no significant rain is forecast for a week or more. Increase release from 35cumecs to 100cumecs as the Lockyer flows drop and dependent on the capacity of Savages after the floods. This should return Wivenhoe to 75% in a couple of weeks if 100 cumecs can be maintained. Strategy depends on how much continues to flow into Wivenhoe, any further rain in the catchments and any further flows in the Lockyer
Key considerations	<p>Storage levels:</p> <p>Inflows:</p> <p>Rainfall:</p> <p>Lockyer/Bremer:</p> <p>Brisbane River:</p>

Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams

- Increase release from Wivenhoe to around 100cumecs as the Lockyer decreases from recent rains, starting increased releases today.
- Start slow release from Somerset in next day or so to drop levels.
- This will only affect Twin Bridges which has minimal impact on Councils.
- Continue for up to around 2 weeks depending on inflows, rain and downstream flows..

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

BoM were advised.

BoM Technical Officer name	Peter Baddiley
BoM Technical Officer position title	
BoM Technical Officer contact details	

Brisbane City Council (BCC) assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy

BCC Technical Officer name	
BCC Technical Officer position title	Disaster Operations Manager
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name	Tony Trace
ICC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
ICC Technical Officer contact details	

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name	Tony Jacobs
----------------------------	-------------

SRC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
SRC Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	Rob Drury
Contact Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due	Date		Time		or Event	
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From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2011 5:35 PM
To: 'Bradley John' [REDACTED] 'Martin.Peter' [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 'richard.c.johnson' [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cc: 'Rob Drury' [REDACTED] 'Mike Foster' [REDACTED]
'Debbie.Best' [REDACTED] 'Reilly Bob' [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Technical Situation Report
Attach: Technical_Situation_Report_W78.docx

All,

The report attached to the last email was superseded. Correct version attached.

Dan

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Thursday, 24 March 2011 5:32 PM
To: 'Bradley John'; 'Martin.Peter' [REDACTED]
'richard.c.johnson' [REDACTED]
Cc: 'Rob Drury'; 'Mike Foster'; 'Debbie.Best' [REDACTED] 'Reilly Bob'; [REDACTED] Barry
Dennien; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Technical Situation Report

All,

Current Technical Situation Report from Seqwater attached.

Releases will continue at 100 cumecs to bring Wivenhoe Dam down to 75 percent of its FSL.

Regards,
Dan

Daniel Spiller
Director, Operations
SEQ Water Grid Manager
Phone [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT

TSR Number	W78	Date of TSR release	24.3.11	Time of TSR release	8am
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Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

Current status but could change based on inflows or rainfall.

Current objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce level in Wivenhoe dam back to 75% using same strategy as 2 weeks ago
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Releases had reduced Somerset to almost 100% and Wivenhoe close to 75% when rain occurred last weekend. Wivenhoe has gone back up to almost 79 and Somerset to 103%. Release from Wivenhoe at around 100cumecs as the Lockyer flows drop This should return Wivenhoe to 75% within 1 to 2 weeks depending on inflows into both dams and further rain. Will inundate Twin Bridges
Key considerations	Storage levels:
	Inflows:
	Rainfall:
	Lockyer/Bremer:
	Brisbane River:

Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams

- Rainfall of 30 to 60mm occurred over various areas of the catchments over last weekend.
- Releases from Wivenhoe were slowed over the weekend due to flows in the Lockyer, they are now being increased through this week (up from 10 to 70cumecs over last couple days) and will be back to 90 to 100cumecs in a day or so as the Lockyer continues to drop.
- Continue release from Somerset of around 35cumecs until levels approach 100%.
- This will only affect Twin Bridges which has minimal impact on Councils.
- Continue for up to around 2 weeks depending on inflows, rain and downstream flows.
- Discussed with Somerset Council and no real issues.

Seqwater Technical Officer name	Robert Drury
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

BoM assessment

(consisting of references to latest Flood Warning for the Brisbane River and other relevant Bureau forecasts and warnings (e.g. weather/rain forecasts, Tropical Cyclone Warning etc) and other updates/comments if needed)

BoM were advised.

BoM Technical Officer name	Peter Baddiley
BoM Technical Officer position title	
BoM Technical Officer contact details	

Brisbane City Council (BCC) assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy

BCC Technical Officer name	
BCC Technical Officer position title	Disaster Operations Manager
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

ICC Technical Officer name	Tony Trace
ICC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
ICC Technical Officer contact details	

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information)

Council has been advised of the current strategy.

SRC Technical Officer name	Tony Jacobs
SRC Technical Officer position title	Local Disaster Response Coordinator
SRC Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (Agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	Rob Drury
Contact Officer position title	Dam Operations Manager

Next TSR due	Date		Time		or Event	
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Documents subject to Cabinet confidentiality

No	Document	Date	Time
1	Ministerial briefing note – Water Grid operational status	28.01.2011	

Documents subject to Parliamentary privilege

No	Document	Date of parliamentary sittings
1	Tugan desalination plant – production and operations	14-16 September 2010
2	Tugan desalination plant – production and operations	14, 15, 16 September 2010
3	Wivenhoe Dam spilling – the likelihood of Wivenhoe Dam spilling and safety	5 – 7 October 2010
4	Wivenhoe Dam capacity (briefing note 64)	5 – 7 October 2010
5	Tugan desalination plant – production and operations (briefing note 51)	26 – 28 October 2010
6	Optimisation of the SEQ Water Grid	23 – 25 November 2010
7	SEQ Water Grid – a secure and sustainable water supply (briefing note 45)	23 – 25 November 2010
8	Wivenhoe dam spilling – likelihood of dam spilling and safety (briefing note 73)	23 - 25 November 2010
9	Media release – temporary reduction in full supply level in Wivenhoe Dam	13 February 2011
10	FSL announcement	13 February 2011
11	Changes to full supply level of Wivenhoe Dam – water security impacts	undated
12	SEQ Water Grid – a secure and sustainable water supply (briefing note 42)	15 - 17 February 2011
13	Gold Creek Dam – operations	15 – 17 February 2011
14	SEQ Water Grid – a secure and sustainable water supply (briefing note 42)	15 - 17 February
15	What is the cost of dumping 290,000 megalitres	15 - 17 February 2011
16	Wivenhoe 25% reduction	15 - 17 February 2011
17	Wivenhoe Dam operations in relation to the January 2011 flood event	15 – 17 February 2011
18	Tugan desalination plant and Western Corridor – operations and hot standby	15 – 17 February 2011

No	Document	Date of parliamentary sittings
19	Wivenhoe Dam operations in relation to the January 2011 flood event	8 – 10 March 2011
20	Wivenhoe 25% reduction	8 – 10 March 2011
21	Wivenhoe Dam – SEQ Water security with reduction in supply (briefing note 26)	8 – 10 March 2011
22	Gold Creek Dam – operations supply (briefing note 21)	8 – 10 March 2011
23	Gold Coast desalination plant and Western Corridor – operations and hot standby (briefing note 53)	8 – 10 March 2011
24	What is the cost of dumping 290,000 megalitres	8 – 10 March 2011
25	SEQ Water Grid – a secure and sustainable water supply (briefing note 43)	8 – 10 March 2011
26	Gold Creek Dam – operations supply (briefing note 7)	22 – 24 March 2011
27	SEQ Water Grid – a secure and sustainable water supply (briefing note 16)	22 – 24 March 2011
28	Gold Coast (Tugan) desalination plant and Western Corridor – operations and hot standby (briefing note 6)	22 – 24 March 2011
29	Wivenhoe 25% reduction (briefing note 28)	22 – 24 March 2011
30	Wivenhoe dam – what is the cost of dumping 290,000 megalitres (briefing note 27)	22 – 24 March 2011
31	Wivenhoe dam – operations in relation to the January 2011 flood event (briefing note 29)	22 – 24 March 2011
32	Wivenhoe Dam – Seqwater security with reduction in supply (briefing note 26)	22 – 24 March 2011

CTS No. 18594/10

**SEQ Water Grid Manager
MINISTERIAL BRIEFING NOTE**

**TO: Minister for Natural Resources, Mines
and Energy and Minister for Trade**

**SUBJECT: South East Queensland Water Entity Reporting
(October 2010)**

Advisor	€ Ok
Dated / /	
€ Approved € Not Approved € Noted	
€ Further information required	
Minister	
Dated / /	

REQUESTED BY

- The Minister's Office requested this brief.

TIMEFRAME

- Noting of the information below is required by 14 October 2010 when the Minister meets with the Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) of the four state-owned South East Queensland (SEQ) Water Grid entities, the Queensland Water Commission (QWC) and the Department of Environment and Resource Management (the Department).

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Minister:

- **note** the proposed meeting agenda (**Attachment 1**), and
- **note** the non-regulatory reports from the SEQ water entities (**Attachments 2 to 7**), and
- **note** the communications report (**Attachment 8**).

BACKGROUND

- The Minister is meeting the CEOs of the SEQ water entities, the QWC and the Department on 14 October 2010.

CURRENT ISSUES

1. FLUORIDE REPORTING

Seqwater (Stage 1 Fluoridation Program)

- All Stage 1 water treatment plants have met regulatory requirements for the second successive quarter over the September quarter.

Seqwater (Stage 2 Fluoridation Program)

- All additional Stage 2 plants are expected to complete Proof of Performance Testing (POPT) as well as final commissioning by the end of October or early November 2010. All other Stage 2 plants (11) that have completed final commissioning have met regulatory requirement for the September quarter, with the exception of Amity Point. However Amity Point provided fluoride over and above that deemed by Queensland Health to provide a health benefit.

2. WATER GRID CAPITAL PROJECTS

Gold Coast Desalination Plant

- Works to rectify the announced defects at the Gold Coast Desalination Plant have been completed and practical completion granted to the Gold Coast Desalination Alliance. Following completion of the final rectification works, WaterSecure has begun negotiations with the Gold Coast Desalination Alliance to facilitate commercial closeout of the project.

Author Name: [REDACTED] Position: SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 6 October 2010	Cleared by Name: Dan Spiller Position: Director, Operations, SEQ Water Grid Manager Tel No: [REDACTED]	Cleared by Name: Position: Tel No:	Recommended: Name: Barry Dennien CEO, SEQ Water Grid Manager Tel No: [REDACTED] Date:
	Name: Position: Tel No:	Name: Position: Tel No:	

Hinze Dam Stage 3

- The project is on schedule for completion of regulated works in December 2010. The Alliance currently forecasts the final financial position as being between Total Overall Cost (TOC) and \$8 million below TOC.

Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme

- Detailed advice is being prepared to responsible Ministers regarding demand for purified recycled water and the operation of the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme. It is likely to recommend that at least one advanced water treatment plant (AWTP) be demobilised, based on current and likely demand. Demobilisation would need to demonstrate there is no impact on the achievement of Level of Service objectives and the ability to put purified recycled water into the dam at the 40% trigger.
- WaterSecure are working on a variety of operating scenarios for the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme to meet Water Grid requirements while optimising financial and environmental considerations.
- Luggage Point AWTP is offline while SCADA upgrade and refurbishment works are being undertaken.
- Gibson Island AWTP has begun its proving period. Indications to date show the microfiltration performance issue has been resolved satisfactorily.

3. WATER GRID MANAGEMENT

Summer Risk Assessment and Flood Operations Centre

- Seqwater is currently undertaking an operational Summer Risk Assessment ahead of the 2010-11 summer, as per the previous summer. Seqwater is also currently redeveloping its Flood Operations Centre with new systems and equipment during 2010-11 to better manage flood events in the future.

SEQ Water Grid Operating Strategy

- The interim SEQ Water Grid Operating Strategy has been approved by the QWC, subject to certain conditions. An updated version will be submitted in October 2010. The operating strategy highlights a number of water treatment plants for detailed investigation. Some small or aged water treatment plants may be demobilised or demolished including the Maleny and Woorim water treatment plants. Investigation will be undertaken in partnership with Seqwater and other entities.

Water Supply Project Investigations

- The South East Queensland Water Strategy has identified the need to ensure that stand alone communities approach the same level of service as those communities connected to the Grid. The QWC, in collaboration with water entities and local government, is developing a framework for assessing the water supply risk and developing a potential solution for stand alone communities including Dayboro and Boonah and in particular, to Beaudesert and Canungra, which experienced shortages in 2009.

Wyaralong Water Treatment Plant

- A submission is being prepared by the QWC in consultation with the relevant agencies and water entities about the construction timing of the Wyaralong Water Treatment Plant (WTP) and connecting pipelines. The submission will address;
 - The need for additional supplies across SEQ to meet Level of Service objectives and in the key development areas near the proposed WTP
 - Construction and operational costs of the WTP and pipelines
 - Impacts on existing WTPs
 - Operational considerations
 - Alternative uses for water from Wyaralong Dam.

Author Name: [REDACTED] Position: SEQ Water Grid Comm: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 6 October 2010	Cleared by Name: Dan Spiller Position: Director, Operations, SEQ Water Grid Manager Tel No: [REDACTED] Name: [REDACTED] Position: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED]	Cleared by Name: [REDACTED] Position: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED] Name: [REDACTED] Position: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED]	Recommended: Name: Barry Dennien CEO, SEQ Water Grid Manager Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: [REDACTED]
---	---	---	---

- Seqwater is currently working to understand and manage the implications resulting from not proceeding in terms of the broader asset portfolio.

RESOURCE/IMPLEMENTATION IMPLICATIONS

- There are no resource/implementation implications.

PROPOSED ACTION

- That the Minister note the above information.

OTHER INFORMATION

- *Consultation:* N/A.
- *Legislation:* N/A.
- *Key Communication Messages:* N/A.

MINISTER'S COMMENTS

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft agenda for 14 October 2010 meeting
2. SEQ Water Grid Manager Monthly Report
3. QWC Monthly Report
4. Seqwater Monthly Report
5. WaterSecure Monthly Report
6. LinkWater Monthly Report
7. LinkWater - attachments
8. SEQ Water Grid Entities Communications Report

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 6 October 2010	Cleared by Name: Dan Spiller Position: Director, Operations, SEQ Water Grid Manager Tel No: [REDACTED] Name: Position: Tel No:	Cleared by Name: Position: Tel No: Name: Position: Tel No:	Recommended: Name: Barry Dennien CEO, SEQ Water Grid Manager Tel No: [REDACTED] Date:
---	--	---	--

Minister Robertson and CEOs of SEQ Bulk Water Entities, Water Grid Manager and QWC Meeting Agenda - 14 October 2010

Meeting Minister Robertson and CEOs of SEQ Bulk Water Entities and WGM

Location Minister's Boardroom, Lvl 17, QMEC Building, 61 Mary Street

Date Thursday, 14 October 2010

Time 2.00 to 3.00 pm

Item / Subject
1. FLUORIDE REPORTING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. SEQ Stage 1 and 2 Fluoridation Programs (Seqwater)
2. WATER GRID CAPITAL PROJECTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Gold Coast Desalination Plant (WaterSecure) B. Hinze Dam (Seqwater) C. Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme (WaterSecure and SEQ Water Grid Manager)
3. WATER GRID MANAGEMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Summer Risk Assessment and Flood Operations Centre (Seqwater) B. SEQ Water Grid Operating Strategy (SEQ Water Grid Manager) C. Water Supply Projects Investigations (QWC) D. Wyaralong Water Treatment Plant (QWC and Seqwater)
4. NEXT MEETING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be advised

Minister's / Water Entity CEO's Monthly Meeting

Agenda Topic: Monthly report from the SEQ Water Grid Manager

Prepared by: Barry Dennien Chief Executive Officer SEQ Water Grid Manager	Agenda Item: Meeting No: Date: October 2010
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1. Major Achievements/Milestones:

1.1. Risk and Technology:

1.1.1. Emergency Management System

The project to roll out an Emergency Management System, *OCA Incident Manager*, is currently tracking to schedule, and will see the system go live in early December after a parallel run with the current manual process through the majority of November. The cutover is assessed as very low risk, as the current manual process will always remain as the alternate method.

1.1.2. Emergency Response Plan

Following approval by the Minister of the *Emergency Response Plan v 2.0*, all Grid Participants are currently submitting their updated Emergency Response Plans to the SEQ Water Grid Manager for approval. The approval process will be complete by mid November under the various timings specified within *The Market Rules*.

1.2. Finance and Corporate Services:

1.2.1. Grid Service Provider Charges

We have received the Ministerial Determinations for the Grid Service Provider Charges and have been reviewing them and providing feedback to the Queensland Water Commission (QWC).

We have also been providing feedback and seeking clarification on the QWC's proposed procedure for the review and adjustment of Grid Service Provider Charges during 2010-11, including the threshold limits, the up to 15% budgeted surplus that the Grid Service Providers may retain in relation to fixed and variable allowances and pass through events.

1.2.2. Operating Protocol Guidelines

We have been participating in the QWC's consultation process for the development of Operating Protocol guidelines and support the QWC's goal to have these in place as soon as possible so that the process for having approved Operating Protocols can begin – the QWC is aiming at no later than January 2011. There are benefits and efficiencies in having certainty around the communication expectations between connected Grid Participants. The Operating Protocols will also assist in managing the SEQ Water Grid under other regulatory instruments such as the SEQ Water Grid Emergency Response Plan and the SEQ Water Grid Quality Management Plan. The QWC will be facilitating a number of workshops this year for the development of the Operating Protocol guidelines.

1.2.3. Ipswich decentralisation

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: Senior Correspondence Officer Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 8 October 2010	Cleared by: Name: Barry Dennien Position: Chief Executive Officer SEQ Water Grid Manager Tel No: [REDACTED] Date:	Cleared by: Name: Position:
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We have been informed by the Department of Public Works that it intends to make a Cabinet and Budget Review Submission in November 2010. In the meantime, through the water entities taskforce, we have provided a high level accommodation needs report and estimated employment and industrial relations costs and lease costs to DPW. We are awaiting further feedback from DPW regarding the information that we have provided. We have also sought further clarification from DPW and Queensland Treasury on the manner in which the costs of moving to Ipswich will be funded.

1.3. SEQ Water Grid communications:

1.3.1. The SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit

The SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit commenced operations on 1 July 2010 in accordance with the SEQ Water Grid Coordinated Communications Implementation Plan, as approved by the Minister and Chairs of the bulk water entities. The Unit now acts as the central point of reference for the shareholding ministers, the media and the community for all Grid related operations, on behalf of the Grid entities

1.3.2. SEQ Water Grid Communications Strategy

The Unit has been actively implementing a whole-of-grid communications strategy designed to establish the SEQ Water Grid as an accepted brand and single voice for operational communications. This strategy which has been constructed in concert with the bulk water entities includes a community plan, education plan, government and industry plan, media relations plan and a Grid employee plan. Activities under taken pursuant to theses plans so far include attendance at Brisbane Ekka and regional shows, a number of Grid 101 education seminars for government stakeholders and industry and the design and initial implementation of an advocacy program. The Unit has supplied support for answering a variety of ministerial correspondence and has acted as a single point of reference for media.

1.4. Operations:

1.4.1. Tarong Power Station

Tarong Energy Corporation Limited (TEC) previously has raised concerns regarding the concentration of boron contained in the purified recycled water (PRW) delivered to it. The value of boron outlined in the contract between the SEQ Water Grid Manager and Tarong Energy Corporation is 0.37 milligrams per litre. The concentrations being supplied have reduced from up to 0.32 milligrams per litre to consistently below 0.1 milligrams per litre.

1.4.2. Lockyer Valley Farmers

The SEQ Water Grid Manager has completed its assessment of option to supply purified recycled water to the Lockyer Valley of irrigation use. The scheme will require capital and some operational subsidies. Department of Environment and Resources Management resources would also need to be re-allocated to implement entitlements. A joint bid has been submitted to the Minister.

1.4.3. SEQ Water Grid Operating Strategy

The interim SEQ Water Grid Operating Strategy has been approved by the QWC. An updated version will be submitted in November 2010. The operating strategy highlights a number of water treatment plants for detailed investigation. Some small or aged water treatment plants may be demobilised or demolished including the

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: Senior Correspondence Officer Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 8 October 2010	Cleared by: Name: Barry Dennien Position: Chief Executive Officer SEQ Water Grid Manager Tel No: [REDACTED] Date:	Cleared by: Name: Position:
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Maleny and Woorim water treatment plants. Investigations will be undertaken in partnership with Seqwater and other entities.

1.4.4. SEQ Water Grid Quality Management Plan

The revised SEQ Water Grid Quality Management Plan (WGQMP) will be submitted in November 2010. The WGQMP included a minimum whole-of-Grid monitoring plans with testing to be undertaken by entities. It also includes minimum disinfection residual levels for the first time.

Detailed advice is being prepared to responsible Ministers regarding demand for purified recycled water and the operation of the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme. Advice is being prepared in collaboration with WaterSecure. It is likely to recommend that at least one advanced water treatment plant be demobilised, based on current and likely demand.

2. Resourcing Implications:

2.1. Nil

3. Matters for Decision:

3.1. Nil

4. Attachments:

4.1. Nil

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: Senior Correspondence Officer Tel N [REDACTED] Date: 8 October 2010	Cleared by: Name: Barry Dennien Position: Chief Executive Officer SEQ Water Grid Manager Tel N [REDACTED] Date:	Cleared by: Name: Position:
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Minister's / Water Entity CEO's Monthly Meeting

Agenda Topic: Monthly report from QWC

Prepared by: Karen Waldman Chief Executive Officer Queensland Water Commission	Agenda Item: Meeting No: Date: 14 October 2010
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1. Major Achievements/Milestones:

- 1.1. The three new Council-owned Distributor-retailer entities commenced operations on 1 July 2010. The Queensland Water Commission (QWC) is continuing to implement the Water Reform program through the following actions:
 - developing and consulting on a Customer Water and Wastewater Code which is currently proposed to apply to individually metered residential premises and small businesses;
 - expanding the responsibilities of the Energy Ombudsman Queensland to incorporate water and wastewater disputes in line with the code. Work is progressing on the legislative amendments required to expand the Energy Ombudsman's function;
 - ongoing monitoring and administration of the South East Queensland Water Market Rules; and
 - further developing the regulatory framework supporting infrastructure planning, in particular the development of the Water and Wastewater Network and Services Plans (NetServ Plans) by the three Distributor-retailers, to ensure infrastructure is upgraded in a timely and efficient way and that stakeholders have an opportunity to be consulted.
- 1.2. Prior to the Distributor-retailers becoming operational on 1 July 2010, the Minister approved transfer schemes which gave legal effect to the transfer of water and wastewater infrastructure and other assets, employees, instruments and liabilities from the SEQ local governments to the Distributor-retailers. On 30 September 2010, the Minister approved supplementary transfer schemes that deal with matters not addressed in the first round of transfer schemes.
- 1.3. The QWC is working collaboratively with industry stakeholders to achieve a common understanding of the water market regulatory framework and to further develop detailed instruments to make the framework work as intended. Under the Market Rules, the QWC has undertaken to grid participants to facilitate and progress a Guideline for Operating Protocols and to consider default Grid Contracts. Workshops commenced during the first week of October 2010 with a view to developing the Guidelines by January 2011. The Grid Contract Working Group will start meeting from November 2010.

Author and Cleared By

Karen Waldman, Chief Executive Officer, QWC Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 5 October 2010

File Ref: D/10/045796

Page 1 of 4

- 1.4. The 2010-11 Grid Service Charges for Seqwater, WaterSecure and Linkwater have been approved by the Minister. Comments have been received from Seqwater and LinkWater on their Initial Grid Service Charges. The QWC is currently working on finalising these charges and making its recommendation to the Minister. WaterSecure's comments are due by 21 October 2010.
- 1.5. The *South East Queensland Water Strategy* (Strategy) was released on 15 July 2010. Key features of the Strategy include:
- Conserving water. Permanent Water Conservation Measures were introduced 10 months ago, and residents across SEQ have, on average, used 160 litres per day – well below Target 200. The QWC has proposed a communications campaign, building on previous campaigns, to reinforce that saving water remains an important issue for SEQ and to provide information on how households can continue to save water.
 - Being prepared and supply ready. The Strategy is the plan to be supply ready and to minimise the impacts of climate change, drought and demand growth through planned investment, prudent management and a Drought Response Plan. As part of being supply ready, the QWC is currently undertaking Phase 3 of the Desalination Siting Investigations to confirm the suitability of the priority sites and develop an understanding of any outstanding investigations required prior to commencing the detailed feasibility studies. As part of the investigations, a tender process is currently underway with Linkwater for the engagement of a consultancy to prepare the Route Selection Report. The appointment of a successful candidate is expected in mid October 2010.
 - Managing water efficiently. The SEQ Water Grid is now operational and the water industry has been streamlined to ensure efficient management of the Grid and delivery of safe and secure water supplies. The Strategy also seeks to make additional water available for rural producers and irrigators, when it is not required for urban uses.
- 1.6. As part of the implementation of the Strategy, a SEQ Rural Water Advisory Group has also been established by the Queensland Farmers Federation, in partnership with the QWC and DERM, along with key irrigator representatives to assist in planning for rural water supply initiatives in SEQ and help prioritise rural water projects. The Group has prioritised two rural water projects for immediate action: amending the Interim Resource Operations Licence for the Warrill Valley Water Supply Scheme and undertaking a feasibility study of opportunities for using recycled water in the Logan River Water Supply scheme.
- 1.7. The Strategy has identified the need to ensure that stand alone communities approach the same level of service as those communities connected to the Grid. The QWC, in collaboration with

water entities and local governments, is developing a framework for assessing the water supply risk and developing a potential solution for stand alone communities including Dayboro and Boonah and, in particular, to Beaudesert and Canungra, which experienced shortages in 2009. A submission is being prepared about the future water supply options for these communities. In addition, the QWC is developing drought response plans for those communities assessed to be most at risk (such as Canungra) to ensure security of supply under existing supply arrangements.

- 1.8. A submission is being prepared by the QWC in consultation with the relevant agencies and water entities about the construction timing of the Wyaralong water treatment plant (WTP) and connecting pipelines. The submission will address:
 - the need for additional supplies across SEQ to meet Level of Service objectives and in the key development areas near the proposed WTP;
 - construction and operational costs for the WTP and pipelines;
 - impacts on existing WTPs;
 - operational considerations, including water quality and asset reliability risks; and
 - alternative uses for water from Wyaralong Dam, including potential supply for rural purposes.
- 1.9. In line with the *South East Queensland Regional Plan 2009-2031* the QWC has developed a draft Sub-regional total water cycle management planning framework. The framework has been provided to the key stakeholders for review prior to finalisation in late 2010. The QWC and Moreton Bay Regional Council have commenced planning to develop a sub-regional total water cycle management plan for the Caboolture West area by August 2011. Additionally, the QWC is engaging with Ipswich City Council and Sunshine Coast Regional Council to undertake a sub-regional total water cycle management plan for the priority areas of Ripley Valley and the Sunshine Coast (Palmview and Caloundra South).
- 1.10. The QWC has commissioned Sunwater to investigate the potential for further water resource development of the Logan River Basin. Sunwater has submitted its draft report on the options for development. The Scenic Rim, Gold Coast and Logan Councils have been advised of the study and invited to participate in a workshop in October 2010 to consider the options. Further consideration is being given to smaller dams on the Albert River, including sites within the impoundment of the original Wolffdene Dam. Studies are on track for completion by the end of 2010.
- 1.11. On 7 September 2010, the QWC wrote to the Sunshine Coast and Gympie Regional Councils seeking their involvement in a project reference group (PRG) on the investigations of the upper Mary River water supply development options, including the Stage 3 raising of Borumba Dam. The PRG will include the QWC, the two councils, DERM, SunWater and key community groups. Gympie

Regional Council proposed the Mary River Catchment Coordination Committee as a member of the PRG. DERM, SunWater and the councils will be consulted on appropriate community group representatives for the PRG. Subject to formal project endorsement by the Mayors and the Minister, it is anticipated the study will be completed by early 2011.

- 1.12. The QWC will have a significant role in supporting management of cumulative impacts on groundwater from coal seam gas (CSG) activities. This will involve development and implementation of regional monitoring, groundwater modelling and assessment of groundwater impacts from CSG extraction in cumulative management areas. The functions of the QWC will be provided in proposed amendments to the *Water Act 2000* and will be funded by an industry levy on CSG tenure holders.
- 1.13. To define the roles and workstreams to be established within the QWC, an Implementation Plan has been prepared for the period through to June 2011, the period currently funded by government. In addition, the QWC has prepared a Preliminary Business Plan for 2011/12 - 2013/14, to be further developed in line with the budget cycle in February 2011, which includes an organisational structure, resourcing and preliminary budgets for the first 3 full years of operation.
- 1.14. There are a number of key workstreams for QWC to establish with immediate priority to fulfil its statutory functions, which are each being closely monitored in accordance with the Implementation Plan program:
- a consultant has been selected to establish a groundwater flow model for the Surat Basin which will be fundamental to QWC's assessment of cumulative impacts;
 - an Invitation to Tender to assist in establishing the funding model and fee structure for the Levy has been completed and will be released to the market imminently;
 - the 'business-as-usual' organisation structure has been developed and priority positions for immediate recruitment have been identified. Key leadership positions of Senior Director and Director, Policy and Projects have been filled and further recruitment is in progress to build the team;
 - the QWC has commenced the preparation of a CSG Water Strategic Directions Report which will be finalised and released in line with enactment of the proposed amendments to the *Water Act 2000*. This document will articulate QWC's role in the coal seam gas industry;
 - discussions have commenced with DERM to progress the definition and establishment of a groundwater information database; and
 - a panel of experts will be established from which QWC will be able to call and establish a Scientific Panel. QWC is working with DERM in defining the requirements of the panel.

Minister's / Water Entity CEO's Monthly Meeting

Agenda Topic: Monthly report from Seqwater

Prepared by: Peter Borrows CEO Seqwater	Agenda Item: Meeting No: Date: 14 October 2010
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1. Major Achievements/Milestones:

1.1. Key capital works update

1.1.1. Kilcoy Water Treatment Plant

Seqwater Board approval for a new \$11 million Water Treatment Plant for Kilcoy has been granted. Project planning is underway and stakeholders are being consulted and engaged in the planning process.

1.1.2. SCADA development

Development is ongoing for a program to upgrade of communication system SCADA for Water Treatment Plant (WTP) man and unmanned management. Seqwater is consulting with LinkWater through this process.

1.2. South East Queensland Fluoridation Program (Stage 1 and 2)

1.2.1. Performance

All Stage 1 plants are on track to meet regulatory requirements for second successive quarter over the September quarter, All Stage 2 plants (11) which have completed final commissioning are on track to meet regulatory requirements for the September quarter. It is the first quarter these plants have reported to Queensland Health.

1.2.2. Stage 2

All additional Stage 2 plants (9) are expected to complete Proof of Performance Testing (POPT) as well as final commissioning by the end of October/early November. Seqwater has taken the deliberate decision to undertake a more prolonged commissioning period during Stage 2 in an effort to decrease the bedding down period previously required by Stage 1 plants before they started to consistency meet the regulatory requirements.

1.3. Research

1.3.1. Catchment Investment Efficiency Measures

Seqwater is currently developing Catchment Investment Efficiency Measures (CIEM's) to help determine, quantify and measure the benefits of catchment investment. As part of this initiative Al Appelton has been invited to visit south

Author Name: Mike Foster Position: Seqwater Corporate Relations Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 12 May 2010	Cleared by Name: Peter Borrows Position: CEO	
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Page 1 of 3

east Queensland over the first week of November to make a number of presentations and conduct workshops with key staff and externals. [REDACTED] is known globally for his work as Commissioner of the New York City Council Department of Environmental Protection and Director of the New York City Water and Sewer System. In this role he designed and initiated a comprehensive program of watershed protection for New York City's Catskills watershed that met rural development needs in ways that preserved New York's pristine water quality without constructing WTPs.

1.3.2. ISnet

Seqwater and CSIRO received the 2010 the iAward (Australian Technology for Industry award), for the integrated sensor network (iSnet) technology. The technology enables immediate data collection from the storages and watershed, at real-time speed. The system enables monitoring of raw water quality, which enables better management of treatment processes required and therefore cost reductions.

1.4. Lungfish

Lungfish eggs were located near one of the recreation areas around North Pine Dam in early September 2010. Further areas of North Pine Dam will be scanned for breeding and a study is being considered to scan other Seqwater storages to investigate if eggs are being laid in those storages as well.

The Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts remains supportive of the Seqwater Lungfish Management Program. Seqwater updated DEWHA in August on research, egg finds at both Logan's inlet and recent discoveries in North Pine Dam and upcoming activities. A further session is planned for early next year.

1.5. Wyaralong Water Treatment Plant (WTP)

Informal advice has been received from Queensland Water Commission (QWC) that it intends deferring making a decision on its support for construction phase timing until late 2010 and currently are tending toward recommending deferral of the project construction phase until 2022 at the earliest.

The Project Steering Committee is writing to QWC to advise cost and timing impacts of delaying decision on project in the event that that decision confirms progressing delivery. Seqwater is currently working to understand and manage the implications resulting from not proceeding in terms of the broader asset portfolio.

1.6. Hinze Dam Upgrade Project

The project is on schedule for completion of regulated works in December 2010. The Alliance currently forecasts the final financial position as being between TOC and \$8M below TOC.

Author Name: Mike Foster Position: Seqwater Corporate Relations Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 12 May 2010	Cleared by Name: Peter Borrows Position: CEO	
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File Ref:

Page 2 of 3

1.7. Dam flood operations and water releases

Unseasonal late September rainfall saw Wivenhoe Dam reach full capacity for the first time since January 2001. Seqwater will continue to monitor the levels but it is unlikely to reach the trigger level requiring controlled flood gate releases. Somerset also reached full capacity which resulted in controlled releases into Wivenhoe. North Pine remained static at just below 97%.

Seqwater is currently undertaking an operational Summer Risk Assessment ahead of the 2010/11 summer, as per the previous summer.

Seqwater is currently redeveloping its Flood Operations Centre with new systems and equipment during 2010/11 to better manage flood events in the future.

1.8. Recreation

Seqwater is continuing to rollout its Recreation Management Framework. Work on the site based master plans for Somerset and Wivenhoe are nearing completion.

Seqwater is working Queensland Water Infrastructure (QWI) to ensure recreation infrastructure at Wyaralong Dam meets the required standards. Discussions regarding the viability of the recreation master plan and the proposed operating model are also underway with QWI.

1.9. Koala Working Group

A koala working group has been established to proactively manage koalas and their habitat at Seqwater sites. As well as cross functional team from Seqwater, a representative from the Koala Conversation Unit of DERM has accepted an invitation to work on the project.

2. Resourcing Implications:

2.1. Nil

3. Matters for Decision:

3.1. Nil

4. Attachments:

4.1. Nil

Author Name: Mike Foster Position: Seqwater Corporate Relations Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 12 May 2010	Cleared by Name: Peter Borrows Position: CEO	
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File Ref:

Page 3 of 3

Minister's / Water Entity CEO's Monthly Meeting

Agenda Topic: Monthly report from *WaterSecure*

Prepared by: Paul Rees, Manager, Communications and External Relations, WaterSecure	Agenda Item: Meeting No: Date: October 2010
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1. Major Achievements/Milestones:

- 1.1. Works to rectify the announced defects at the Gold Coast Desalination Plant have been completed and practical completion granted to the GCD Alliance. To date the plant has supplied more than 29.4 billion litres to the Water Grid (to 30 September)
- 1.2. WCRW has now supplied more than 38.3 billion litres of purified water to Swanbank and Tarong power stations (to 30 September)
- 1.3. WaterSecure has now supplied almost 67.7 billion litres of desalinated and purified water (to 30 September).
- 1.4. In September the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme won the International Water Association's Global Grand Prize for Design, and its highest award, the Superior Achievement Award.
- 1.5. The Bundamba Virtual Tour has been completed and will be launched at a function at the Queensland Museum on 4 October.

2. Resourcing Implications:

2.1. Gibson Island AWTP – microfiltration performance

The Gibson Island plant has begun its proving period. Indications to date show the microfiltration performance issue has been resolved satisfactorily.

2.2. Luggage Point AWTP – refurbishment and SCADA upgrade works

The Luggage Point plant is offline while these works are being undertaken. It is anticipated the plant will be back online December 2010/January 2011.

2.3. Commercial closeout for the desalination project

Following completion of the final rectification works, WaterSecure has begun negotiations with the GCD Alliance to facilitate commercial closeout of the project.

Author Name: Paul Rees Position: Manager, Communications and External Relations Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 1 October 2010	Cleared by Name: Keith Davies Position: CEO, WaterSecure	Cleared by Name: Position:
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File Ref:

Page 1 of 2

2.4. WCRW and Gold Coast Desalination operating strategy

WaterSecure is working on a variety of operating scenarios for the WCRW Scheme and Gold Coast Desalination Plant to meet Water Grid requirements while optimising financial and environmental considerations.

3. Matters for Decision:

3.1. Nil

4. Attachments:

4.1. Nil

Author Name: Paul Rees Position: Manager, Communications and External Relations Tel No [REDACTED] Date: 1 October 2010	Cleared by Name: Keith Davies Position: CEO, WaterSecure	Cleared by Name: Position:
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Page 2 of 2

Minister's / Water Entity CEO's Monthly Meeting

Agenda Topic: Monthly report from LinkWater

Prepared by: [REDACTED]	Agenda Item: Meeting No: Date: 13 October 2010
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1. Major Achievements/Milestones:

1.1 Capital expenditure

LinkWater carries out a program of improvements to assets transferred from councils.

Major projects undertaken since July 2010 include:

- Narangba Reservoir roof replacements – completed
- Kimberley Park Reservoir roof replacement – concrete refurbishment now complete. Roof completion underway. Estimated completion date for this project is end of September 2010
- Cathodic protection - program/mechanism to help protect pipelines from corrosion. Approximately 50% of acquired assets are now protected. Other sections are in the process of being commissioned.

LinkWater's Community Engagement Team works closely with councils and retail/distribution entities to ensure communication with any potentially affected stakeholders is carried out. Consistent with LinkWater's entire capital expenditure program, work is completed within council by-laws.

1.2 Barrel joint replacement program

LinkWater has conducted assessments on valve pits that contain similar barrel union joints to the one that caused the main break at Anstead in May 2009.

LinkWater has replaced 41 barrel union joints [see Attachment 2] since the Anstead incident. Assessments identified varying degrees of criticality for replacement. Additional replacements are scheduled as part of the ongoing prioritised replacement program.

This work forms part of LinkWater's tactical asset management process that sits underneath its Strategic Asset Management Plan.

Author Name: [REDACTED] Position: CEO Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 13 October 2010	Cleared by Name: Position:	Cleared by Name: Position:
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File Ref:

Page 1 of 3

1.3 Grid Infrastructure Master Plan

LinkWater is progressing with the implementation of a Bulk Transport Network Infrastructure Master Plan that will enable a greater understanding of the water quality, hydraulic, energy and demand assumptions for the SEQ Water Grid.

Phase One is nearly complete and has involved a detailed review of each council's projected growth in water demands to identify future bulk water infrastructure needs.

With this information, LinkWater will be better placed to identify opportunities for operational efficiencies within the Grid to then make recommendations to the QWC on strategic asset management.

1.4 Water Quality

LinkWater has established a water quality monitoring regime that exceeds levels of monitoring previously conducted in the bulk water transport network.

Last financial year, LinkWater installed and/or replaced 111 new sample points across the network. Sample points are small cabinets near the pipe that contain a sterilised tap for collecting small amounts of water for testing. Greater numbers of sampling points enables LinkWater to develop a better understanding of how water quality is maintained throughout the network.

LinkWater is currently installing 19 new water quality monitoring stations. Four of these will trial brand-new technology to assist in analysing water quality across SEQ's potable bulk water transport network. The ultraviolet-visible spectrophotometer analysers will analyse water quality at an advanced level and will help to better manage water quality risks. If the trial is successful, more units will be installed across the network.

The increased testing within the network feeds into water quality information providing confidence to the public about South East Queensland's drinking water quality.

1.5 Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Integration Strategy

To ensure operational consistency of existing and new assets, LinkWater has been working toward a consolidated and integrated SCADA system for its pipelines and related infrastructure. This will ensure that bulk water transport infrastructure is controlled through one central system, instead of the varied systems currently in use and inherited from councils.

The project has four phases:

- Phase 1 - Consultation and conceptual design phase
- Phase 2 - Detailed business case phase
- Phase 3 - Preparation for delivery phase (approaching completion)
- Phase 4 - Expression of interest phase – before December 2010

Author Name: [REDACTED] Position: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 13 October 2010	Cleared by Name: Position:	Cleared by Name: Position:
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File Ref:

Page 2 of 3

LinkWater is approaching completion of Phase 3. Phase 4 will be completed before December 2010.

A Request For Tender process will commence in January/February 2011 and will be the starting point for the NuSCADA (Network Unity) program that will take 2-3 years to complete.

1.6 Network management

LinkWater engaged Optimatics in June 2010 to investigate opportunities for multi-variable optimisation of bulk transport operations in relation to:

1. Operating Costs (using appropriate tariff times, chemical costs, etc.)
2. Source water (to ensure compliance to Water Grid rules)
3. Water Quality (to minimise known and potential water quality issues in the Water Grid)

A Scoping Study Report is expected by the end of September. Based on the probable findings of this work, a Proof of Concept study will commence shortly after this. This will entail reviewing available technologies and developing an implementation program across the bulk transport network. LinkWater will work with other water grid entities to determine the required information transfer and operability issues to ensure the required functionality is achieved.

1.7 Grid entities working collaboratively on the following projects:

- Sub regional planning
- Network modelling and optimisation
- Water quality
- Real-time operational connectivity
- Recycled water management plan
- System modelling and optimisation
- Grid communications

2. Resourcing Implications:

2.1 Nil

3. Matters for Decision:

3.1 Nil

4. Attachments:

Attachment 1: NNA Stage Two Pipeline construction progress

Attachment 2: Valve replacement map for October 2010 Ministerial meeting

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: CEO Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 13 October 2010	Cleared by Name: Position:	Cleared by Name: Position:
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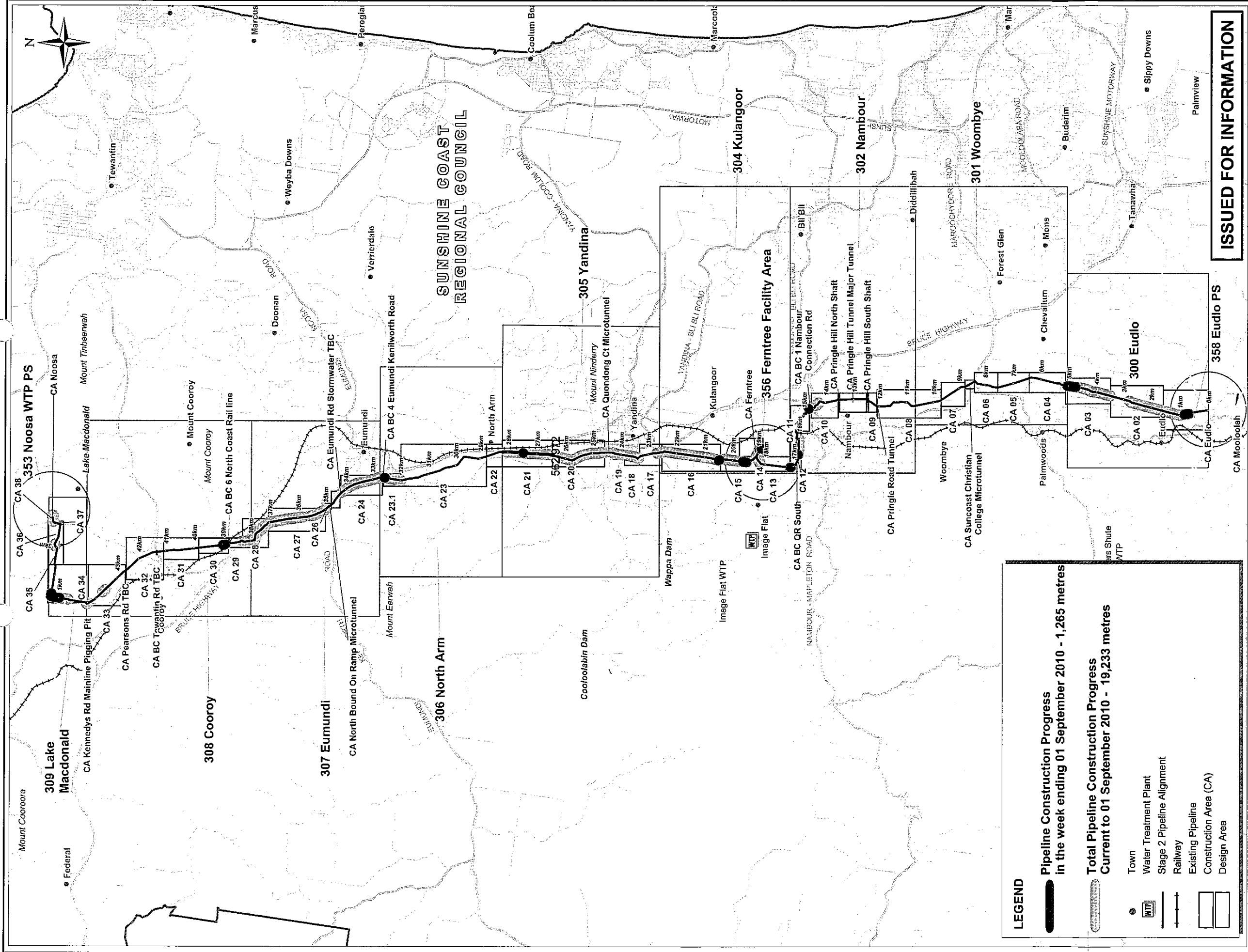
Page 3 of 3

Attachment 7 – LinkWater attachments

Minister's / Water Entity CEO's Monthly Meeting

Attachments to monthly report from LinkWater:

- ATTACHMENT 1 (*pg.2*): NNA Stage Two Pipeline construction process
- ATTACHMENT 2 (*pg.3*): Valve replacement map for October 2010 Ministerial meeting



NORTHERN PIPELINE INTERCONNECTOR STAGE 2		SCALE 0 2.5 5km Scale: 1:120,000 @ A3	
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST ALLIANCE		TITLE PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS	
DRAWING NUMBER NNA001-GDV-000000-U-GIS-515		ORIG. SIZE A3	
REVISION 23		PROJECTION MG94, Zone 56	
SOURCE CCUB & LCA - © The State of Queensland (Department of Environment and Resource Management) [2010], Queensland Rail.		DESIGNATION REV	
23		06/09/10	
ISSUED FOR INFORMATION		W. HORWOOD	
DESIGN		R/M	
CHECK		DATE	
DRAFTING		NAME	
SIGNATURE		SIGNATURE	

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Minister's / Water Entity CEO's Monthly Meeting

Communications Report

October 2010

Hot issues/Emerging Risks:

ENTITY	TOPIC	PRIORITY
Seqwater	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Fluoride Stage 2 – Equipment and integration issues have seen 11 of the 20 plants complete final commissioning. The additional 9 plants are expected to reach Proof of Performance Testing (POPT) and complete final commissioning by the end of October/early November 2010. Both the Department of Infrastructure and Planning and Queensland Health are aware of the issues. Notice of Industrial Dispute – The Australian Workers Union (AWU) has lodged a Notice of Industrial Dispute (annualised salary) against Seqwater. The issue was set down for a two-day hearing on 4 and 8 October 2010, however Seqwater and AWU are currently negotiating a Memorandum of Understanding which is expected to result in the matter being withdrawn by the AWU. Wyaralong Dam Water Treatment Plant (WTP) – The project is awaiting on the results of a review by the Queensland Water Commission of the current project timelines, which is expected by the end of the year. The delay in submitting a CBRC funding proposal has the potential to delay the project by 3-6 months. 	
SEQ Water Grid Manager	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Central point of contact - The SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit, operating from the SEQ Water Grid Manager offices, is currently working as the central point of contact for all media and ministerial requests. The role of this team is further outlined in the SEQ Water Grid Communications Strategy. Advocate Program – The first advocate briefing session under the SEQ Water Grid Advocate Program is set to run in early November. This will see key industry targets 	

	hosted on a tour of the Grid, including the a Grid 101 session, tour of the Tugun Desalination Plant, tour of the Hinze Dam, tour of Molendinar Water Treatment Plant and tour of the LinkWater control room.	
LinkWater	<p>1. Toowoomba Pipeline</p> <p>A vibration issue within the pump station of the Toowoomba pipeline will result in a planned shutdown in mid-October 2010. The problem occurs at the normal flow rate of 450 l/sec. The pipeline is currently operational at a reduced flow rate and will remain so until the planned works occur (assuming vibration does not commence at the lower flow rate). This has been agreed with Toowoomba Regional Council.</p> <p>The media risk is now low as the pipeline is operational while water is being released from Wivenhoe Dam. Media attention is unlikely to remain high at the time the works are planned.</p> <p>The agreed response to media enquiries is: "The Toowoomba Pipeline is operational while water is being released from Wivenhoe Dam."</p>	
WaterSecure	<p>1. Final rectification works at the desalination plant – The works at the plant have been completed, practical completion has been awarded to the alliance and supply to the grid has resumed. Initial media coverage of Minister Hinchcliffe's announcement has been fair and balanced.</p>	
QWC	<p>1. SEQ Distributor-retailer price monitoring by the Queensland Competition Authority (QCA) - From 1 July 2010, the Distributor-retailers assumed responsibility for the setting of retail prices with the QCA undertaking a price monitoring role. The QCA has requested information from the Distributor-retailers on costs and other factors resulting in annual increases in water and wastewater prices. On 29 September, the QCA published the information submissions from the Distributor-retailers on its website. The QCA will release a Draft Report on its assessment of this information by 31 December 2010 and provide a final report to the Government by 31 March 2011.</p>	

Media/Marketing Opportunities:

ENTITY	TOPIC	ACTION
Seqwater	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National Water Week (October 17-24) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hinze Dam Stage 3 – major milestone with the main dam embankment reached 75% completion and the new spillway emergency gates reaching final commissioning. • New SEQ Water Grid education program 2. Hinze Dam – announcement of new Interpretive Centre and recreation facilities at Hinze Dam 	<p>Opportunity for the Minister to tour the site announce milestone completion as part of National Water Week (17-24 October)</p> <p>Opportunity for the Minister to announce new SEQ Water Grid education program as part of National Water Week at Wivenhoe joining students conducting water testing and tree planting.</p> <p>Opportunity for the Minister to announce new recreation facilities at Hinze Dam in November/December</p>
SEQ Water Grid Manager	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With a heavy weather summer forecast, the SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit is preparing media messaging around the benefits of the Grid when dams are full – with a particular focus on water quality. 2. The development of a whole-of-Grid website is currently underway and the holding page is due to go live early December. 	
LinkWater	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nil 	
WaterSecure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Bundamba AWTP Water Quality Report will be released on 15 October at Bundamba. (The QWC Water Strategy requires WaterSecure to release a water quality report at least annually.) This report shows the plant has consistently produced high quality water suitable for augmenting the 	

	<p>drinking water supply when required. Paul Greenfield (Chair of the Expert Panel) will be present to answer questions. Fact sheets about the testing program and results achieved have been prepared. A site tour will follow the report presentation.</p> <p>2. As part of National Water Week, an educational open day will be held at Bundamba on 24 October. A media release has been provided for use by local members.</p> <p>3. Paul Burt (Channel 9) has expressed interest in doing a positive story about the abundant marine life around the Gold Coast Desalination Plant inlet and outlet structures. (He has already done one such story). This will be followed up at an appropriate time in the future.</p>	
QWC	1. Nil.	

**Seqwater
MINISTERIAL BRIEFING NOTE**

TO: Minister for Natural Resources, Mines
and Energy and Minister for Trade

Advisor	[REDACTED]	OK
Dated	12/1/11		
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Not Approved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noted <input type="checkbox"/> Further information required			
Minister	[REDACTED]		
Dated	19/1/11		

SUBJECT: Hinze Dam – Impact of Wet Weather on Stage 3 Completion

TIMEFRAME

- Non-urgent.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Minister:

- **note** that Hinze Dam Stage 3 Upgrade has provided increased flood mitigation to the Nerang River from October 2010 and increased dam safety standards.
- **note** that Hinze Dam will be able to deliver the additional 16ML/day by the 31 December 2010 in accordance with the Water Amendment Regulation (No.6) 2006 but will not increase the storage level above the existing Full Supply Level of 82.2m until January 2011.
- **note** that significant above average rainfall since late 2007, and in particular continued wet weather since August 2010, has impacted on construction.
- **note** that Hinze Dam Stage 3 construction work to complete the main embankment will continue into January 2011, and road infrastructure and landscaping may continue past the first quarter of 2011.
- **note** that the official opening may be delayed past the first quarter of 2011.

BACKGROUND

- The Hinze Dam Stage 3 project aims to reduce flooding in the lower Nerang River catchments, increase water supply from Hinze Dam to 225 Megalitres per day, and ensure the dam complies with new safety standards and guidelines by increasing the height of the dam wall by 15 metres.
- The project aims to reduce the likelihood of a significant number of downstream existing properties being adversely affected – in the Nerang River catchment – by flood events up to a one in 100 year flood by providing additional flood storage capacity.
- The Hinze Dam Alliance is comprised of four partners – Seqwater, Sinclair Knight Merz (SKM), Thiess and URS. Seqwater gained ownership of the project as of 1st July 2008 as a result of a 2007 State Government decision to take control of the State's bulk water assets, which included the Hinze Dam.
- The \$395 Million Hinze Dam Stage 3 Project will almost double the size of the existing Hinze Dam storage capacity, from the current 161,000 Megalitres to 309,700 Megalitres, will increase the surface area of the dam from 972 Hectares to 1500 Hectares and increase water supply capacity to bring the water supply to 225 Megalitres per day.

CURRENT ISSUES

- The Hinze Dam Stage 3 Project budget included an allowance for 80 days of production to be lost due to wet weather. This allocation was based on historic rainfall data.
- As at the end of November 2010, Hinze Dam had recorded its wettest Spring for 24 years.
- The project has currently lost 142 production days due to above average rainfall events occurring since the last quarter of 2007.
- Since July 2010, [REDACTED] has been lost as a result of rain.

Author Name: [REDACTED] Position: [REDACTED] Communication Advisor Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 27/10/10 File Ref:	Approved: Name: Peter Borrows Position: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 19/10/09
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noted
[REDACTED]
1.1.11

Date: 19/1/11

RECEIVED	
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10 JAN 2011	
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<input type="checkbox"/>	PARL SEC
<input type="checkbox"/>	ADMIN

Rec-ODDG

1 JAN 2011

- Continuing above average rainfall is impacting on the Alliance's ability to undertake clay core placement activities and is delaying completion of the final 1.5m of the embankment. Due to the project nearing completion, there are very few opportunities to mitigate the rain delays and wet weather delays have a direct impact on the project program.
- Following the potential delays being raised in October, the project team increased resources and commenced working 7 days per week when possible to mitigate the delays. However, the last two weeks of rain have prevented the project team from topping out the clay core before the Christmas break.
- The internal road infrastructure development is dependent on the main embankment completion.
- As the project is now entering the wet season, there is further risk of wet weather delaying the road infrastructure and landscaping.

PROPOSED ACTION

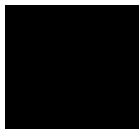
- Seqwater is continuing to work within the Alliance to provide the project's regulated outcomes of flood mitigation, dam safety and water supply as soon as practicable.
- The flood mitigation objective has been achieved, along with increased flood immunity. However, filling of the additional water storage will not commence until after the Christmas break.
- The Alliance will continue to attempt to minimise the impact of above average rainfall by utilising additional resources and shifts to deliver the project outcomes on schedule.
- The development of the recreational facilities will continue according to the construction schedule. This will provide additional time for landscaping plantings to mature prior to the official opening and improve the visual amenity of the facility.

OTHER INFORMATION

- *Key Communication Messages:* Despite above average rainfall since late 2007, the Hinze Dam Stage 3 Upgrade will provide flood mitigation, increased water supply and improved dam safety standards by 31 December 2010.
- The above average rainfall experienced across the project may result in some construction activities continuing into 2011.

MINISTER'S COMMENTS

Please give consideration to maintaining existing full supply level until end of 2010-11 wet season



Author: Name: [Redacted] Position: Snr Communication Advisor Tel N: [Redacted] Date: 27/10/10	Approved: Name: Peter Borrows Position: [Redacted] er. Tel N: [Redacted] Date: 19/10/09
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File Ref:

Page 2

CTS No. 01326/11

**SEQ Water Grid Manager
MINISTERIAL BRIEFING NOTE**

TO: Minister Robertson

**FROM: Barry Dennien, CEO,
SEQ Water Grid Manager**

**SUBJECT: Ministerial visit to
Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plant –
East Bank pumping station**

AdvisorOK
Dated / /

**Approved/Not Approved/Noted
Further information required**

Minister
Dated / /

**Noted /
Further information required**

DG DERM
Dated / /

TIMEFRAME

- Approval/Noting of this briefing note is required prior to the Ministers visit to Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plant – Eastbank pumping station, on Tuesday 1 January 2011, to be held at 9.00 am.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Minister:

- **note** the information provided in this brief, prior to the Ministers visit to Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plant – Eastbank pumping station, on Tuesday 1 January 2011.

BACKGROUND

- It is the SEQ Water Grid Managers' understanding that the Minister first requested to visit Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plant shortly after the recent flood event.
- The Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plants Eastbank and Westbank, supply approximately 500,000 persons in the Ipswich and Brisbane areas.

CURRENT ISSUES

- During the recent flooding event, both the Eastbank and Westbank's of Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plants were isolated by flood waters.
- Flood damage to the plants included the Westbank intake structure and Eastbank pump station. Repair crews were transported to and from the plant to undertake repairs. These staff worked under very difficult conditions (limited light, high humidity, mud and oily conditions) to bring pumps into operation.
- Due to the isolation, there were no chemical deliveries for several days and plant operations relied on held stock and limit production.
- Staff were isolated on-site during the event, working long hours under challenging conditions.
- Seqwater initially had staff isolated at both plants (including two chemical deliver drivers) and relied on helicopters to drop operators in and out.
- Communications during the event were compromised with no landlines, computer access and limited mobile access.
- Had the river level been higher during the peak, Energex and Seqwater made preparations to cut the power supply to the pump stations.
- As a result of high sediment levels, the Mount Crosby treatment process is currently generating significant quantities of water treatment residues which need to be thickened and disposed of.
- The Mount Crosby Water Treatment Plant has the capacity to thicken and dispose of a normal quantity of residue and has emergency storage for residues. However, if current levels of residue productions persist, these storage areas will be filled in six to 12 weeks.

Contact: Barry Dennien, CEO, SEQ Water Grid Manager
Telephone: [REDACTED] Mobile: [REDACTED]
File Number: [REDACTED]

Date: 31/01/2011

- The department of Environment and Resource Management has approved an initial release for excess water treatment residues from Mt Crosby Eastbank Water Treatment Plant to the Brisbane River. This sediment amounts to less than 2 per cent of sediment currently flowing in the river.
- Additional water treatment residue capacity is being investigated as a priority.

RESOURCE/IMPLEMENTATION IMPLICATIONS

- There are no resource/implementation implications

MINISTER'S COMMENTS

ATTACHMENTS

- List all attachments referred to in Brief

HOT ISSUE BRIEFING NOTE

HOT ISSUE G.X	Wivenhoe Dam levels
Question	Why and the likelihood of Wivenhoe spilling and the operational risks and safety advice.

Issue:

Will Wivenhoe Dam spill? How are we prepared?

Answer:

Current dam levels

- Wivenhoe Dam has reached 100 per cent for the first time since 2001.

Somerset Dam is full, with water being released in Wivenhoe Dam via the cone valves.

Across the Water Grid, key storages are at 98.5% of storage capacity, up from 95.8% last week.

Will the gates be opened?

It is likely that Seqwater will undertake controlled releases from

- Wivenhoe Dam via the cone valves in the bottom of the dam wall from Monday next week.

The gates will only be opened if the catchment area receives further substantial rainfall.

(Cone valves are structures built towards the bottom of a dam wall to allow for smaller controlled releases of water. Flood gates are large structures built into a dam wall allowing a maximum release of flood waters as required to maintain the integrity of the dam wall.)

Are we prepared for flood?

Wivenhoe has enormous flood capacity – almost the equivalent of three times Sydney Harbour (1.45 million megalitres). Put in context Wivenhoe has received 376,000 megalitres in flows for the year to date.

Seqwater has a Dam Safety Management Program to ensure that each of its dams is operated and maintained in a manner that is both safe and minimises the risks associated with a dam failure and managing flood events, including by working with local councils and emergency services.

The program has been endorsed and approved by the Dam Safety Regulator and met the standards required by the Queensland Dam Safety Management Guidelines and the international ANCOLD Guidelines on Dam Safety Management

The Flood Control Centre will mobilise during a flood event at North Pine, Somerset or Wivenhoe Dams. It operates 24 hours a day with teams of operators at each dam 24 hours a day managing releases.

Seqwater has an extensive monitoring network of 140 gauging stations across the catchment that monitors rainfall, streamflow and dam levels.

The \$395 Hinze Dam upgrade is on track to be completed for the coming wet season, delivering improved flood protection for 3280 households on the Gold Coast.

Benefits of the Grid

The Grid enables us to choose the water use – meaning that it is the most secure water supply in Australia, in drought and when the dams are full.

Heavy rain often causes water quality issues. It drags nutrients and other compounds from the catchments into our water supplies.

With the Grid, we are better prepared for these events than ever before. We can isolate, or blend water from multiples sources.

We have already used the Grid on multiple times to minimise the impact of water quality issues.

- In March 2010, desalinated water was used in response to a taste and odour issue arising from Hinze Dam.
- On previous occasions, we transported desalinated water up the Southern Regional Water Pipeline to blend with water from the Mt Crosby water treatment plant. As a result, the peak concentrations of taste and odour compounds were significantly reduced.

Water Conservation measures

The Permanent Water Conservation Measures that were introduced on 1 December 2009 are aimed at maintain good water practices for the future.

The recently released *South East Queensland Water Strategy* shows that maintaining our consumption below 200 litres per person per day will defer the need for additional water supply infrastructure in all scenarios by at least five years.

Permanent Water Conservation Measures are low level requirements that recognise the value of water.

- Residents are able to hose their gardens, fill a play pool or wash a car.
- Gardens can be irrigated with efficient irrigation systems between 4.00 pm and 10.00 am on any day of the week, except Mondays.

- Residents are able to use a hand held hose or high pressure cleaning unit to clean cars, boats, caravans and residential buildings at any time.
- Residents can also fill or top up a play pool for children at a maximum of 500 litres.

Water Security

SEQ now has the most secure water supply in Australia, underpinning our lifestyle and economic prosperity.

However, having been so close to catastrophe before, we cannot leave our water security to chance.

Just remember, less than three years ago our dams were at less than 17% of capacity.

Desalination

The plant has resumed supply. It has already supplied more than 28 billion litres into the SEQ Water Grid, since February 2009.

The desalination facility underpins water security for South East Queensland. It will ensure that we can respond to population growth, future droughts, climate change and heavy weather.

The plant is a key part of the SEQ Water Grid's emergency response plan, supplying up to 20% of our current demand. It has already been used on multiple occasions to reduce taste and odour issues on the Gold Coast and in Brisbane.

The plant also provides the flexibility to quickly match production to demand, should other Grid assets becomes unavailable. For example, production could be increased if a water treatment plant is temporarily

shut-down for maintenance or if a major asset fails, such as occurred in May 2009 when a pipeline from Mt Crosby broke.

The desalination facility will be run as efficiently as possible, like all assets within the Water Grid. We will save money and electricity by operating at one-third of capacity. At this rate, the operating costs are only 2.5% of the total costs of the Water Grid.

Wivenhoe Dam operating level

Investigations have commenced into the extent to which the full supply level of Wivenhoe Dam could be raised, without raising the dam wall, while maintaining acceptable risk levels at the dam itself and inundated areas.

We will not take risks with flood safety.

The investigation will involve detailed investigations associated with upstream and downstream flooding, environmental considerations, impacts on infrastructure and lease resumptions.

Until the raising of the full supply level is fully assessed, flood waters will be cleared to the existing full supply level in accordance with the existing Flood Operations Manual developed by Seqwater and approved by the Dam Safety Regulator to ensure public safety is maintained.

HOT ISSUE BRIEFING NOTE

HOT ISSUE G.X	SEQ Water Grid Dams
Question	What is happening with South East Queensland's Dams?

Issue:

- What dam gates are opened or will be today?
- What dams are spilling?

Answer:

Wivenhoe Dam

- A spillway gate at Wivenhoe Dam was opened just after 7pm on Saturday 9 October 2010.
- Approximately 23,000 megalitres per day is currently being released from Wivenhoe Dam's spillway gates.
- The gate was opened partially following a review of updated information from the Weather Bureau and monitoring of inflow data collated from the catchment.
- Wivenhoe Dam is still rising and Seqwater's Flood Control Centre will reassess the amount of water released today.
- Water is also being passed through the dam's hydro-electric generator for supply into the Grid. The remainder is contributing to environmental flows.

Somerset Dam

- The 4 gates and a cone valve were opened at Somerset Dam at approximately 10.00 pm on Saturday 9 October 2010.
- Water will continued to be released until the dam reaches full supply level.
- Released water from Somerset Dam flows into Wivenhoe and forms part of Wivenhoe Dam's controlled releases.

North Pine Dam

- Water is being released from North Pine Dam. Seqwater opened the gates at approximately 8 am today.
- Released water from the North Pine Dam is channelled into North Pine River, contributing to environmental flows.
- Closed later this afternoon or tomorrow morning

Leslie Harrison Dam

- Leslie Harrison Dam in the Redlands area began controlled gate releases from 3.00am Monday morning.
- The gates will be closed sometime today.

Hinze Dam

- Seqwater is currently monitoring Hinze Dam, which is still under Stage 3 construction.
- The new emergency gates were opened at 7.30am this morning when the dam reached the trigger point to release water.
- Authority has been granted from DERM to operate controlled releases, to maintain the dam at the current full supply level.
- Released water from Hinze Dam will flow into Nerang River contributing to environmental flows.

Sunshine Coast dams

- All Gold dams on the Sunshine Coast remain spilling and will do well into next week. These dams are built with spillways rather than gates.
- Water spilling from the Sunshine Coast dams also flow into local waterways, contributing to environmental flows.

Road closures and safety

- Local Councils are responsible for road closures as a result of spilling dams or controlled releases.
- We recommend due to road safety that people avoid travel to dams and storages, particularly during the heavy weather and at night.

Flood Operations Centre

- Seqwater's Flood Operations Centre was activated over the weekend and will operate 24 hours a day.
- The Flood Operations Centre will continue to advise local and emergency authorities on potential impacts downstream as a result of the gated dam releases.

HOT ISSUE BRIEFING NOTE

HOT ISSUE G.X	SEQ Water Grid Dams – as at 18 October 2010
Question	What is happening with South East Queensland's Dams?

Issue:

- What dam gates are closed?
- What dams are spilling?

Answer:

Wivenhoe Dam - Closed

- The spillway gates at Wivenhoe Dam commenced the closure sequence on Friday 15 October 2010, after being opened progressively on Saturday 9 October 2010 at 7.00pm.
- The final gate was closed at 9.00am Tuesday 19 October 2010. The closing sequence was designed to imitate the natural dropping of river levels while allowing for the opening of river crossings and recovery of stranded fish.
- Approximately 640,000 megalitres were released through Wivenhoe Dam's spillway gates, which includes Somerset Dam release amount, which is the equivalent of 262,000 olympic sized swimming pools or one Sydney Harbour.

Somerset Dam - Closed

- The 4 gates and a cone valve were opened at Somerset Dam at approximately 10.00 pm on Saturday 9 October 2010 and closed on Monday 18 October 2010.
- Approximately 277,000 megalitres were released through Somerset Dam's spillway gates and cone valve.
- Released water from Somerset Dam flows into Wivenhoe and forms part of Wivenhoe Dam's controlled releases.

North Pine Dam - Closed

- The spillway gates of North Pine Dam closed on Thursday 14 October 2010, after being open since Tuesday 12 October 2010.
- The gates were then opened on 16 October 2010 at 6.00am and closed at 4.00pm the same day.

- Approximately 61,500 megalitres were released through North Pine Dam's spillway gates.
- Released water from the North Pine Dam is channelled into North Pine River, contributing to environmental flows.

Leslie Harrison Dam - Closed

- The spillway gates of Leslie Harrison Dam in the Redlands area began controlled gate releases from 3.00am on 11 October 2010 and closed on the same day at 7.00 pm.
- The gates were then opened on 15 October 2010 at 8.30pm and closed on 16 October 2010 at 4.30pm.
- Approximately 4,700 megalitres were released through Leslie Harrison Dam's spillway gates.

Hinze Dam - Closed

- The new emergency gates were closed today 19 October 2010, after being opened on 12 October 2010 at 7.30am.
- Authority had been granted from DERM to operate controlled releases, to maintain the dam at the current full supply level.
- Released water from Hinze Dam flows into Nerang River contributing to environmental flows.

Sunshine Coast dams - Spilling

- All dams on the Sunshine Coast remain spilling. These dams are built with spillways rather than gates.
- Water spilling from the Sunshine Coast dams also flows into local waterways, contributing to environmental flows.

Road closures, flood safety and visitors

- Local Councils are responsible for road closures as a result of spilling dams or controlled releases.
- Approximately 60,000 residents visited Wivenhoe Dam during the spillway opening. We recommended due to road safety that people avoid travel to dams and storages, particularly during the heavy weather and at night.

Media

- The SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit fielded contact from various media in relation to storages across South East Queensland, including
 - Radio - 4BC, ABC Brisbane-Toowoomba-Gold Coast, Hot Tomato FM, Gold FM, 4ZZZ, Triple M, 4EB, 96.5 FM, River FM, B105, NOVA and QUT radio
 - Television – Channel 10 News, Channel 9 News and Today Show, Channel 7 News, WIN News, Weather Channel and ABC TV
 - Print – The Courier Mail, The Australian, Gold Coast Bulletin, Fassifern Guardian, Brisbane Times, Queensland Times, Inside QUT, Engineers Australia, The Toowoomba Chronicle, North West News, Somerset News, Brisbane Valley, Kilcoy Sun and Bayside Bulletin.

Fish Recovery

- Recovery of stranded fish from dam releases is underway.
- At Wivenhoe Dam, six (6) lungfish have been rescued as well as a number of other small fish of other species (3 other lungfish found dead). There are still some holes too deep for rescue work at this stage, so monitoring will continue this afternoon and tomorrow 20 October 2010.

Flood Operations Centre

- Seqwater's Flood Operations Centre was activated over the weekend of 9-10 October 2010 and operates 24 hours a day. The Flood Operations Centre demobilised this morning 19 October 2010.
- The Flood Operations Centre will continue to advise local and emergency authorities on potential impacts downstream as a result of the gated dam releases.

HOT ISSUE BRIEFING NOTE

HOT ISSUE	General – Wyaralong Dam
Question	How will Wyaralong Dam be used?

Issue:

- Wyaralong Dam is now more than 60 per cent full with the prospect of further inflows over the remainder of the wet season.
- The Wyaralong water treatment plant and connecting pipelines were recently deferred, with construction from 2014-15 and commissioning in 2015-16.

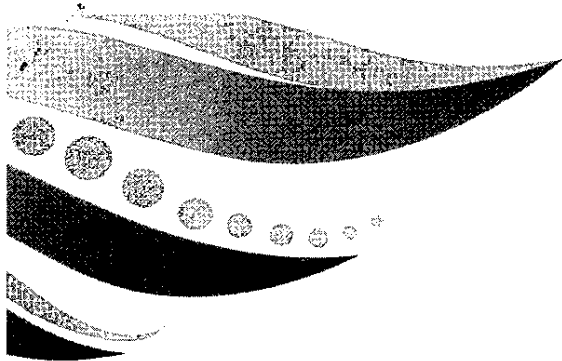
Answer:

- Wyaralong Dam is more than half full, several years earlier than had been estimated.
- This rainfall, which elsewhere in SEQ has filled dams to capacity assuring water security, will provide dividends for urban and rural users in the Logan catchment.
- Short-term, the dam will deliver improved security of supply for residents of Beaudesert and other towns in the Logan Valley. Historically, restrictions have been imposed in these towns much more frequently than in the remainder of the Grid. With this water, the Water Grid Manager will be able to manage the system so as to deliver a similar level of service.
- It will also provide a benefit for rural users throughout the Logan Valley, with full allocations likely to be available for several years. While initial demand may not be significantly higher, it means that

local irrigators can invest with confidence – expanding the amount of agricultural activity in the area.

- Depending upon demand, some of the urban allocation may be able to be provided to rural irrigators on a temporary basis. These options will be investigated. Any supply would be on the basis of full cost pricing and subject to existing supplies being used first.
- Longer-term, these inflows mean that we can also be confident that the dam will be full or near full when the Wyaralong water treatment plant is completed in 2015-16. From that time, the dam will supply major developments in the Logan area. It will also be available as part of the response to the next regional drought and continued population growth in other parts of South East Queensland.
- While the region's dams are now full, we must remember that our circumstances can change quickly. Just 18 months ago, when construction contracts for Wyaralong Dam were signed, key dams were below 60 per cent of capacity and the QWC was forecasting that if these conditions continued restrictions may need to be reimposed by the time that construction finished.
- The Water Grid Manager has commenced an investigation of alternative ways of operating the Logan system. At this stage, it is likely that Wyaralong Dam will be used to supply existing irrigators and urban users in the lower parts of the Logan River, enabling Maroon Dam to supply more to irrigators in the upper Logan River – delivering improved security of supply for rural and urban users.
- While the dam is filling, it is still under construction and has not yet been handed over to the Water Grid. It is not expected to be able to commence supply until after it is completed, in mid 2011.

- In the meantime there are some additional options such as water trading or use of existing grid entitlements to meet any short term demand.



Cr David Dwyer

Division 7

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W www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au



3 February, 2011

The Honourable Anna Bligh MP
Premier
PO Box 15185
CITY EAST QLD 4002

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Dear Premier

On behalf of residents in Division 7 of the Moreton Bay Regional Council area, I am seeking your assistance to address some of the ongoing issues related to water releases from the North Pine Dam. As has been highlighted during recent periods of sustained rainfall, the current management of water levels and the capacity of the North Pine Dam is having a huge impact on residents and businesses in my area - particular due to existing water release practices and the related closure of one of our key roads - Youngs Crossing Road.

As you may be aware, the flash flooding that hit the Moreton Bay region on 11 January has severely reduced the traffic flows and capacity along Gympie Road at Petrie, largely as a result of the ongoing partial closure of the AJ Wyllie Bridge. Currently when large volumes of water are released from the North Pine Dam, due to a rain event, it effectively shuts down an essential piece of road infrastructure - Youngs Crossing Road - leaving thousands of motorists with no option but to head east onto the Bruce Highway to complete their travel. As you can appreciate, such a diversion has a huge impact on traffic flows during peak hour.

With more rain predicted during the coming months, I would like to suggest that the North Pine Dam be monitored and that controlled releases occur to keep the dam at a capacity of around 80 per cent during the traditional wet season. This would maintain reasonable levels in the dam and limit downstream flooding during sustained periods of rain - and therefore reduce the overall damage and cost of such events.

My residents would also appreciate if a range of release options could be considered that did not result in the large-scale closure of Youngs Crossing Road. One such option would be to assess the feasibility of conducting regular releases on the outgoing tide, which could allow Youngs Crossing Road to remain open at all times except in extreme circumstances.

On behalf of my residents, I would like to thank your government and its many service providers for the assistance you have provided during and after the recent

Moreton Bay
Regional Council

flood events. I respectfully request that you give the community concerns and suggestions contained in this letter your consideration as part of the long-term operation and management of the North Pine Dam.

Regards,



David Dwyer
Councillor for Division 7
MORETON BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL

TRIM reference: D/	:
Purpose: Brief for Caucus on North Pine Dam	
Organisation: Seqwater	
Contact:	
Email:	
Phone:	

History and background information

- North Pine Dam was built in 1976 to supply water for the north Brisbane area.
- The dam wall is 580 metres in length, 40 metres high and operates with a five gate spillway.
- Seqwater took responsibility for North Pine Dam in <insert date>.
- North Pine Dam was designed as drink water storage dam only and as such, has no flood storage compartment. The capacity of water storage is 214,302 megalitres at 100 per cent of full supply level.
- Seqwater has rainfall measurement devices at the dam along with water height gauge readings.
- Water supplied from North Pine Dam for consumption is released via <insert mechanism>.
-

Current operations

- North Pine Dam received record inflows over the January flood event.
- When water is released from North Pine Dam to reduce the full supply level, Young's Crossing Road is inundated.
- After consultation with councils, where possible, spillway gate operations to releases water from North Pine Dam are conducted at night, to ensure minimal disruption to the surrounding area with the closure of Young's Crossing Road.
- Seqwater operates with a Dam Safety Management Program. The program ensures that each of its dams, including North Pine Dam, are operated and maintained in a manner that is both safe and minimises the risks associated with a dam failure and flood events, including working with local councils and emergency services.
- The program has been endorsed and approved by the Dam Safety Regulator.
- A Flood Control Centre also mobilises during a flood event at North Pine, Somerset or Wivenhoe dams. It operates 24 hours a day with teams of operators at each dam 24 hours a day managing releases.

Recreation

- Recreation at North Pine Dam includes:
 - Barbequing
 - Boating (permit required)
 - Canoeing, sailing and kayaking (for club members only)
 - Fishing (permit required)
 - Picnicking
 - Walking
 - Bird watching

☐ Fishing is allowed on North Pine Dam, subject to obtaining a permit. The permit fees fund fish stocking at the dam.

CTS No. 02623/11

**SEQ Water Grid Manager
MINISTERIAL BRIEFING NOTE**

**TO: Minister for Natural Resources, Mines
and Energy and Minister for Trade**

**SUBJECT: South East Queensland Water Entity Reporting
(February 2011)**

Advisor	<input type="checkbox"/> Ok
Dated / /	
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Not Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Noted	
<input type="checkbox"/> Further Information required	
Minister.....	
Dated / /	

REQUESTED BY

- The Minister's Office requested this brief.

TIMEFRAME

- Noting of the information below is required by 23 February 2011 when the Minister meets with the Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) of the four state-owned South East Queensland (SEQ) Water Grid entities, the Queensland Water Commission (QWC) and the Department of Environment and Resource Management (the Department).

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Minister:

- **note** the proposed meeting agenda (**Attachment 1**), and
- **note** the non-regulatory reports from the SEQ water entities (**Attachments 2 to 7**), and
- **note** the communications report (**Attachment 8**).

BACKGROUND

- The Minister is meeting the CEOs of the SEQ water entities, the QWC and the Department on 23 February 2011.

CURRENT ISSUES

1. FLUORIDE REPORTING

Seqwater (Stage 2 Fluoridation Program)

- The final state of the SEQ Fluoridation Program has now been completed with the final 20 stage 2 plants reaching the proof of Performance Testing (POPT) milestone by 31 December 2010. The performance of all plants will now be included in quarterly performance reports to Queensland Health as required by the regulations.
- Seqwater advises that due to the extreme and extended wet weather in January 2011, with the subsequent deterioration in raw water quality, a number of water treatment plants have been offline for various periods over January. This may result in a number of water treatment plants being below the regulated concentration rate for fluoride over the March 2011 quarter.

2. WATER GRID CAPITAL PROJECTS

Capital review

- The Water Grid Manager is assessing the need for and option to capital projects costing more than \$2 million. Advice will be provided as part of the Operations and Strategic Plan processes.

Gold Coast Desalination Plant

- WaterSecure is continuing negotiations with the Gold Coast Desalination Alliance to facilitate commercial closeout of the project.

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 14 February 2011	Cleared by Name: Barry Dennien Position: CEO, SEQWGM Tel No: [REDACTED] Name: [REDACTED] /6m Position: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED]	Cleared by Name: Position: Tel No: Name: Position: Tel No:	Recommended: Name: Tel No: Date:
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- The Gold Coast Desalination Plant will be placed on hot-standby mode in the next few weeks, or until demand for water can be reliably met by other Water Grid assets.

Hinze Dam Stage 3

- Hinze Dam Stage Three Upgrade has provided increased flood mitigation to the Nerang River from October 2010, increased dam safety standards, and has satisfied the Dam Safety Regulator's requirements for the first fill, therefore achieving regulatory compliance.
- The dam was able to deliver the required additional 16 megalitres per day by 31 December 2010 in accordance with the Water Amendment Regulation (no. 6) but will not increase the storage level above the existing Full Supply Level of 82.2 until end February 2011, due to some remaining upstream construction activities. However, in the event of a major rainfall occurrence, the dam is able to fill to the new Full Supply Level and provide flood mitigation benefits to an additional 3400 homes.
- Significant rainfall since late 2007, and in particular continued wet weather since August 2010, has impacted on construction. Work to complete the main embankment will continue into February 2011 and work on road infrastructure and landscaping may continue past the first quarter of 2011.
- Due to the summer rain delay, the Hinze Dam Alliance is currently reviewing its final forecast costs.

Wyaralong Dam Handover

- Queensland Water Infrastructure (QWI) and Seqwater have established the project governance arrangements for the handover and are finalising protocols for undertaking a limited due diligence program.
- The construction project is progressing to schedule with practical completion of the dam due in April, with handover by 1 July 2011. QWI is currently drafting an agreement to engage Seqwater to operate the dam for the commissioning period between practical completion and handover.

3. WATER GRID MANAGEMENT

SEQ Water Grid Operating Strategy

- The SEQ Water Grid Operating Strategy is being reviewed to reflect: the Desalination Facility and Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme advice; updated demand forecast; and feedback from the Queensland Water Commission (QWC). A revised version will be submitted to the QWC in March 2011.
- Investigation of further optimisation opportunities has commenced, including for the Murrumba Downs Advanced Water Treatment Plant.

Merger of Seqwater and WaterSecure

- The merger between Seqwater and WaterSecure is on track with interviews and appointment for the Executive General Manager (EGM) roles in the new business to be completed by the middle of February 2011. Appointment to the next management level down will be undertaken following the finalisation of EGMs.
- Good progress has been made with work groups guiding merger-related activity across all business areas.

Ipswich decentralisation

- The Department of Public Works (DPW) has informed the Water Grid entities that accommodation will be under a leasing arrangement. DPW anticipates executing an agreement to lease in May 2011. The Water Grid Entities have provided updated information to DPW on high level accommodation requirements, employment and industrial relations costs and lease breakdown costs. We are waiting for confirmation from Department of Public Works on the decentralisation project governance arrangements and milestones. Water Grid entities will be updating the requirements to include learning's from the recent flood event, including staff access and flood resilience of the building.

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: SEQ water Grid Communications Unit Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 14 February 2011	Cleared by Name: Barry Dennien Position: CEO, SEQWGM Tel No: [REDACTED] Name: Position: Tel No:	Cleared by Name: Position: Tel No: Name: Position: Tel No:	Recommended: Name: Tel No: Date:
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Flood impacts to Water Grid assets/operations

- The flood continues to impact upon the operation of some Grid assets including capacity constraints at the Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plants and damage to the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme. Operation is being reviewed frequently due to these issues. The desalination facility is expected to continue production at one third capacity until at least the end of February 2011, when standby trial will recommence.
- Seqwater is currently undertaking a process to identify any damage to dam or associated infrastructure. Wivenhoe, Somerset and North Pine dams have been cleared of any structural damage impacting on their safety and integrity. There is no expectation of structural damage to other dams across the region. There was also no structural damage to major weirs across the region; however some small remedial work will be required for some smaller weirs.
- As of 7 February 2011, all water treatment plants were back to normal operations with the exception of Atkinson Dam Water Treatment Plant which is experiencing power supply issues. Alternative water supply is being provided through tankering.
- All LinkWater pipelines, easement corridor and river crossings are being progressively inspected for damage and leakage.
- LinkWater is working through its recovery plan to check the operation of all assets potentially affected by the severe weather and is now back to its pre-flood status.
- WaterSecure's Bundamba Advanced Water Treatment Plant is expected to be offline until 6 May 2011 due to damage to the reverse osmosis concentrate discharge pipeline and raw water quality issues. Swanbank Power station is being supplied by Gibson Island Advanced Water Treatment Plant, with a temporary cross connection installed at Bundamba to allow this.
- There is no supply to Tarong Power Station due to Tarong's system being down and concerns regarding the stability of the pipeline between Esk and Caboonbah. Supply is expected to resume by 8 April 2011.
- Total damage to Western Corridor Recycled Water assets is expected to be in the region of \$3-5 million.

Improving the institutional and regulatory framework

- The QWC is working with the Distributor-retailers and councils to develop a regulation and guideline for the establishment of the Water and Wastewater Network Services Plan, including undertaking stakeholder consultation.
- The QWC is continuing to work with industry stakeholders to achieve a common understanding of the water market regulatory framework, with the completion of a Guideline for Operating Protocols.
- Following government approval of the review of bulk water prices in November 2010, the QWC is now reviewing this process in order to identify model and process improvements. QWC is also preparing the project plan for the comprehensive review of bulk water prices planned for 2012. At that time, the structure and tariffs related to the process will also be considered.
- On 9 February 2011, the Queensland Competition Authority (QCA) released its *Draft Interim Price Monitoring Report* for 2010-11. The QCA's price monitoring process has assessed each Distributor-retailers forecast revenue against a QCA determined maximum allowable revenue and found that forecast revenues for 2010-11 do not significantly exceed the respective maximum allowable revenues based on the available information. The QCA has commenced a public consultation process on its draft report. The QCA is required to provide a final report on the Distributor-retailers' 2010-11 prices by 31 March 2011.
- Following government approval of the review of bulk water prices in November 2010, the QWC is now reviewing this process in order to identify model and process improvements and is also preparing the project plan for the comprehensive review of bulk water prices

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: SEQ water Grid Communications Unit Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 14 February 2011	Cleared by Name: Barry Dennien Position: CEO, SEQWGM Tel No: [REDACTED] Name: [REDACTED] Position: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED]	Cleared by Name: [REDACTED] Position: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED] Name: [REDACTED] Position: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED]	Recommended: Name: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: [REDACTED]
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File Ref:

Page 3 of 4

planned for 2012. At that time, the structure and tariffs related to the prices will also be considered.

RESOURCE/IMPLEMENTATION IMPLICATIONS

- *There are no resource/implementation implications.*

PROPOSED ACTION

- *That the Minister note the above information.*

OTHER INFORMATION

- *Consultation: N/A.*
- *Legislation: N/A.*
- *Key Communication Messages: N/A.*

MINISTER'S COMMENTS

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft agenda for 23 February meeting
2. SEQ Water Grid Manager Monthly Report
3. QWC Monthly Report
4. Seqwater Monthly Report
5. WaterSecure Monthly Report
6. LinkWater Monthly Report
7. LinkWater - attachments
8. SEQ Water Grid Entities Communications Report

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 14 February 2011	Cleared by Name: Barry Dennien Position: CEO, SEQWGM Tel No: [REDACTED] Name: [REDACTED] Position: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED]	Cleared by Name: [REDACTED] Position: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED] Name: [REDACTED] Position: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED]	Recommended: Name: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: [REDACTED]
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Page 4 of 4

**Water Grid Manager and Seqwater
MINISTERIAL BRIEFING NOTE**

**TO: Minister for Natural Resources, Mines
and Energy and Minister for Trade**

SUBJECT: Tugun Desalination Plant Operations

TIMEFRAME

- Noting of this brief is non urgent.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Minister note:

- that increased raw water turbidity is expected to constrain production from the Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plants for at least four weeks.
- that the Tugun Desalination Plant will be required to continue to produce at between one third and two thirds of capacity.
- the Tugun Desalination Plant standby trials will commence once Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plants resume normal production amounts for an extended period of time.

BACKGROUND

- The Tugun Desalination Plant started standby trials in December 2010, with the trials scheduled to continue throughout January 2011. These trials included a process by which the Tugun Desalination Plant would operate at one third capacity for one day, then shut down for up to three days, before re-commencing production for another day. This cycle would be repeated for up to two weeks at a time.
- Mount Crosby Water Treatment Plants (East and West Bank) typically supply approximately 500,000 persons within the Brisbane and Ipswich region.

CURRENT ISSUES

Raw water

- Due to heavy rainfall during the recent flood event, there are very high levels of sediment suspended in Wivenhoe Dam's drinking water storage compartment. These dam conditions are unprecedented. Water quality is worse than what is flowing from the Lockyer Valley.
- From next week, roughly 1,000 tonnes per day of sediment is expected to flow past Mt Crosby Weir every day.
- As a result of the high sediment levels in the Brisbane River, poor raw water quality is evident.

Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plants

- The Mount Crosby Water Treatment Plants are effectively removing these high levels of sediment and the highly discoloured appearance of the river water.
- The poor raw water quality has resulted in a reduced production capacity at Mount Crosby Water Treatment Plant (MCWTP).
- Also as a result of high sediment levels, the Mount Crosby treatment process is currently generating significant quantities of water treatment residues which need to be thickened and disposed of.

Advisory	[Redacted]	OK
Dated	31/1/11	
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Not Approved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noted <input type="checkbox"/> Further information required		
Minister	[Redacted]	
Dated	8/2/11	

RECEIVED MINISTERIAL OFFICE 27 JAN 2011

<input type="checkbox"/> MINISTER <input type="checkbox"/> POL ADV <input type="checkbox"/> MEDIA ADV <input type="checkbox"/> PARL SEC <input type="checkbox"/> ADMIN
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Rec'd - ODG

21 JAN 2011

Rec-ODDG

21 JAN 2011

Author: Name: [Redacted] Position: [Redacted] Officer: [Redacted] Tel No: [Redacted] Date: 20 January 2011	Cleared by Name: Dan Spiller Position: Director, Operations Tel No: [Redacted]	Cleared by [Signature] Name: Barry Dennien Position: CEO, SEQWGM Tel No: [Redacted]	Recommended: Name: John Bradley Director General, DERM Tel No: [Redacted] Date: [Redacted] 22/1/11
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File Ref:

noted [Redacted] 21/1/11 [Redacted]

- MCWTP has the capacity to thicken and dispose of a normal quantity of residue and has emergency storage for residues. However, if current levels of residue productions persist, these storage areas will be filled in four to eight weeks.
- The Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM) has approved an initial release of excess water treatment residues from Mt Crosby Eastbank Water Treatment Plant to the Brisbane River. This release amounts to less than two per cent of sediment currently flowing in river.
- Additional water treatment residue capacity is being investigated as a priority.

Water balance

- In order to supply water to central South East Queensland, several actions have been undertaken, including increasing supply from the Tugun Desalination Plant to two thirds capacity.
- Further actions to mitigate the reduced supply from Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plants include maximising transfers through the Southern Regional Water Pipeline, increasing production of Molendinar Water Treatment Plant to capacity, maximising North Pine Water Treatment Plant production and transfers through Northern Pipeline Interconnector.

RESOURCE/IMPLEMENTATION IMPLICATIONS

- Savings in 2010-2011 were not factored in to the recently announced changes to the bulk water price path. However, there were reduced savings in 2010-2011.
- Increased operation of the Tugun Desalination Plant over December and January has cost approximately \$1.2 million.

PROPOSED ACTION

- The Tugun Desalination Plant will continue increased production levels until the Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plants resume normal production amounts for an extended period of time.
- While Tugun Desalination Plant continues increased production, the standby trials will be postponed.

OTHER INFORMATION

- *Consultation: Continued consultation has been undertaken with Seqwater, LinkWater and WaterSecure to ensure all aspects of the South East Queensland Water Grid are working together. DERM has been consulted on the possibility of disposing larger amounts of residue into the Brisbane River.*
- *Key Communication Messages: A draft media release has been formulated regarding the Tugun Desalination Plant's support for supplying water to Brisbane and Ipswich regions is at Attachment A.*

MINISTER'S COMMENTS

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Draft media release – Climate resilient assets keep water supply flowing

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: Sr Correspondence Officer Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 20 January 2011	Cleared by: Name: Dan Spiller Position: Director, Operations Tel No: [REDACTED]	Cleared by: Name: Barry Dennien Position: CEO, SEQ WGM Tel No: [REDACTED]	Recommended: Name: John Bradley Director-General, DERM Tel No: [REDACTED] Date:
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Media Release

Climate resilient assets keep water supply flowing

The Tugun Desalination Plant continues to make an important contribution to the water supply for Brisbane.

Switched up to full power at the height of the flood emergency, the facility has since been operating at two thirds capacity, bolstering the supply outputs from Brisbane's flood impacted water treatment plants.

Water Grid spokesperson Barry Dennien said the desalination plant is playing an integral role in maintaining water quality across South East Queensland.

"Although we have all of our water treatment plants operating, the high sediment levels in the Brisbane River mean that production is reduced.

"To highlight this, there are currently up to 1,000 tonnes of dirt flowing over the Mt Crosby Weir per day.

"This is where the desalination plant becomes a vital component of the emergency response for South East Queensland.

"We are able to utilise this asset, which can guarantee as much as 3,000 litres of impeccable water per second, when others struggle," said Mr Dennien.

The Water Grid's Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme has also been switched on to the emergency response.

It has been providing purified recycled water for the critical wash down and clean up phase, freeing up potable water in those areas hardest hit by the floods.

Last year, the State Government announced plans to place the Tugun Desalination Plant into standby mode and to de-mobilise parts of the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme.

These actions allowed for these plants to be able to swing into an emergency response while at the same time enabling the Water Grid to take full advantage of the wet season.

"These climate resilient assets have performed perfectly for our emergency response and have allowed us enormous flexibility in handling the flood crisis, stated Mr Dennien.

Water supplies for Ipswich, Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast are currently safe and secure, despite the severe flooding.



Media Release

The plant will now move to standby mode in February or March, when Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plant returns to normal production.

This will have no impact on the reductions to bulk water prices that were announced in December 2010.

For more details on the desalination plant go to www.watergrid.com.au

ENDS

About the SEQ Water Grid: Established in June 2008, the SEQ Water Grid represents one of Australia's largest investments in water infrastructure and is a world class asset in water management in both times of drought and deluge.

Through a network of climate resilient water sources, treatment facilities, new two-way pipes and existing pipelines, the SEQ Water Grid gives the South East Queensland region the ability to support water demands, water quality, economic prosperity and lifestyle - regardless of climate change and population growth.

For further information on the Water Grid: www.watergrid.com.au

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:

Ph: [REDACTED] | Email: watergridmedia@linkwater.com.au

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 28

asked on Wednesday, 16 February 2011

██████████ ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND ENERGY AND MINISTER FOR TRADE (MR ROBERTSON)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the centre referred to in Section 2.2 on Page 7 of the Manual of Operational Procedures for Flood Mitigation at Wivenhoe Dam—

- (1) How many people staffed the centre from 7 to 10 January 2011?
- (2) What meetings did they attend during this period, what decisions were taken and which of those decisions were communicated to the Minister or the chief executive of the department?

ANSWER:

- (1) The Flood Operations Centre was staffed 24 hours a day between 7 to 10 January 2011, and involved four Duty Flood Operations Engineers and nine Flood officers.
- (2) The FOC liaised with range of organisations over this period including relevant local councils and the Bureau of Meteorology. The Dam Safety Regulator, as the delegate of the Director General of the Department of Environment and Resource Management, was also provided with advice by Flood Operations Centre staff over this period.

Author: Mike Foster
Telephone: ██████████
Date: 030311

Approved: [Insert title of Dir/ED/GM/RSD]
Approved: [Insert title of ADG or DDG]
Approved: Director-General

CTS No. 2572/11

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 50

asked on Wednesday, 16 February 2011

██████████ ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND ENERGY AND MINISTER FOR TRADE (MR ROBERTSON)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the House (a) when the Wyaralong Dam was completed, (b) when the dam was filled and (c) what benefit this dam will have for South East Queensland water security?

ANSWER:

- (a) Wyaralong Dam, currently under the jurisdiction of Queensland Water Infrastructure and the Department of Infrastructure and Planning, is set for practical completion in May 2011, with handover to Seqwater due on 1 July 2011, six months ahead of schedule.
- (b) Wyaralong Dam filled to its full 103,000 megalitre supply level in just 25 days after the wall was plugged on 17 December 2010, and flowed continuously from 11 January to 2 February. Since 3 February, controlled releases of water have been made through the valves to lower the level of the dam water by approximately 20,000 megalitres to safely complete the project. These releases are being made at a rate of approximately 1,000 megalitres a day over a period of 20 to 30 days, depending on the weather. As at 21 February 2011, the dam was 88 per cent full, holding 90,640 megalitres. There is the prospect of further inflows over the remainder of the wet season.
- (c) Once the water treatment plant is completed, Wyaralong Dam, in conjunction with nearby Cedar Grove Weir and Bromelton Offstream Storage, will supply 26,000 megalitres of water a year into the South East Queensland Water Grid – enough water for approximately 300,000 people.

The Wyaralong Water Treatment Plant is planned for completion in 2015-16. It can be completed earlier if required for water security; however this is unlikely. From that time, the dam will supply major developments in the Logan area. It will also be available as part of the response to the future security of South East Queensland's water supply.

Wyaralong Dam will deliver improved security of supply for residents of Beaudesert and other towns in the Logan Valley, helping meet the growing demand in the western corridor from urban and industrial development.

Wyaralong Dam will also provide a benefit for rural users throughout the Logan Valley.

Author [REDACTED]
Telephone [REDACTED]
Date: 22 February 2011

Approved: [Insert title of Dir/ED/GM/RSD]
Approved: [Insert title of ADG or DDG]
Approved: Director-General

CTS No.

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 116

asked on Tuesday, 8 March 2011

██████████ ASKED THE MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (MR ROBERTSON) —

QUESTION:

Will the Minister outline how the Tugun Desalination Plant performed throughout the recent floods and how this plant can be of benefit to South East Queensland in times of flood, as well as times of drought?

ANSWER:

The Tugun Desalination Plant helps to underpin water security for south east Queensland. It ensures we can respond to population growth, future droughts and climate change. Even with dams at full capacity, the desalination facility plays an important role in emergencies and natural disasters, ensuring quality water and supply reliability for south east Queensland.

It is estimated that 10,000 tons of sediment flowed past Brisbane and Ipswich's main water treatment plants every day during the flood event; however the challenges of supplying water in such unprecedented conditions were met by the ability to use desalinated water to support South East Queensland's water supply.

On several occasions during December 2010, January and February 2011, desalinated water was used to maintain water supply in Brisbane, Ipswich, Logan and the Gold Coast, without this plant it is most likely some residents of South East Queensland would have been subject to a boil water notice.

The desalination plant has operated exactly as it was designed to do, and has proven to be an extremely valued asset for maintaining water quality.

In December 2010, the Government announced plans to place the Tugun Desalination Plant into standby mode, which included a provision for the asset to be activated in emergency situations. The Tugun Desalination Plant performed perfectly for the Water Grid's emergency response and allowed flexibility in handling the January flood event.

The State Government is delivering on its commitment to long-term water security for and the future.

Author: ██████████
Telephone: ██████████
Date: 16 march 2011

Approved: Barry Dennien, CEO, SEQWGM
Approved: Debbie Best, WEO DDG

CTS No. 04003/11

Minister Robertson and CEOs of SEQ Bulk Water Entities, Water Grid Manager and QWC Meeting Agenda - 23 February 2011

Meeting Minister Robertson and CEOs of SEQ Bulk Water Entities, WGM and QWC

Location Minister's Boardroom, Lvl 17, QMEC Building, 61 Mary Street

Date Wednesday , 23 February 2011

Time 9.00 to 10.00 am

Item / Subject
1. FLUORIDE REPORTING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. SEQ Stage 2 Fluoridation Program (Seqwater)
2. WATER GRID CAPITAL PROJECTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Capital review (SEQ Water Grid Manager) B. Gold Coast Desalination Plant (WaterSecure) C. Hinze Dam Stage 3 (Seqwater) D. Wyaralong Dam Handover (Seqwater)
3. WATER GRID MANAGEMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. SEQ Water Grid Operating Strategy (SEQ Water Grid Manager) B. Merger of Seqwater and WaterSecure (Seqwater and WaterSecure) C. Ipswich decentralization (SEQ Water Grid Manager) D. Flood impacts to Water Grid assets/operations (SEQ Water Grid Manager, LinkWater, Seqwater and WaterSecure) E. Improving the institutional and regulatory framework (Queensland Water Commission) F. Discussion on Commission of Inquiry (All)
4. NEXT MEETING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be advised

Minister's / Water Entity CEO's Monthly Meeting

Agenda Topic: Monthly report from the SEQ Water Grid Manager

Prepared by: Barry Dennien Chief Executive Officer SEQ Water Grid Manager	Agenda Item: Meeting No: Date: 16 February 2011
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1. Major Achievements/Milestones:

1.1. Operations

1.1.1. Grid Operations

The flood continues to impact upon the operation of some Grid assets including capacity constraints at the Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plants and damage to the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme. Operation is being review frequently due to these issues. The desalination facility is expected to continue production at one third capacity until at least the end of February 2011, when standby trials will recommence.

1.1.2. SEQ Water Grid Operating Strategy

The SEQ Water Grid Operating Strategy is being reviewed to reflect: the desalination facility and Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme advice; updated demand forecast; and feedback from the Queensland Water Commission. A revised version will be submitted to the Queensland Water Commission in March 2011.

Investigation of further optimisation opportunities has commenced, including for the Murrumba Downs Advanced Water Treatment Plant.

1.1.3. SEQ Water Grid Quality Management Plan

The revised SEQ Water Grid Quality Management Plan (WGQMP) was submitted to the Queensland Water Commission in November 2010. The WGQMP included a minimum whole-of-Grid monitoring plan with testing to be undertaken by entities. It also includes minimum disinfection residual levels for the first time.

A further update is being prepared for June 2011. This update will include: a whole of Grid risk assessment for each potential operating mode; an updated whole-of-Grid monitoring plan; and an aligned whole-of-Grid improvement plan.

1.1.4. Capital review

The Water Grid Manager is assessing the need for and option to capital projects costing more than \$2 million. Advice will be provided as part of the Operations and Strategic Plan processes.

1.1.5. Capability Statement

The Water Grid Manager is finalising a capability statement for existing assets. Detailed investigations of system reliability are also underway, building on issues highlighted during the recent flood event.

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: Senior Correspondence Officer Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 16 February 2011	Cleared by: Name: Barry Dennien Position: Chief Executive Officer SEQ Water Grid Manager Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: [REDACTED]	Cleared by: Name: Position:
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1.1.6. Cyclone Yasi

The Water Grid Manager coordinated the establishment of a water desk at the State Disaster Coordination Committee as part of the cyclone response.

1.2. Risk and Technology:

1.2.1. Emergency Management System

The Emergency Management System for the SEQ Water Grid, *OCA Incident Manager*, was fully commissioned on 6 December 2010. The system immediately proved its value, being utilised extensively during the South East Queensland Floods, where the performance of the system was exemplary and greatly facilitated the effective emergency response of the Grid Participants. The system logs and details, again a significant improvement over the previous manual system, will be provided to the Commission of Enquiry.

1.2.2. Emergency Response Plans

Following approval by the Minister of the *Emergency Response Plan v 2.0*, all Grid Participants submitted their updated Emergency Response Plans to the SEQ Water Grid Manager for approval. Three plans required remedial action, which was completed such that all Grid Participant plans were approved prior by 24 December 2010.

1.3. Finance and Corporate Services:

1.3.1. Grid Service Charges 2010-11

In January 2011 we received a revised grid determination for SEQWater and are awaiting revised grid determinations for LinkWater, WaterSecure and Moreton Bay Outcome Charge. We have commenced the process of trueing up variable volumetric operating costs on a quarterly basis.

1.3.2. Operating Position and Borrowings 2010-11

Sales of water are down on budget by 21% as at January 2011. We have revised our forecast financial position at year end based on new demand forecasts for the remainder of the year. The loss of revenue is expected to change the financial result for 2010-11 from a budgeted loss of approximately \$400 to a loss of \$500 million at the end of the year. An application will be made to increase our state borrowings approval by \$100 million to fund this shortfall in revenue.

1.3.3. Budget 2011-12

We have commenced the process of budgeting for 2011-12. Finalisation of budgets is reliant upon early advice of expected grid determinations for 2011-12.

1.4. SEQ Water Grid Communications:

1.4.1. SEQ Water Grid Communications

This reporting period can be described as high tempo for SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit which commenced in July 2010 and which has continued to strongly reinforce its position as the central point of reference for shareholding ministers, media and community for all grid related operations. The Water Grid as a brand was particularly enhanced as a result of the October 2010 operation of the Wivenhoe Dam spill gates and the media response in the weeks which followed.

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: Sr Correspondence Officer Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 16 February 2011	Cleared by: Name: Barry Dennien Position: Chief Executive Officer SEQ Water Grid Manager Tel No: [REDACTED] Date:	Cleared by: Name: Position:
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Brand positioning and recognition was also assisted through a number of summer community service advertising campaigns in the lead up to Christmas for dam and weir safety, the launch of the first stage of the whole-of-Grid website. The finalisation of a whole-of-grid call centre script within Smart Service Queensland also served to position the brand.

1.4.2. Emergency Grid Communications

In December 2010, the SEQ Water Grid Emergency Management Room was established as part of the Emergency Response Plan. Communications protocols were also established and shared with in the communications areas of the other entities as led by the SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit.

1.5. Governance and Regulatory Compliance:

1.5.1. Operating Protocol Guidelines

On 25 January 2010, the Queensland Water Commission published the final Operating Protocol Guideline. The Water Grid Manager are preparing our Operating Protocol approval process in light of the Guideline.

1.5.2. Annual Market Rules Review

The Water Grid Manager submitted Part 1 of the 2009-10 Annual Market Rules Review, to the Rules Administrator, Queensland Water Commission. The preparation involved consideration of submissions from the Grid Participants. This Part 1 review provided a strategic assessment of the status of the SEQ water Market and offered recommendations for potential improvement. High priority recommendations related to the process and development of the operating Protocol, the roles, responsibilities and timeframes for demand and forecasting and the alignment of the Water Grid Quality Monitoring Plan and the Grid Contracts. Part 2 of the Review will look at the three year demand forecast and assessment of capacity. The Water Grid Manager anticipates submitting this in April 2011.

1.5.3. National Performance Report

For the first time, the water entities submitted data for the 2009-10 National Performance Report. All entities consulted with Department of Environment and Resource management representative to determine those indicators that related to bulk supply. The Water Grid manager coordinated the submission of the data on behalf of the entities.

1.5.4. Ipswich decentralisation

The Department of Public Works (DPW) has informed the Water Grid entities that accommodation will be under a leasing arrangement. DPW anticipates executing an agreement to lease in May 2011. The Water Grid Entities have provided updated information to DPW on high level accommodation requirements, employment and industrial relations costs and lease breakdown costs. We are waiting for confirmation from Department of Public Works on the decentralisation project governance arrangements and milestones. Water Grid entities will be updating the requirements to include learning's from the recent flood event, including staff access and flood resilience of the building.

2. Resourcing Implications:

Nil

Auth: Name: [REDACTED] Position: Snr Correspondence Officer Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 16 February 2011	Cleared by: Name: Barry Dennien Position: Chief Executive Officer SEQ Water Grid Manager Tel No: [REDACTED] Date:	Cleared by: Name: Position:
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3. Matters for Decision:

3.1. Nil

4. Attachments:

4.1. Nil

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: Senior Correspondence Officer Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 16 February 2011	Cleared by: Name: Barry Dennien Position: Chief Executive Officer SEQ Water Grid Manager Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: [REDACTED]	Cleared by: Name: Position:
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Minister's / Water Entity CEO's Monthly Meeting

Agenda Topic: Monthly report from Queensland Water Commission

Prepared by: Karen Waldman Chief Executive Officer	Agenda Item: Meeting No: Date: 23 February 2011
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1. Major Achievements/Milestones:

1.1. The Queensland Water Commission (QWC) has undertaken a strategic planning process to underpin its Strategic Plan 2011-15 and Service Delivery Statement 2011-12. As a result of this process, the QWC will focus its efforts and resources on the following key areas:

- planning for the provision of a safe, secure and reliable water supply for SEQ to achieve desired levels of service objectives;
- improving the institutional and regulatory framework to enable efficient and cost effective service delivery to water customers in SEQ; and
- providing sound, evidence-based advice to manage the cumulative impacts of coal seam gas extraction on underground resources.

1.2. Planning for the provision of a safe, secure and reliable water supply for SEQ to achieve desired levels of service objectives.

The South East Queensland Water Strategy was released on 15 July 2010. Key features of the Strategy currently being progressed include:

- Conserving water – the QWC is commencing a review of its suite of water use efficiency measures to move from a restriction based focus to a balanced mix of measures more appropriate to the current situation of medium term security of supply and more inclusive of the role of the Distributor-retailers.
- Being prepared and supply ready – in order to preserve options for the future, the QWC is currently undertaking various planning investigations, for example related to future desalination sites and future options for the Mary region, focusing on the Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee's views and Gympie's needs.
- Managing water efficiently – the QWC is updating the System Operating Plan to reflect the recently approved revised manufactured water operating strategies and will commence work with the SEQ Water Grid Manager (WGM), WaterSecure and Seqwater to progress preparation of the required Manufactured Water Readiness Risk Management Plan through instruments such as the System Operating Plan.

Facilitating development of the framework for water supply planning across SEQ - the QWC has facilitated a series of workshops with stakeholders including the Queensland Competition Authority (QCA), Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM), Department of Infrastructure and Planning (DIP), Queensland Treasury, the SEQWGM, Grid Service Providers and Distributor-retailers in order to clarify the framework for planning and delivery across SEQ. Feedback from participants at a workshop

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Name: Karen Waldman
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Date: 10 February 2011

on 7 December 2010 identified a series of priorities and lead agencies including Urban Land Development Authority Water Planning, Economic Regulation, Asset Regulation and development of a Planning and Delivery Framework document. The QWC will lead the preparation of the document with a Grid-wide working group. The intention of the document is that it will provide a clear, accurate, comprehensive and agreed description of all the various planning processes assisting all parties to carry out their roles more effectively. The working group will commence in March 2011.

Sub-regional Planning – In collaboration with local governments, the Urban Land Development Authority and water entities, including the Distributor-retailers, development of subregional total water cycle management plans has commenced for five key growth areas of Ripley Valley, Caloundra South, Yarrabilba North, Greater Flagstone and Caboolture West. Investigation of options in the Scenic Rim for communities not connected to the water grid is also underway.

Local Alternative Supply Issues – a project to investigate issues in implementing alternative local water supplies and to prepare recommendations on actions to address any barriers is underway.

A Rural Water Advisory Group, established by the Queensland Farmers Federation in partnership with the QWC and DERM, provides advice on rural water supply initiatives in SEQ. The group meets on a quarterly basis and has had three meetings since its establishment in May 2010. The Group has identified two priority projects for immediate action:

- amending the Interim Resource Operations Licence for the Warrill Valley Water Supply Scheme - an application to amend the licence is currently being prepared by Seqwater with the assistance of the QWC;
- undertaking a feasibility study of opportunities for using recycled water in the Logan River Water Supply Scheme - an invitation to offer was released this month.

1.3. Improving the institutional and regulatory framework to enable efficient and cost effective service delivery to water customers in SEQ.

The *Water and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2010* introduced amendments to:

- provide additional customer protection provisions for water and wastewater customers in SEQ, including establishing the industry funded Energy and Water Ombudsman Queensland (EWOQ) to investigate disputes for residential and small business customers in line with the Customer Water and Wastewater Code (Customer Code) from 1 January 2011; and
- provide greater transparency of SEQ Distributor-retailer operations including publishing of participant agreements (with their Council owners), prices and charges.

The QWC is working with Distributor-retailers and councils to develop a Regulation and Guidelines for the establishment of the Water and Wastewater Network Services Plan, including undertaking stakeholder consultation.

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Tel No [REDACTED]

Date: 10 February 2011

The QWC is continuing to work with industry stakeholders to achieve a common understanding of the water market regulatory framework. The QWC has completed a Guideline for Operating Protocols. The QWC has also established a legal expert group to inform and test the commercial, regulatory and operational arrangements between Grid participants and to inform the work of a Grid Contracts Group established to address issues of indemnities, liabilities, force majeure and the need for a default contract related to the current Grid Contracts.

On 9 February 2011 the QCA released its Draft Interim Price Monitoring Report for 2010-11. The QCA's price monitoring process has assessed each Distributor-retailers' forecast revenues against a QCA determined maximum allowable revenue and found that forecast revenues for 2010-11 do not significantly exceed the respective maximum allowable revenues based on the available information. The QCA has commenced a public consultation process on its Draft Report. The QCA is required to provide a final report on the Distributor-retailers' 2010-11 prices by 31 March 2011.

Following Government approval of the review of bulk water prices in November 2010, the QWC is now reviewing this process in order to identify model and process improvements and is also preparing the project plan for the comprehensive review of bulk water prices planned for 2012. At that time, the structure and tariffs related to the prices will also be considered.

1.4. Providing sound, evidence-based advice to manage the cumulative impacts of coal seam gas extraction on underground resources.

The QWC has a significant role in supporting management of cumulative impacts on groundwater from coal seam gas (CSG) activities. This involves development and implementation of regional monitoring, groundwater modelling and assessment of groundwater impacts from CSG extraction in cumulative management areas. The role of the QWC will be funded by an industry levy on CSG tenure holders.

There are a number of key work streams the QWC has established to fulfil its statutory functions which are being progressed:

- Stage 1 of the review of the groundwater flow model for the Surat Basin has been completed. This work concluded that the QWC will need to develop its own model which will be fundamental to its assessment of cumulative impacts;
- work is progressing on establishing the funding model and fee structure for the industry charging levy, and to also identify the key principles for ringfencing and cost allocation between the SEQ water roles of the QWC and its CSG water role;
- the 'business-as-usual' structure within the QWC has been fully appointed;
- communications document titled 'QWC's Role in Coal Seam Gas Groundwater Management' will be released in late February 2011. This document articulates the QWC's role in the CSG industry, including where the QWC's role fits into the wider regulatory framework and the activities that QWC has commenced in relation to its new role;

Author and Cleared by:

Name: Karen Waldman

Position: Chief Executive Officer

Tel No: [REDACTED]

Date: 10 February 2011

- significant stakeholder engagement has occurred over the past few months with councils, the Federal Government, environmental and agricultural groups and industry. Meetings have also been held with Mr [REDACTED] the Chair of the Surat Basin Stakeholder Committee.

Author and Cleared by:
Name: Karen Waldman
Position: Chief Executive Officer
Tel No: [REDACTED]
Date: 10 February 2011

Minister's / Water Entity CEO's Monthly Meeting

Agenda Topic: Monthly report from Seqwater

Prepared by: Peter Borrows CEO Seqwater	Agenda Item: Meeting No: Date: February 2011
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1. Major Achievements/Milestones:

1.1. Dam flood operations and Water Treatment Plant performances

A combination of Wivenhoe and Somerset dams, the flood mitigation manuals, the engineers in the Flood Operations Centre and the dam operators managed to significantly mitigate one of South East Queensland's most extreme flood events on record in January 2011. Seqwater is currently undertaking a process to identify any damage to dam or associated infrastructure.

Wivenhoe, Somerset and North Pine dams have been cleared of any structural damage impacting on their safety and integrity. There is no expectation of structural damage to other dams across the region.

No structural damage to major weirs across the region, however some remedial work will be required for some of the region's smaller weirs.

During the January flood event Seqwater operations and maintenance staff managed to produce water from the Mt Crosby East Water Treatment Plant (WTP) despite extensive inundation of the pumping station and no power to site for extended periods. These activities ensured the region's major WTP was back up and operating with 1.5 days as required to supply sufficient quantities of water to Brisbane. Despite extremely turbid water the staff were able to produce excellent quality water negating the need for any boil water alert.

As of 7 February 2011 all WTPs were back to normal operations with the exception of Atkinson Dam which is experiencing power supply issues. Alternative water supply is being provided through tankering. The WTP is used predominantly to supply water to the recreation site and a limited number of local residents. Indefinite tankering of water presents no significant threat to supply volumes.

Author Name: Mike Foster Position: Seqwater Corporate Relations Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 12 May 2010	Cleared by Name: Peter Borrows Position: CEO	
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File Ref:

Page 1 of 4

1.2. Key capital works update

Work is being finalised to complete the Wyaralong WTP project to construction ready stage. This work will be delivered within existing budget.

Delivery of Mt Crosby Treatment Process Improvements is out to tender.

New Kilcoy WTP tender will be advertised this weekend.

1.3. South East Queensland Fluoridation Program (Stage 1 and 2)

The final stage of the SEQ Fluoridation Program has now been completed with the final 20 Stage 2 plants reaching the Proof of Performance Testing (POPT) milestone by 31 December 2010. The performance of all plants will now be included in quarterly performance reports to Queensland Health as required by the regulations.

Seqwater advises that due to the extreme and extended wet weather in January 2011 with the subsequent deterioration in raw water quality a number of WTPs have been offline for various periods over the month. This may result in a number of WTPs being below the regulated concentration rate for fluoride over the March 2011 quarter.

1.4. Lungfish

Following controlled flood gate releases over December and January, Seqwater activated our lungfish monitoring and rescue program. Almost 950 lungfish were recovered over this period with 14 lungfish deaths reported.

Seqwater is currently undertaking site reviews below the walls at each of the three dams and expects improvement works to minimise hazards to fish including strandings. Much of the previous improvement works were washed away or damaged in the recent flood event.

The Commonwealth Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities has been regularly briefed, including after this event, on the Seqwater Lungfish Management Program and continues to indicate satisfaction with the performance to date.

1.5. Hinze Dam Upgrade Project

The Hinze Dam Stage 3 Upgrade has provided increased flood mitigation to the Nerang River from October 2010, increased dam safety standards and

Author Name: Mike Foster Position: Seqwater Corporate Relations Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 12 May 2010	Cleared by Name: Peter Borrows Position: CEO	
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File Ref:

Page 2 of 4

has satisfied the Dam Safety Regulator's requirements for first fill, therefore achieving regulatory compliance.

The Dam was able to deliver the required additional 16ML/day by 31 December 2010 in accordance with the Water Amendment Regulation (No.6) 2006 but will not increase the storage level above the existing Full Supply Level of 82.2m until the end February 2011, due to some remaining upstream construction activities. This timeframe is dependent on the weather. However in the event of a major rainfall event the dam is able to fill to the new FSL and provide flood mitigation benefit to an additional 3400 homes.

Significant above average rainfall since late 2007, and in particular continued wet weather since August 2010, has impacted on construction, so work to complete the main embankment will continue into February 2011 and work on road infrastructure and landscaping may continue past the first quarter of 2011.

Due to the summer rain delay the Hinze Dam Alliance is currently reviewing its final forecast costs.

1.6. Wyaralong Dam Handover

Queensland Water Infrastructure (QWI) and Seqwater have established the project governance arrangements for the handover and are finalising protocols for undertaking a limited due diligence Program.

The construction project is progressing to schedule with practical completion of the dam due in April with handover by 1 July 2011.

QWI is drafting an agreement to engage Seqwater to operate the dam for the commissioning period between practical completion and handover.

1.7. Recreation

Completion of the Wivenhoe and Somerset dams Recreation Master Plan, the first the new site plans under the Seqwater Recreation Management Framework.

The draft Master Plan is currently with the Minister for comment.

At this stage the draft is unlikely to go out for public consultation until the middle of the year to incorporate any learnings from the January 2011 flood.

Author Name: Mike Foster Position: Seqwater Corporate Relations Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 12 May 2010	Cleared by Name: Peter Borrows Position: CEO	
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File Ref:

Page 3 of 4

1.8.Strategic and Operation Plan

Seqwater is on track to complete its strategic and operational planning by the end of March. Once completed Seqwater will work with WaterSecure on an integrated plan for implementation in the second half of 2011.

1.9.Merger with WaterSecure

The merger between Seqwater and Watersecure is on track with interviews and appointments for the Executive General Manager (EGM) roles in the new business to be completed by the middle of February 2011. Appointments to the next management level down will be undertaken following the finalisation of EGMs.

2. Resourcing Implications:

Nil

3. Matters for Decision:

Nil

4. Attachments:

Nil

Author Name: Mike Foster Position: Seqwater Corporate Relations Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 12 May 2010	Cleared by Name: Peter Borrows Position: CEO	
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File Ref:

Page 4 of 4

Minister's / Water Entity CEO's Monthly Meeting

Agenda Topic: Monthly report from *WaterSecure*

Prepared by: Paul Rees, Manager, Communications and External Relations, WaterSecure	Agenda Item: Meeting No: Date: February 2011
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1. Major Achievements/Milestones:

- 1.1. The Gold Coast Desalination Plant has supplied more than 35.7 billion litres to the Water Grid (to 13 February)
- 1.2. The Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme (WCRWs) has now supplied more than 40.1 billion litres of purified water to Swanbank and Tarong power stations (to 13 February)
- 1.3. Both the desalination plant and the WCRWS were integral to maintaining supply in the lead-up to and after the January floods
- 1.4. WaterSecure has now supplied more than 75.8 billion litres of desalinated and purified water (to 13 February)
- 1.5. Good progress has been made on the merger with Seqwater, with work groups guiding merger-related activity across all business areas. Executive recruitment is expected to be finalised by end February.

2. Resourcing Implications:

2.1. Gibson Island Advanced Water Treatment Plant (AWTP)

The Gibson Island plant has completed its proving period. Handover from the Alliance is anticipated to occur in March/April, at which time all portions of the WCRWS will have received practical completion.

2.2. Luggage Point AWTP – refurbishment and SCADA upgrade works

Works at the Luggage Point plant are ongoing. The plant is producing water but is not currently supplying to the Grid. It is anticipated the Alliance will hand over the plant in April/May.

2.3. Commercial closeout for the desalination project

WaterSecure is continuing negotiations with the GCD Alliance to facilitate commercial closeout of the project.

Author Name: Paul Rees Position: Manager, Communications and External Relations Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 1 October 2010	Cleared by Name: Keith Davies Position: CEO, WaterSecure	Cleared by Name: Position:
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File Ref:

Page 1 of 2

2.4. Gold Coast Desalination operating strategy

The Gold Coast Desalination Plant will go to hot standby mode in the next few weeks until demand for water can be reliably met by other Water Grid assets.

2.5. Flood recovery

Bundamba AWTP is expected to be off line until approximately 6 May due to damage to the reverse osmosis concentrate discharge pipeline and raw water quality issues.

Swanbank Power Station is being supplied by Gibson Island AWTP, with a temporary cross connection installed at Bundamba to allow this.

There is no supply to Tarong Power Station due to Tarong's system being down and concerns regarding the stability of the pipeline between Esk and Caboonbah. Supply is expected to resume by 8 April.

The total damage to WCRW assets is expected to be \$3-5 million.

3. Matters for Decision:

3.1. Nil

4. Attachments:

4.1. Nil

Author Name: Paul Rees Position: Manager, Communications and External Relations Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 1 October 2010	Cleared by Name: Keith Davies Position: CEO, WaterSecure	Cleared by Name: Position:
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File Ref:

Page 2 of 2

Minister's / Water Entity CEO's Monthly Meeting

Agenda Topic: Monthly report from LinkWater

Prepared by: LinkWater	Agenda Item: Meeting No: Date: February 2011
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1. Major Achievements/Milestones:

1.1. Emergency response to the flood

An emergency management centre for the SEQ Water Grid during the January 2011 flood was established at LinkWater.

Due to CBD power outages and flood damage experienced by Grid partners, LinkWater accommodated more than 30 key personnel from the SEQ Water Grid Manager, Department of Health, DERM, WaterSecure, Seqwater and QWC to join its own management personnel in responding to the flood impact on water infrastructure.

The centralised response team worked effectively together in ensuring no interruption of water to 85% of SEQ's population.

1.2. Flood impact to assets/operation

LinkWater's assets were largely unaffected by the flood. This is partly due to preventative work in 2010 in reviewing risks and implementing contingencies such as increasing water storages, increasing inspections and upgrading systems monitoring. Water quality and supply were not ultimately compromised. The following assets impacts and outcomes are noted:

- Bundamba pump station on the Southern Regional Water Pipeline was partially inundated, taking the southern flow capability offline for two days. As northern flow was critical during the flood (from Gold Coast to Brisbane), this did not impact water supply.
- Parts of LinkWater's SCADA system were briefly offline in isolated areas as a result of the floods. Back-up systems maintained information flow and control systems without detriment.
- The Toowoomba pump station near Wivenhoe Dam remains offline after the majority of its electrical components were inundated. While a LinkWater Projects asset until handover to Toowoomba Regional Council, LinkWater is project managing a scope of works to bring the pipeline back online. Depending on the severity and extent of damage to electrical components, the pipeline may be offline for up to six months. The pipeline's operation is not critical to Toowoomba's current water needs (Toowoomba's dams are currently 100.5%).
- All pipelines, easement corridors and river crossings are being progressively inspected for damage and leakage.

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: Corporate Communications Manager Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 14 February 2011	Cleared by: Name: [REDACTED] Position: LinkWater CEO Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 14 February 2011	Cleared by: Name: Position:
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File Ref:

Page 1 of 5

- LinkWater is working through its recovery plan to check the operation of all assets potentially affected by the severe weather and is now back to its pre-flood status, apart from the assets listed above.
- LinkWater's water quality performance through December 2010 and January 2011 remained in compliance.

1.3. Northern Pipeline Interconnector – Stage 2 update

NNA works were heavily impacted by inclement weather in November 2010 (18 out of 22 possible work days impacted by rain) and in December 2010 (17 out of 18 possible works days impacted by rain). The NNA did not resume planned pipe-laying works on 10 January 2011 and then for the entire month of January 2011 due to persistent inclement weather and flooding.

Despite fine weather over the past fortnight, much of the corridor remains inaccessible and is in the process of drying out. Some activities continued during the wet weather period with indoor facilities, tunnelling works and shoring up sediment and erosion controls.

Damage has not been significant to the pipeline corridor following the extreme wet weather however pipeline crews will be working progressively through localised erosion issues on landowners' properties.

Despite the wet weather impact, the pipeline remains on schedule for construction completion by 31 December 2011. The project is currently more than 70 per cent complete (pipe-laying is at 53 per cent complete).

1.4. Strategic Asset Management Plan progress

On 17 December 2010, LinkWater submitted its report against the Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP) for the 2009-10 year, in accordance with requirements of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*.

Report highlights included the transition to a new services contract model for LinkWater operations and full compliance with the flow and water quality expectations of the SEQ Water Grid Manager. On 24 January 2011, the Delegate of the Regulator confirmed that the report "has been reviewed and meets the requirements".

Capital works planning for the 2011-12 year is now well advanced in relation to both identifying the works required and generating Project Justification Reports for consideration by the LinkWater Board. A series of workshops were held involving both management and operational staff to identify all known system deficiencies across all LinkWater assets.

When combined with information from other sources, this detail provides a robust base from which to identify necessary works.

To further complement this work, Cardno has commenced a detailed survey of all the LinkWater reservoirs to generate a 20-year maintenance and renewal schedule.

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: Corporate Communications Manager: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 14 February 2011	Cleared by: Name: [REDACTED] Position: LinkWater CEO Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 14 February 2011	Cleared by: Name: Position:
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1.5. Regulation

Progress has continued on LinkWater's regulatory submission for 2011-12 Water Grid Service Charges. A draft submission was presented to LinkWater's Audit and Risk Management Committee at its 9 February 2011 meeting before being submitted to the Board at its 23 February 2011 meeting for final approval. The submission is required by the Queensland Competition Authority by 28 February 2011.

1.6. SCADA integration strategy

To ensure operational consistency of existing and new assets, LinkWater has been working toward a consolidated and integrated SCADA systems for its network. The integration project will deliver improved service through the use a single uniform and efficient SCADA environment. This system will provide interfaces to corporate systems (where security can be assured) and enable improved productivity and system security.

The project has four preliminary phases:

Phase 1 – Consultation and conceptual design phase – completed.

Phase 2 – Detailed business case phase – completed.

Phase 3 – Preparation for delivery phase – to be completed end of March 2011.

Phase 4 – Pre-Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ) phase – market opportunity now closed with the identification of successful proponents to be completed by LinkWater by the end of February 2011. The tender stage is to commence in April 2011.

The implementation phase of the project is expected to commence in June 2011 following the award of the contract to a successful proponent by LinkWater's Board.

1.7. Water quality

LinkWater has established a water quality monitoring regime that exceeds levels of monitoring previously conducted in the bulk water transport network.

As a result, 55 per cent fewer water quality failures have been recorded in the 2009/10 calendar year as compared to the 2008/09 calendar year. This can be attributed to improved sample analysis, trending of performance, proactive water storage management and enhanced monitoring.

LinkWater has installed 111 new sample points last financial year. In addition, LinkWater has installed 10 of 19 planned new water quality monitoring stations across the network. All 19 units will be online by April 2011.

Four of the 19 stations will trial brand new technology to assist in analysing water quality. The ultraviolet-visible spectrophotometer analysers will analyse water quality at an advanced level and with earlier detection resulting in better management of water quality risks. The four advanced stations will be online by mid-March 2011 and if successful, more units will be installed across the network.

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: Corporate Communications Manager Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 14 February 2011	Cleared by: Name: [REDACTED] Position: LinkWater CEO Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 14 February 2011	Cleared by: Name: Position:
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The benefits of an online monitoring system are best demonstrated when access to sites can be restricted, such as during storms or floods. These systems provide LinkWater with real time information on various key elements of water quality performance and give confidence as to the operation and integrity of its assets.

1.8. Sub-Regional Planning Strategy

Working with the Queensland Water Commission (QWC) and other Grid Service Providers, LinkWater continues to support government on the implementation of the Regional Water Security Program and initiatives outlined in the SEQ Water Strategy.

Recent progress for LinkWater includes:

- Commencement of detailed investigations for the network integration works required for the priority desalination plant sites (Lytton and Marcoola) and one of the reserve desalination plants sites (Bribie Island). These investigations will identify the preferred pipeline corridors and associated infrastructure for each of the sites and will assist the QWC in determining the preferred site and staging for the future construction of a desalination facility.
- Establishment of a hydraulic modelling project team, which includes representatives from the QWC, SEQ Water Grid Manager, Seqwater and the distribution businesses. The project team will develop an understanding of what each of the entities have in terms of system models which will be fundamental to the infrastructure planning process.
- Implementing new WSAA (Water Services Association of Australia) standards and developing standard engineering drawings.
- Completing survey plans for six reservoir complexes. Continuing with tenure gap analysis study to identify anomalies in land tenure across LinkWater-related properties.
- Developing a standardisation strategy for spatial systems processing across the Water Grid. Continued implementation of a permit to work process for the business.
- LinkWater is seeking legislative amendments to ensure it is able to protect, procure and manage its bulk water assets. These amendments could include legislative recognition as a Constructing Authority for the purposes of land acquisition and being involved as an advice agency in relevant third-party applications that affect LinkWater assets.

1.9. Capital expenditure

Major projects underway include:

- Work on refurbishing Aspley reservoir is about to start. This \$2.5 million project will refurbish the concrete walls and columns and the wall and floor joints of the 81ML reservoir.
- 11 of the 13 barrel union joints scheduled in the Stage 4 replacement project have been replaced. As at December 2010, LinkWater had expended \$2.8 million on this multi-year program since commencement of Stage 1 in 2009. Work since December 2010 and remaining works programmed until end of 2011/2012 financial year will bring the project budget to within its original estimate of \$5.36 million.
- Projects for FY2011/12 have been identified and are being scoped and prioritised.

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: Corporate Communications Manager Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 14 February 2011	Cleared by: Name: [REDACTED] Position: LinkWater CEO Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 14 February 2011	Cleared by: Name: Position:
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File Ref:

Page 4 of 5

2. Resourcing Implications:

2.1. Nil

3. Matters for Decision:

3.1. Nil

4. Attachments:

4.1. Nil

Approved:

Peter McManamon CEO LinkWater 14 February 2011

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: Corporate Communications Manager Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 14 February 2011	Cleared by: Name: [REDACTED] Position: LinkWater CEO Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 14 February 2011	Cleared by: Name: Position:
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File Ref:

Page 5 of 5

Minister's / Water Entity CEO's Monthly Meeting

Communications Report

February 2011

Hot issues/Emerging Risks:

ENTITY	TOPIC	PRIORITY
Seqwater	<p>1. The final stage of the SEQ Fluoridation Program has now been completed with the final 20 stage 2 plants reaching Proof of Performance Testing (POPT) by 31 December 2010. The performance of all plants with fluoridation installed will now be reported on a quarterly basis to Queensland Health as per the regulations.</p> <p>Due to January's extreme wet and the subsequent deterioration in raw water quality a number of water treatment plants have been offline from time to time. This may result in a number of water treatment plants being below the regulated concentration rate for fluoride over the March 2011 quarter.</p>	
SEQ Water Grid Manager	<p>1. Bulk water sales are down by 20 per cent due to lower consumer demand. This means SEQ Water Grid Manager (SEQWGM) revenues are down significantly, with no corresponding decrease in SEQWGM costs because of the large fixed capital component of the grid cost structure. This will result in SEQWGM needing to borrow an additional \$100 million this year and put pressure on the long term price path for the SEQWGM to repay debt.</p> <p>2. Chlorine residuals in our water supply are decaying quickly, due to a build up of nitrifying bacteria within reticulation and bulk water networks. This type of decay occurs each summer, but has been exacerbated by limited flushing</p>	

	<p>programs during the drought. A coordinated program of works by all Grid participants is required.</p> <p>Options are currently being scoped. The key response may be that disinfection is switched from chloramination to chlorination for two months, with a major flushing program undertaken at the same time. This would be likely to occur before the next summer, around October. Brisbane City Council undertook a similar exercise was undertaken in the early 1990s, involving a public education campaign noting the potential for dirty water and changes to taste.</p> <p>3. Purified recycled water consumption continues to be lower than forecast. In relation to power stations, demand has reduced due to Boondooma Dam being full and to price. In relation to industrial users, Queensland Urban Utilities is continuing to negotiate with potential users but has not yet completed any contracts. The Water Grid Manager is providing increased assistance to QUU to promote opportunities and to negotiate contracts.</p>	
LinkWater	N/a	
WaterSecure	<p>1. Cost of running the plant/cost of water There have been ongoing questions about the underuse of WaterSecure's plants and the costs and benefits of running the plants and their effect on the cost of water.</p> <p>2. Plant optimisation There is a widespread misconception that all of WaterSecure's plants have been mothballed.</p> <p>3. Merger There is potential for higher than usual</p>	

	staff turnover and lower morale due to uncertainty created by the merger with Seqwater.	
Queensland Water Commission	<p>1. From 1 July 2010, the Distributor-retailers assumed responsibility for the setting of retail prices, with the Queensland Competition Authority (QCA) undertaking a price monitoring role. On 9 February 2011 the QCA released its Draft Interim Price Monitoring Report for 2010-11.</p> <p>The QCA's price monitoring process has assessed each Distributor-retailers' forecast revenues against a QCA determined maximum allowable revenue. The QCA found that forecast revenues for 2010-11 do not significantly exceed the respective maximum allowable revenues based on the available information.</p> <p>On an ongoing basis, Distributor-retailers' billing cycles continue to raise questions regarding the proportion of the bill related to bulk water and to reform in SEQ.</p>	

Media/Marketing Opportunities:

ENTITY	TOPIC	ACTION
Seqwater	<p>1. Hinze Dam Stage 3 – announcing the completion of the \$395 million upgrade to Hinze Dam.</p>	<p>Opportunity for the Minister to tour the site with media as part of the Gold Coast Community Cabinet on 27 or 28 February 2011.</p>
SEQ Water Grid	<p>1. Continuing development of relationships with Distributor-</p>	

Manager	<p>retailers and councils regarding consistent and positive messaging related to Water Grid Operations.</p> <p>2. The Water Grid Communications Unit will continue to supply media with daily updates on dam operations whenever dam releases are underway. Weekly Water Grid Media Updates will continue to be circulated regardless of dam operations.</p> <p>3. Preparations underway as part of the Water Grid Communications Plan to identify opportunities for appearances at industry and regional events to showcase various elements of the Water Grid.</p>	
LinkWater	N/a	
WaterSecure	<p>1. The Gold Coast Desalination Plant is due to go to "hot standby" mode in the next couple of weeks as soon as demand can be reliably met by other Water Grid assets.</p>	
Queensland Water Commission	N/a	

HOT ISSUE BRIEFING NOTE

HOT ISSUE G.X	Wivenhoe Dam releases
Question	What is happening with the releases from Wivenhoe Dam?

Issue:

- Seqwater will now be extending the current release strategy for Wivenhoe Dam until close of business, Wednesday, 2 March 2011.
- By extending the timeframe of releases from Wivenhoe Dam, Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing and Colleges Crossing will be inundated for an additional 36 hours.

Answer:

- As of 9.00 am, Monday 28 February 2011, Wivenhoe Dam is 82.2 per cent of full supply level.
- Water releases to reduce Wivenhoe Dam to 75 per cent commenced Sunday 20 February 2011 at 6.00 am and was scheduled to continue for nine days.
- The release period of nine days has now been extended due to further rainfall and a reduction of release rates on Monday 21, February 2011.
- The 9 day release period to reduce Wivenhoe Dam to 75 per cent was always dependent on further rainfall across the dam and catchment as well as rainfall downstream.
- Storm activity across the Wivenhoe Dam catchment and Brisbane River catchment below the dam on Monday,

21 February 2011 impacted on the release strategy. Wivenhoe Dam release rates were reduced for a 24 hour period to allow flows down the Lockyer to sufficiently pass.

- In addition, Wivenhoe Dam has received inflows of up to 40,000 megalitres (or the equivalent of about four per cent capacity) from the surrounding catchment, with minor inflows continuing
- Seqwater estimates the inflows, combined with the need to reduce flow rates, has currently added at least 36 hours to the release strategy.
- The nine day release strategy was scheduled to be completed in the morning of Tuesday, 1 March 2011. By this stage, Seqwater estimates Wivenhoe Dam levels will be between 79-80 per cent full supply level (depending on further inflows).
- The current full supply level of 82.2 per cent equates to a reduction of FSL of approximately 208,000 megalitres or 208 million litres of water.
- By continuing releases until close of business Wednesday, 2 March 2011, Seqwater estimates Wivenhoe Dam will be between 75-77 per cent of full supply level.
- The dam will be drawn down to as close as possible to 75% as possible and without releases coinciding with potential rainfall events and potential increased river flows downstream of Wivenhoe Dam.
- The current Bureau of Meteorology forecast is for 10-15 millimetres of rainfall until Thursday, 3 March 2011. Storm

activity is forecast from Friday, 4 March 2011 with 50-100 millimetres of rainfall forecast over the following four days until Tuesday, 8 March 2011.

- Based on the above forecast of storm activity and heavier rainfall by the end of the week, and after consultation with the Somerset Regional Council, Ipswich Regional Council and Brisbane City Council, Seqwater only intends to continue current releases until close of business, Wednesday, 2 March 2011 to allow bridges to open.

○ *Future rainfall impacts until 31 March*

- To maintain Wivenhoe Dam at around 75 per cent until 31 March, Seqwater may utilise a low release strategy of 50 cubic metres per second in the first instance if the further forecasted rainfall is received. This low release amount will allow Savages Crossing and Colleges Crossing to remain open
- The release amount is dependent on rainfall and subsequent inflows, and may be required to increase.

○ *Reducing Wivenhoe Dam to 75 per cent*

- Seqwater has recommended that the water level in Wivenhoe Dam be temporarily reduced to 75 per cent of full supply level.
- The release strategy to reduce Wivenhoe Dam to 75 per cent of its full supply level was aimed at creating an additional flood buffer zone for the rest of the wet season quickly and with as minimal impact on the community as possible.

- The reduction of Wivenhoe Dam will not impact on South East Queensland's water security because the Water Grid secures our water supply over the short, medium and long term.
- We expect that the water released will be recouped in the coming years.

Road closures

- Under the extended release strategy it is expected Twin Bridges and Savage's Crossing will no longer be inundated by Thursday, 3 March 2011 and College's Crossing no longer inundated by Friday, 4 March 2011.
- Local Councils are responsible for road closures as a result of spilling dams or controlled releases.

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 231

asked on Thursday, 10 March 2011

██████████ ASKED THE MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (MR ROBERTSON)—

QUESTION:

How did the South East Queensland Water Grid perform during Queensland's recent flood disaster?

ANSWER:

The Water Grid has truly proved its worth over the last few months, with the connected network providing stronger resilience against natural disasters than ever before.

The Water Grid's successful performance during the recent flood disaster is best highlighted through the fact that throughout the flood, South East Queensland always had fresh, clean water available.

10,000 tons of sediment flowed past Brisbane and Ipswich's main water treatment plants every day during the flood event; however the challenges of treating water in such unprecedented conditions were met and successful operations were maintained. This level of success is a result of the Water Grid's ability to source, treat and transfer water from different regions.

Switched up to full power at the height of the flood emergency, The Gold Coast Desalination Plant maintained water supply in Brisbane, Ipswich, Logan and the Gold Coast, as water treatment plants were damaged or struggled to treat the dirty Brisbane River water. The recommendation from the Water Grid Manager, and consequent decision late last year, to operate the desalination plant on stand-by mode has proved invaluable, with the plant mobilised to provide a further source of water to support the regions through the flood event.

In addition, the establishment of a comprehensive Water Grid Emergency Response Plan meant that management of the operations of all Water Grid assets during South East Queensland's most extreme flood event on record was handled successfully.

Author ██████████
Telephone ██████████
Date: 17.03.2011

Approved: Barry Dennien, CEO SEQWGM
Approved: [Insert title of ADG or DDG]
Approved: Director-General

CTS No. 4158/11

**SEQ Water Grid
MINISTERIAL BRIEFING NOTE**

**TO: Minister for Environment and Resource
Management, and
Minister for Energy and Water Utilities**

Advisor OK
Dated / /
Approved Not Approved Noted
Further information required

Minister.....
Dated / /

SUBJECT: North Pine Dam

REQUESTED BY

- This Brief has been requested by the Minister's Office by 30 March 2011.

TIMEFRAME

- Noting of this brief is non urgent. The MECS due date is 30 March 2011.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Ministers:

- **note** that the SEQ Water Grid Manager, Seqwater, Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM) and the Queensland Water Commission (QWC) have received correspondence from the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Moreton Bay Regional Council (MBRC), in relation to North Pine Dam water release strategies.
- **note** that the correspondence received from the CEO of MBRC requests that the matter, with respect to the Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams water release strategies, be considered with respect to North Pine Dam.
- **note** that the matters broadly raised by Cr David Dwyer in correspondence addressed to the Premier (**attachment A**) is broadly similar to the matters raised by the CEO of MBRC (**attachment B**).
- **note** that Seqwater has engaged with MBRC to ascertain the benefits or otherwise of the downstream impacts of lowering the Full Supply Level (FSL) of North Pine Dam.

BACKGROUND

- Unlike Wivenhoe Dam, North Pine Dam has been designed as drinking water storage with no significant flood storage compartment above FSL.
- North Pine Dam is part of the primary urban water supply for South East Queensland. Its current FSL is contained in the Moreton Resource Operations Plan (ROP), which was developed by DERM in accordance with the *Water Act 2000*.
- Seqwater is currently obliged under its Flood Mitigation Manual for North Pine Dam, approved by the Dam Safety Regulator, to ensure that the dam storage is retained at FSL at the conclusion of a flood event.
- Following flood and release events, Seqwater is required to provide a report on the operations of dam during the event to the Dam Safety Regulator. On 11 March 2011, Seqwater finalised its report into the January 2011 flood event at North Pine Dam and it was provided to both the Regulator and the Commission of Inquiry into the Queensland floods.
- The report, which has been published on the Department of Environment and Resource Management website, concluded that:
 - During the January 2011 flood event, North Pine Dam was operated in accordance with the Manual.
 - The January 2011 flood event was the largest flood in the recorded flood history of the region.

Author Name: [REDACTED] Position: Snr Correspondence Office: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 30 March 2011	Cleared by Name: Barry Dennien Position: CEO, SEQW/G Tel No: [REDACTED] Name: [REDACTED] Position: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED]	Cleared by Name: [REDACTED] Position: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED] Name: [REDACTED] Position: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED]	Recommended: Name: John Bradley Director-General, DERM Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: [REDACTED]
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- North Pine received record inflows over the January flood event.
- The safety of the North Pine Dam was maintained at all times during the event and the dam did reduce downstream flows.
- During the event Seqwater, as required, provided information to the MBRC and other relevant agencies on flood releases being made from the Dam.
- When water is released from North Pine Dam during a release event, Young's Crossing Road, below the dam wall, is often inundated.
- After consultation with the MBRC, where possible, gate operations to release water from North Pine Dam are conducted at night, to ensure minimal disruption to the surrounding area with the closure of Young's Crossing Road. MBRC has responsibility for road closures and advising residents.

CURRENT ISSUES

- The SEQ Water Grid Manager, Seqwater, DERM and the Queensland Water Commission have received correspondence from the CEO of MBRC, in relation to the issue broadly raised by Cr David Dwyer in correspondence to the Premier, dated 3 February 2011 (**attachment A**).
- DERM is preparing a response to the CEO of MBRC, offering the opportunity for council to discuss the matter further with the Director General of DERM.
- The correspondence from the CEO of MBRC to the Water Grid Manager states that Council is seeking a review of the water level management and water release strategies and processes for North Pine Dam, particularly when the dam is full or at a high level during actual and forecast prolonged wet periods.
- The correspondence also details that after the January flood event, MBRC resolved, during their Coordination Meeting of 15 February 2011, *'that the Chief Executive Officer write to the Chair of the Queensland's Floods Commission of Inquiry requesting that the matters under consideration with respect to the Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams water release strategies be considered with respect to North Pine Dam'*.
- After receipt of MBRC's correspondence, the SEQ Water Grid Manager wrote to Seqwater, enquiring if any consideration is being given to improving North Pine Dam's flood mitigation, similar to those considerations that were undertaken by Seqwater for Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams (**attachment C**).
- In response to MBRC correspondence, Seqwater on 22 February 2011 sought clarification around the level of service required by MBRC in relation to flood immunity and offered to work with the MBRC on a range of modelling tasks to ascertain the benefits or otherwise of the downstream impacts of lowering the FSL of North Pine Dam
- MBRC has not yet formally responded to Seqwater correspondence, however through discussions with the MBRC, Seqwater has commenced a project to model flows and river levels.
- The initial modelling results, which are currently being peer reviewed, shows that the FSL would need to be reduced to 50% capacity for any appreciable reduction in peak water outflows for the January 2011 event. There was no significant reduction in peak outflows at the 80% FSL referred to in the Cr David Dwyer letter. The MBRC is yet to be briefed on these initial results.
- The second phase of the work will involve modelling the impact of different water outflows from North Pine Dam on river levels below the dam wall using modelling developed by the MBRC. MBRC has approved the use of the model by Seqwater.
- The third phase of the work will involve Seqwater working directly with MBRC to model the extent of property and residential flooding based on those river levels. Based on the results of this MBRC would then need to assess the implications of river levels, planning instruments and development approvals.

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: Snr Correspondence Officer Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 30 March 2011	Cleared by: Name: Barry Dennien Position: CEO SEQWGC Tel No: [REDACTED] Name: [REDACTED] Position: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED]	Cleared by: Name: [REDACTED] Position: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED] Name: [REDACTED] Position: [REDACTED] Tel No: [REDACTED]	Recommended: Name: John Bradley Director-General DERM Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: [REDACTED]
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- In relation to Wivenhoe Dam, the Director General of DERM approved the current temporary reduction in FSL of Wivenhoe through the approval of an interim program under the Moreton Resource Operations Plan (ROP).
- This was based on:
 - advice from the Water Grid Manager that the reduction in FSL would not affect the short term drinking water security for the region; and
 - The extreme nature of the January 2011 flood event
 - subsequent recommendation from Seqwater in respect of the flood mitigation benefits associated with the temporary reduction to 75%.

RESOURCE/IMPLEMENTATION IMPLICATIONS

- There are no resource or implementation implications.

PROPOSED ACTION

- Seqwater will continue to work with MBRC.
- Seqwater intends to provide advice to the Commission of Inquiry ahead of its interim report in August 2011 which will consider the region's flood preparedness ahead of the next wet season.
- For temporary water level changes to North Pine Dam, the SEQ Water Grid Manager will consider the impacts related to ability to comply with the risk criteria under the South East Queensland System Operating Plan.
- For permanent water level changes to North Pine Dam, the QWC will need to consider long-term water security impacts.

OTHER INFORMATION

- *Consultation:* N/a
- *Legislation:* N/a
- *Key Communication Messages:* N/a

MINISTER'S COMMENTS

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment A – Correspondence dated 3 February 2011 to the Premier, from Cr David Dyer
- Attachment B - Correspondence dated 9 March 2011 to the Water Grid Manager, from CEO of MBRC
- Attachment C – Correspondence dated 14 March 2011 to Seqwater, from Water Grid Manager

Author: Name: [REDACTED] Position: Snr Correspondence Officer Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 30 March 2011	Cleared by: Name: Barry Dennien Position: CEO SEQW Tel No: [REDACTED] Name: Position: Tel No:	Cleared by: Name: Position: Tel No: Name: Position: Tel No:	Recommended: Name: John Bradley Position: Director-General, DERM Tel No: [REDACTED] Date:
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File Ref:

Page 3 of 3

From: SEQWGM Notifications [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2010 12:34 PM
To: [REDACTED]; Barry Dennien
[REDACTED]; Dan Spiller
[REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Incident notification - Level 3 - Chambers Flat

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2010 12:34:24 PM
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Karen Waldman (QWC);
[REDACTED]
Subject: Incident notification - Level 3 - Chambers Flat
Auto forwarded by a Rule

Dear Colleagues

Alert incident notification

The SEQ Water Grid Manager was advised by LinkWater that the LinkWater Control Room had been notified by Allconnex of high total chlorine residuals at the Pub Lane off-take on the Southern Regional Pipeline.

Incident timing and location

LinkWater notified the SEQ Water Grid Manager in accordance with the SEQ Water Grid Emergency Response Plan (interim) on Friday 10 September 2010 at 4:30pm.

Incident rating

This emergency incident is classified as a Level 3 under the SEQ Water Grid Emergency Response Plan.

What we know

LinkWater was contacted by Allconnex on 10 September 2010, who advised of test results showing high total chlorine residual (greater than 6.0 milligrams per litre) at the Pub Lane off-take on the Southern Regional Pipeline.

Interrogation of the LinkWater SCADA system showed that for a period of 47 minutes, between 10:39am and 11:26am on 10 September 2010, total chlorine levels leaving the Chambers Flat Water Quality Management Facility were above 4.1 micrograms per litre; peaking at 4.48 milligrams per litre.

The health guideline value for chlorine is 5.0 micrograms per litre, under the *Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (2004)*. LinkWater uses on-line total chlorine as a surrogate for monochloramine which has an *Australian Drinking Water Guideline* health guideline value of 4.1 micrograms per litre.

What we are doing

On identifying the issues LinkWater undertook the following actions:

- automatic process control systems were used to return the total chlorine levels to normal at the Chambers Flat Water Quality Management Facility at 11:26am on 10 September 2010
- LinkWater's laboratory service provider was sent to the Pub Lane off-take on the Southern Regional Pipeline and the Chambers Flat Water Quality Management Facility to verify both chlorine and monochloramine levels.

It has been confirmed that the reason for the discrepancies between LinkWater and Allconnex quality analysis

results was a result of an analysis error by Allconnex. A sample analysis technique was performed incorrectly, resulting in readings not being representative of actual chlorine levels in the water. LinkWater's laboratory service provider has confirmed that the chlorine levels in the Allconnex system are normal and they were never actually as high as stated. There are no on-going issues associated with the process problem experienced at LinkWater's Chambers Flat Water Quality Management Facility earlier in the day.

LinkWater will undertake further non-routine water quality analysis as a precaution to ensure the Chambers Flat facility continues to operate normally.

What we need the Minister's Office to do

This information is for noting. A further update will be provided once the incident has been closed.

Key contact person

The contact person for this incident is the SEQ Water Grid Manager's Duty Manager who can be contacted on [REDACTED] or via email at: notifications@seqwgm.qld.gov.au.

Next briefing

This incident will be closed when the completed Part B is received. No further briefings will be provided.

[REDACTED]
Rostered Duty Manager

SEQ Water Grid Manager

Mobile [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

Please consider the environment before printing this email. It takes 10 litres of water to make one sheet of A4 paper.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2010 4:02 PM
To: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cc: SEQWGM Communications Staff
[REDACTED]
Subject: Media enquiry: ABC - Drive

Hi team

ABC has called and want to speak with Dan about dam levels – 3 minute phone chat.

[REDACTED] are you happy for this to go ahead using previous messaging used for ABC, Channel 7 and 10?

They would like to do this within the next 30 mins.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Senior Media Advisor

SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

Please consider the environment before printing this email. It takes 10 litres of water to make one sheet of A4 paper.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2010 6:19 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Subject: Hot Issues from the SEQ Water Grid Manager
Attach: Hot Issues Brief - Gold Coast Desalination Plant.doc; Hot Issues Brief - Wivenhoe spilling and safety.doc

As per conversation with Dan, attached is the Hot Issues Briefs on Desalination and Wivenhoe Dam.

Have a good weekend!

Kindest regards

[REDACTED]
Senior Correspondence Officer
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
SEQ Water Grid Manager
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

WESTERN CORRIDOR RECYCLED WATER PROJECT AND FIREANTS

HOT ISSUE BRIEFING NOTE

HOT ISSUE G.X	Gold Coast Desalination Plant – Production and Operations
Question	

Issue:

How does the Gold Coast Desalination Plant benefit the SEQ Water Grid?

Answer:

Key Points

The Gold Coast Desalination Plant has been delivered on budget.

We have made sure that the builder has completed all rectification works at no additional expense to the taxpayer.

The plant has resumed supply. It has already supplied more than 28 billion litres into the SEQ Water Grid, since February 2009.

The desalination facility underpins water security for South East Queensland. It will ensure that we can respond to population growth, future droughts, climate change and heavy weather.

The plant is a key part of the SEQ Water Grid's emergency response plan, supplying up to 20% of our current demand. It has already been used on two occasions to reduce taste and odour issues in Brisbane.

The desalination facility will be run as efficiently as possible, like all assets within the Water Grid. We will save money and electricity by

operating at one-third of capacity. At this rate, the operating costs are only 2.5% of the total costs of the Water Grid.

Handover

The Gold Coast Desalination Plant has resumed supply to the SEQ Water Grid on 10 September, following completion of final rectification works.

The offshore barge departed Tugun on 13 September.

Final works consisted of replacing some sections of pipeline affected by corrosion, replacing the intermediate permeate tank, inspecting and completing any necessary repairs to the inlet shaft and strengthening the marine diffuser.

There is a one year warranty period for the works that have been repaired.

The plant will be delivered slightly below budget.

Supply to the SEQ Water Grid

The Gold Coast Desalination Plant commenced supply to the SEQ Water Grid in February 2009, while High Level restrictions were still in place.

It has already supplied more than 28.5 billion litres, some as part of emergency responses to taste and odour issues in Brisbane.

Water Security

SEQ now has the most secure water supply in Australia, underpinning our lifestyle and economic prosperity.

However, having been so close to catastrophe before, we cannot leave our water security to chance.

Just remember, less than three years ago our dams were at less than 17% of capacity.

Emergency response

The desalination is a critical part of our emergency response plan, both in drought and in heavy weather.

Operating at full capacity, it can supply almost 20 per cent of current consumption. This means that we can reduce the amount of water that we take from dams, and blend treated dam water with desalinated water to improve water quality.

We have already used it multiple times to minimise the impact of taste and odour issues.

- In March 2010, desalinated water was used in response to a taste and odour issue arising from Hinze Dam.
- On previous occasions, we transported desalinated water up the Southern Regional Water Pipeline to blend with water from the Mt Crosby water treatment plant. As a result, the peak concentrations of taste and odour compounds were significantly reduced.

It also provides the flexibility to quickly match production to demand, should other Grid assets becomes unavailable. For example, production could be increased if a water treatment plant is temporarily shut-down for maintenance or if a major asset fails, such as occurred in May 2009 when a pipeline from Mt Crosby broke.

Efficient operation

The desalination facility will be run as efficiently as possible, like all assets within the Water Grid.

Now that water storages are plentiful, we will save money and electricity by generally operating it at one-third of capacity.

It will produce 44 megalitres per day on average, about six per cent of total regional demand for potable water.

Importantly, it will be able to be brought back up to full capacity when necessary.

At this rate, the costs of operating the desalination facility will be about 2.5% of the total costs of the Water Grid.

Continued operation of the desalination plant

While it is possible to shut down the desalination facility and preserve the equipment, it is not a simple matter and not the most efficient way of operating this infrastructure.

The costs involved with preserving the infrastructure to ensure it is easily returned to optimum condition, when drought conditions inevitably return, means it may be more practical and efficient to run the plant at its lowest reliable design capacity.

In addition to ensuring that it is available when needed, running the plant at minimum levels ensures that we can fully test it during the warranty period and have people with the skills and experience to operate it when needed.

It also lengthens the life of the delicate reverse osmosis membranes, which are worth about \$10 million.

Price impacts

The capital and operating costs of the desalination facility will be funded through bulk water prices. Bulk water prices incorporate the cost of the

State's investment in the construction and ongoing operation of the \$6.9 billion Water Grid. This includes the desalination facility.

In setting the bulk water prices in May 2008, the Government put in place a number of measures designed to reduce the impact on consumers, including:

- recovering only the cost of debt on its investment in the SEQ drought-proofing infrastructure which has resulted in \$1.7 billion in foregone revenues;
- establishing a 10 year price path to smooth the impact on consumers of bulk water price increases resulting from the State's investment in the SEQ Water Grid; and
- introducing the SEQ Pensioner Water Subsidy whereby eligible pensioners receive a rebate of \$100 on their water bill in 2010-11.

The impact of bulk water pricing on an average household consuming less than 250 kilolitres per annum is an annual increase amounting to around \$1 per week.

International recognition

In 2009 the plant was named Membrane Desalination Plant of the Year by Global Water Intelligence following a vote by international water professionals.

In the last 12 months, more than 100 international delegates visiting Brisbane and the Gold Coast have requested site tours and briefings on the SEQ Water Grid and the Gold Coast Desalination Plant.

Background

Environmental Monitoring

The plant's intake and outlet structures have been designed to minimise impact on the environment.

Since October 2006, the quality of the seawater entering the plant and the salty water returning to the ocean has been monitored continuously.

The Department of Environment and Resource Management is closely monitoring the performance and potential impacts of the plant.

The monitoring results are required to be submitted to the department in the form of a quarterly report.

All seven quarterly reports provided to date have demonstrated that the operator is carrying out monitoring in accordance with the approval requirements.

Results show the plant is operating according to its licence conditions, which are designed to prevent environmental harm.

Based on those reports, the department is satisfied that the release of waters from the plant is not adversely impacting upon the receiving environment.

Video footage shows thousands of fish and other sea life living on and around the marine structures.

The marine monitoring programs were designed in accordance with Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council Guidelines as required by the Department of Environment and Resource Management licence and were independently reviewed by specialists in this field.

The development approval requires the registered operator to conduct three impact monitoring programs in respect to assessing the impact of the release of reconstituted brine.

A receiving environment monitoring program requires:

- monitoring of the water quality (physiochemical and biological) of the waste waters (reconstituted brine) released from the plant at the outlet shaft;
- monitoring of the physicochemical characteristics of the marine water in the vicinity of the discharge; and
- an assessment of the key flora and fauna communities and sediment type in the receiving environment, through the conduct of benthic (bottom dwelling) marine fauna monitoring.

An additional monitoring program requires monitoring of the type and quantity of marine organisms captured in the intake riser.

A marine contaminant risk assessment requires an assessment of the type of chemicals used in the plant and an assessment of the risk posed by each of these chemicals to the receiving environment. This is conducted by performing, toxicological bioassay and direct toxicity assessments.

Monitoring is reported to the department on a quarterly basis with the benthic marine fauna monitoring reported on a six monthly basis.

The department has currently received seven quarterly reports, four of which have been during the operations phase of the plants construction.

The most recent quarterly report received by the department covered the period April 2010 - June 2010.

The registered operator is currently considering commissioning an independent expert to review the current monitoring programs.

The latest benthic marine fauna monitoring report was received by the department in May 2010 which covered the period October 2009 - March 2010.

The department approved a Request to Change Development Approval application on 19 February 2010 to change the dissolved oxygen monitoring condition due to naturally occurring variations in the ocean's dissolved oxygen concentrations.

Energy Consumption

The Gold Coast Desalination Plant is among the most energy-efficient membrane desalination plants in the world, due to its design characteristics and the use of highly energy efficient new technology.

The plant has been designed to minimise its energy consumption through the use of energy recovery devices and highly efficient pumps.

The plant's energy efficiency has exceeded expectations, resulting in a reduction of 27,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide a year and substantial energy cost savings.

WaterSecure has purchased renewable energy certificates to fully offset the plant's energy consumption.

(ENTER FULL NAME OF BILL)

HOT ISSUE BRIEFING NOTE

HOT ISSUE G.X	Wivenhoe Dam levels
Question	Why and the likelihood of Wivenhoe spilling and the operational risks and safety advice.

Issue:

Will Wivenhoe Dam spill? How are we prepared?

Answer:

Current dam levels

Wivenhoe Dam has reached 100 per cent for the first time since 2001.

Somerset Dam is full, with water being released in Wivenhoe Dam via the cone valves.

Across the Water Grid, key storages are at 98.5% of storage capacity, up from 95.8% last week.

Will the gates be opened?

It is likely that Seqwater will undertake controlled releases from Wivenhoe Dam via the cone valves in the bottom of the dam wall from Monday next week.

The gates will only be opened if the catchment area receives further substantial rainfall.

(Cone valves are structures built towards the bottom of a dam wall to allow for smaller controlled releases of water. Flood gates are large structures built into a dam wall allowing a maximum release of flood waters as required to maintain the integrity of the dam wall.)

Are we prepared for flood?

Wivenhoe has enormous flood capacity – almost the equivalent of three times Sydney Harbour (1.45 million megalitres). Put in context Wivenhoe has received 376,000 megalitres in flows for the year to date.

Seqwater has a Dam Safety Management Program to ensure that each of its dams is operated and maintained in a manner that is both safe and minimises the risks associated with a dam failure and managing flood events, including by working with local councils and emergency services.

The program has been endorsed and approved by the Dam Safety Regulator and met the standards required by the Queensland Dam Safety Management Guidelines and the international ANCOLD Guidelines on Dam Safety Management

The Flood Control Centre will mobilise during a flood event at North Pine, Somerset or Wivenhoe Dams. It operates 24 hours a day with teams of operators at each dam 24 hours a day managing releases.

Seqwater has an extensive monitoring network of 140 gauging stations across the catchment that monitors rainfall, streamflow and dam levels.

The \$395 Hinze Dam upgrade is on track to be completed for the coming wet season, delivering improved flood protection for 3280 households on the Gold Coast.

Benefits of the Grid

The Grid enables us to choose the water use – meaning that it is the most secure water supply in Australia, in drought and when the dams are full.

Heavy rain often causes water quality issues. It drags nutrients and other compounds from the catchments into our water supplies.

With the Grid, we are better prepared for these events than ever before. We can isolate, or blend water from multiples sources.

We have already used the Grid on multiple times to minimise the impact of water quality issues.

- In March 2010, desalinated water was used in response to a taste and odour issue arising from Hinze Dam.
- On previous occasions, we transported desalinated water up the Southern Regional Water Pipeline to blend with water from the Mt Crosby water treatment plant. As a result, the peak concentrations of taste and odour compounds were significantly reduced.

Water Conservation measures

The Permanent Water Conservation Measures that were introduced on 1 December 2009 are aimed at maintain good water practices for the future.

The recently released *South East Queensland Water Strategy* shows that maintaining our consumption below 200 litres per person per day will defer the need for additional water supply infrastructure in all scenarios by at least five years.

Permanent Water Conservation Measures are low level requirements that recognise the value of water.

- Residents are able to hose their gardens, fill a play pool or wash a car.

- Gardens can be irrigated with efficient irrigation systems between 4.00 pm and 10.00 am on any day of the week, except Mondays.
- Residents are able to use a hand held hose or high pressure cleaning unit to clean cars, boats, caravans and residential buildings at any time.
- Residents can also fill or top up a play pool for children at a maximum of 500 litres.

Water Security

SEQ now has the most secure water supply in Australia, underpinning our lifestyle and economic prosperity.

However, having been so close to catastrophe before, we cannot leave our water security to chance.

Just remember, less than three years ago our dams were at less than 17% of capacity.

Desalination

The plant has resumed supply. It has already supplied more than 28 billion litres into the SEQ Water Grid, since February 2009.

The desalination facility underpins water security for South East Queensland. It will ensure that we can respond to population growth, future droughts, climate change and heavy weather.

The plant is a key part of the SEQ Water Grid's emergency response plan, supplying up to 20% of our current demand. It has already been used on multiple occasions to reduce taste and odour issues on the Gold Coast and in Brisbane.

The plant also provides the flexibility to quickly match production to demand, should other Grid assets becomes unavailable. For example, production could be increased if a water treatment plant is temporarily shut-down for maintenance or if a major asset fails, such as occurred in May 2009 when a pipeline from Mt Crosby broke.

The desalination facility will be run as efficiently as possible, like all assets within the Water Grid. We will save money and electricity by operating at one-third of capacity. At this rate, the operating costs are only 2.5% of the total costs of the Water Grid.

Wivenhoe Dam operating level

Investigations have commenced into the extent to which the full supply level of Wivenhoe Dam could be raised, without raising the dam wall, while maintaining acceptable risk levels at the dam itself and inundated areas.

We will not take risks with flood safety.

The investigation will involve detailed investigations associated with upstream and downstream flooding, environmental considerations, impacts on infrastructure and lease resumptions.

Until the raising of the full supply level is fully assessed, flood waters will be cleared to the existing full supply level in accordance with the existing Flood Operations Manual developed by Seqwater and approved by the Dam Safety Regulator to ensure public safety is maintained.

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2010 6:22 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Hot Issues from the SEQ Water Grid Manager

[REDACTED]

Seqwater was confident we would hit 100% this evening. I have updated the brief to reflect that. Mike Foster will confirm to us tomorrow morning.

Regards,
Dan

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 1 October 2010 6:19 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Dan Spiller; [REDACTED]
Subject: Hot Issues from the SEQ Water Grid Manager

As per conversation with Dan, attached is the Hot Issues Briefs on Desalination and Wivenhoe Dam.

Have a good weekend!

Kindest regards

[REDACTED]
Senior Correspondence Officer
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
SEQ Water Grid Manager
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

From: SEQWGM Media [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, October 2, 2010 1:15 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Dan Spiller [REDACTED] SEQWGM Communications
Staff [REDACTED] Barry Dennien
[REDACTED] Mike Foster
Subject: SEQ Water Grid Media Update - 2 October 2010

Hi [REDACTED]

Please note the following media activity that has taken place Saturday 2 October:

- Channel 9 – interview with Dan Spiller regarding Wivenhoe reaching 100 per cent. Set to go to air tonight. Content covered included current dam levels, best water security ever and flexibility of the Grid for managing water quality. The reporter through in a few questions regarding easement on water restrictions and pricing which Dan handled well.
- ABC radio – interview with Dan Spiller regarding Wivenhoe reaching 100 per cent over night. Short sound bites to be rolled out in news updates throughout the day.
- Channel 10 – further details provided regarding Wivenhoe reaching 100 per cent, for inclusion in weather update.

Enjoy your weekend.

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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From: SEQWGM Media [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 4, 2010 9:06 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEQWGM Communications Staff [REDACTED], Barry Dennien [REDACTED]; Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] paul.rees [REDACTED]
mfoster [REDACTED]
Subject: SEQ Water Grid media interviews over the weekend

Hi [REDACTED]

Please note the updated list below regarding media interviews that place over the weekend.

Saturday 2 October

- Channel 9 – interview with Dan Spiller regarding Wivenhoe reaching 100 per cent. Content covered included current dam levels, best water security ever and flexibility of the Grid for managing water quality.
- ABC radio – interview with Dan Spiller regarding Wivenhoe reaching 100 per cent over night. Short sound bites rolled out in news updates throughout the day.
- Channel 10 – further details provided regarding Wivenhoe reaching 100 per cent, for inclusion in weather update.
- Weather Channel – interview with Dan Spiller regarding Wivenhoe reaching 100 per cent. Content covered included current dam levels and best water security ever.

Monday 4 October

- ABC Spencer Howson - interview with Dan Spiller regarding Wivenhoe reaching 100 per cent. Discussions around releasing water via the cone valves. Good piece that set the story straight about no plans to open the gates at this stage.

Regards,

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor

SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit

Phone [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 6, 2010 12:58 PM
To: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Subject:

Dan, I sent an email to Mike and received no response yet. Is Barry still away? If so, are you up to talk to the CM again about flood mitigation levels at Wivenhoe? Cheers [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 6, 2010 1:25 PM
To: Dan Spiller [REDACTED] Dan Spiller
Subject: FW: MEDIA RELEASE - Labor not interested in Wivenhoe 'rethink'

Thanks Dan. [REDACTED] questions below. His number is [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 October 2010 12:51 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: MEDIA RELEASE - Labor not interested in Wivenhoe 'rethink'

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 October 2010 12:48
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: MEDIA RELEASE - Labor not interested in Wivenhoe 'rethink'

Dear [REDACTED] Herewith the release. in March seqwater's dan spiller said he would look at increasing the storage capacity of wivenhoe by utilising part of the dam's flood mitigation capacity. where are things on that research?

If that research is not finished when will it be?

would you be inclined to increase wivenhoe's storage it at the moment?

If not, why not?

are we still basing our flood planning on research from 15 yrs ago or whatever?

should we now be a bit bolder with how we hold water, given the Weather Bureau says it has an accuracy rate of 98% on its predictions?

do we know how much holding back flood storage would increase flooding risks?

Could we afford to hold back some of the flood storage of the dam, given it already is full, the catchment is soaked and a big wet season is predicted?

is it of concern to you, the type of season the weather bureau is predicting?

how long would it take to fill the flood compartment if we got another cyclone wanda as in 74?

Who will be responsible for the decision on whether on not to use the flood compartment for drinking water storage?

Kindest regards, [REDACTED]

From: LNP Media [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 October 2010 12:18
Subject: MEDIA RELEASE - Labor not interested in Wivenhoe 'rethink'

Jeff Seeney MP

Shadow Minister for Natural Resources

Mines & Energy

LNP Member for Callide

6 October 2010

Labor not interested in Wivenhoe 'rethink'

Wivenhoe Dam's true capacity was double that being claimed by the Bligh government and better management was needed to stop further waste of taxpayers' money and soaring water bills for southeast Queenslanders, the State Opposition told Parliament today.

LNP water spokesman Jeff Seeney said government claims that Wivenhoe was 100 per cent full and water had to be released were misleading because at '100 per cent capacity' the dam was less than half full.

Mr Seeney said the water crisis was caused by the long-term Labor government's failure to plan – delivering consumers inflated water bills and water restrictions that still applied while water was being released from Wivenhoe.

"Isn't this release of water from Wivenhoe when it's holding only 40 per cent of its available capacity a clear indication the Government has learnt nothing from the water crisis and is still failing to plan for the next inevitable drought," Mr Seeney asked Minister Stephen Robertson.

Mr Seeney said the Minister wasn't interested in telling the people of southeast Queensland that the true capacity of Wivenhoe was 2.6 million megalitres.

"The government states the dam is 'full' at 1.15 million megalitres, but its total capacity is 2.6 million megalitres."

Mr Seeney said a 2005 government report showed using just 2 metres extra of Wivenhoe's storage would add an extra 228,000 megalitres of water and provide an extra 'no fail' yield of 31,000 megalitres a year to SEQ's water supply – equivalent to the total annual yield from a properly functioning Tugun desal plant.

Built in the late 1970s in response to the 1974 floods that devastated Brisbane, Wivenhoe was constructed to hold not just a large water supply, but also act as a buffer to help to manage future floods.

Mr Seeney said it was time to review management policy so more of the dam could be used for water storage to reduce chances of another water crisis.

"Obviously the dam needs to maintain the flood buffer for Brisbane. But we need to determine whether the balance that was struck in the early 1980s remains appropriate for the situation today."

Media contact: Jeff Seeney [REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 6, 2010 1:40 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEOWGM Media [REDACTED] Dan Spiller
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: wivenhoe
Attach: For Minister's office - Wivenhoe 061010.doc

See our additional comments attached.

[REDACTED] are you happy with this text?

[REDACTED] if you have any other PPQ's on this topic please forward them through as Dan will be speaking directly with [REDACTED] shortly.

Thanks
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
Phone [REDACTED]
Email [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 October 2010 1:13 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEOWGM Media
Subject: RE: wivenhoe

Hi [REDACTED], FYI, if you need to speak with [REDACTED] he is down at Parliament today on extension [REDACTED]

Cheers.

-----Original Message-----
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 October 2010 12:58 PM
To: [REDACTED] @ SEOWGM
Cc: Media @ SEOWGM
Subject: FW: wivenhoe

Hi [REDACTED]

As discussed, below is the latest direction from the Minister's office.

Can you please check with Peter Burrows to see if Seqwater can take the lead on providing a statement/response to the MO?

Attached is a very rough draft I've put together so far.

MO has also just send through an email saying 'Thanks. Sorry to be pushy because I know how busy you are, but this one of running across the radios now and others are asking.'

Regards
[REDACTED]

Media Officer
Department of Environment and Resource Management [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Group email:
[REDACTED]

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 October 2010 12:12 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Wivenhoe

[REDACTED] some direction on the Wivenhoe response. Can we say that a review of the full supply level is underway but we will not take any risks with the safety of Brisbane and SEQ with the weather bureau predicting one of the wettest summers in years.

Everyone remembers the heartache and destruction of the 1974 floods and the current levels have been worked out to ensure there is never a repeat of that situation.

The flood mitigation capacity needs to be significant as it can take up to five days to release water from WD after major rain event. What position would we be in if we got two major rain events within a few days of each other.

Thanks [REDACTED]

+-----+
Think B4U Print

1 ream of paper = 6% of a tree and 5.4kg CO2 in the atmosphere
3 sheets of A4 paper = 1 litre of water

+-----+



MEDIA RESPONSE

Media outlet:
Journalist:
Deadline:
Contact:
Email:

Enquiry:

Response:

The Queensland Water Commission, in conjunction with Seqwater, is investigating the benefits of raising the full supply level of Wivenhoe Dam. This is one of the actions included in the SEQ Water Strategy, released earlier this year.

Increasing the full supply level of Wivenhoe Dam is one option to increase the water supply available in south east Queensland.

There is no proposal to lift the dam wall. Raising the storage level of the dam reduces the flood storage capacity which could be needed in the event of an emergency.

As Wivenhoe Dam provides flood mitigation to downstream communities by storing floodwaters that are then later released, it is imperative that the investigation is carefully conducted.

The Queensland Government will not take any safety risks, particularly given the predictions of a wet summer.

Everyone remembers the heartache and destruction of the 1974 floods and Wivenhoe Dam's current full supply levels were established to ensure there is never a repeat of that situation.

Wivenhoe Dam's flood mitigation capacity needs to be significant as it can take several days to safely release water from the dam after a major rain event.

The drinking water storage capacity of Wivenhoe Dam is 1,165,238 megalitres. In addition there is volume for flood mitigation - equal to three times the capacity of Sydney Harbour or 1.45 million megalitres.

All key water storages within the SEQ Water Grid have flood mitigation plans to best manage dam levels. In addition, an extensive monitoring network of 140 gauging stations across the key storages monitors rainfall, stream flow and dam levels.

From: SEQWGM Media [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 6, 2010 2:00 PM
To: [REDACTED] SEQWGM Media
Cc: [REDACTED]; Dan Spiller
Subject: RE: wivenhoe

Did you still want Dan to speak directly to [REDACTED] at the Courier Mail? If so we are ready to go...

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 October 2010 1:57 PM
To: SEQWGM Media
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: wivenhoe

Thanks for the speedy MR. It will be sent out by the Minister. Thanks
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: SEQWGM Media [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 October 2010 1:54 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEQWGM Media; Dan Spiller; media
Subject: RE: wivenhoe

[REDACTED] is speaking to the Minister and will get back to us on who the response should come from...

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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litres of water to make one sheet of A4 paper.

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 October 2010 1:47 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEQWGM Media; Dan Spiller; media
Subject: RE: wivenhoe

Hi [REDACTED] just to confirm, this should come from Seqwater or SEQWGM, rather than the QWC, yes?

Regards, [REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 October 2010 1:40 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Media @ SEQWGM; spiller daniel @ SEQWGM; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: wivenhoe

See our additional comments attached.

[REDACTED] are you happy with this text?

[REDACTED] if you have any other PPQ's on this topic please forward them through as Dan will be speaking directly with [REDACTED] shortly.

Thanks

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
Phone [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

Please consider the environment before printing this email. It takes 10 litres of water to make one sheet of A4 paper.

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 October 2010 1:13 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEQWGM Media
Subject: RE: wivenhoe

Hi [REDACTED], FYI, if you need to speak with [REDACTED] he is down at Parliament today on extension [REDACTED]

Cheers.

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 October 2010 12:58 PM
To: [REDACTED] @ SEQWGM
Cc: Media @ SEQWGM
Subject: FW: wivenhoe

Hi [REDACTED]

As discussed, below is the latest direction from the Minister's office.

Can you please check with Peter Burrows to see if Seqwater can take the lead on providing a statement/response to the MO?

Attached is a very rough draft I've put together so far.

MO has also just send through an email saying 'Thanks. Sorry to be pushy because I know how busy you are, but this one of running across the radios now and others are asking.'

Regards,

Media Officer
Department of Environment and Resource Management [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Group email:
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 October 2010 12:12 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: wivenhoe

[REDACTED] some direction on the Wivenhoe response. Can we say that a review of the full supply level is underway but we will not take any risks with the safety of Brisbane and SEQ with the weather bureau predicting one of the wettest summers in years.

Everyone remembers the heartache and destruction of the 1974 floods and the current levels have been worked out to ensure there is never a repeat of that situation.

The flood mitigation capacity needs to be significant as it can take up to five days to release water from WD after major rain event. What position would we be in if we got two major rain events within a few days of each other.

Thanks [REDACTED]

+-----+
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3 sheets of A4 paper = 1 litre of water
+-----+

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: SEQWGM Media [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 8, 2010 11:05 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEOWGM Communications Staff
[REDACTED]; Dan Spiller
[REDACTED] Barry Dennien
Subject: Media enquiry - Channel 10

Hi [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] from Channel 10 has called looking for an update on dam levels. FYI we have gone back to him with the following response...

Response to Channel 10

- Rain last night has had no major impact on dam levels. Sunshine Coast received the most rain with falls of approximately 55mm. Wivenhoe and Somerset areas received 5-10 mm of patchy rain.
- East Brisbane received 50-80 mm overnight, but not much rainfall in our inland catchment areas.
- Hydro releases will continue into next week to bring Wivenhoe down to Full Supply Level. There are no plans to open flood gates.
- Dam levels have been updated online at <http://www.seqwater.com.au/public/dam-levels>

Regards

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor

SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

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From: SEQWGM Media [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 8, 2010 3:17 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEQWGM Communications Staff
<mfostr [REDACTED] Dan Spiller [REDACTED] Mike Foster [REDACTED]
Subject: Courier Mail - technical drawing

Hi [REDACTED]

Please note Courier Mail is chasing a technical drawing of Wivenhoe Dam that shows the full capacity line, in addition to the full supply capacity.

Given they will have a go at putting something together themselves, Seqwater is currently working on something which we will send to you for approval once complete.

Regards

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
Phone [REDACTED]
Email [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

Please consider the environment before printing this email. It takes 10 litres of water to make one sheet of A4 paper.

From: SEQWGM Media
Sent: Friday, 8 October 2010 2:42 PM
To: 'Mike Foster'
Cc: SEQWGM Communications Staff; Dan Spiller; Barry Dennien; [REDACTED]
Subject: Courier Mail - technical drawing

Hi Mike

Thanks for your time on the phone.

As discussed, can you please chat to your team about getting an image that shows the full capacity of Wivenhoe vs drinking water storage capacity. If we don't give it a go, they will.

Please also confirm if this is possible within the time frame.

I have left a follow up message with the Courier Mail.

Thanks

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit

Phone

Email:

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

Please consider the environment before printing this email. It takes 10 litres of water to make one sheet of A4 paper.

[REDACTED]

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Monday, 11 October 2010 11:43 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW:

From: Mike Foster [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 11 October 2010 11:42 AM
To: Dan Spiller
Subject:

Dan

Releases are currently within river bank

Releases have not reached the designated minor flood levels as determined by the BOM and local councils.

At this stage still very much a minor event. No impact on localised flooding at this stage.

Cheers Mike

Mike Foster
Manager Strategic Relations & Communication
Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority *trading as Seqwater*



PH [REDACTED]
Level 3, 240 Margaret St, Brisbane City QLD 4000
PO Box 16146, City East QLD 4002
Website | www.seqwater.com.au

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 11 October 2010 12:11 PM
To: Waldman Karen
Cc: [REDACTED] Dan Spiller; Barry Dennien
Subject: review of wivenhoe supply level

Categories: T11

Hi Karen

The Minister has asked for some advise ASAP.

Are you able to provide advice on the progress of the review of Wivenhoe's full supply level under the water strategy?

What work has been undertaken?

How far through the process is the QWC?

When is the work scheduled to be completed?

What are the key stages in the assessment?

[REDACTED]
Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone [REDACTED]
Mobile [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 11 October 2010 5:25 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: vwaldman Karen; [REDACTED] Dan Spiller; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: review of wivenhoe supply level
Attachments: Increasing Wivenhoe Dam Full Supply Level Ministerial Brief signed by CEO 11 October 2010.PDF

Good evening [REDACTED]

Please find attached a Ministerial Brief on increasing Wivenhoe Dam's Full Supply Level approved by Karen Waldman, CEO, QWC. The brief has also been progressed urgently via MECS: CTS 18474/10.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
A/Senior Policy and Project Officer
Corporate Policy Unit - Queensland Water Commission Department of Environment and Resource
Management
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 11 October 2010 12:11 PM
To: Waldman Karen
Cc: [REDACTED] spiller daniel @ SEQWGM; Dennien Barry
Subject: review of wivenhoe supply level

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[REDACTED]
Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone: [REDACTED]
Mobile: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]

+-----+
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1 ream of paper = 6% of a tree and 5.4kg CO2 in the atmosphere

3 sheets of A4 paper = 1 litre of water

2

+

+

**QUEENSLAND WATER COMMISSION
MINISTERIAL BRIEFING NOTE**

TO: Minister Robertson
FROM: *Karen Waldman* 11-10-10
 Karen Waldman, Chief Executive Officer
SUBJECT: Progress of the Wivenhoe Dam full supply level review

Advisor	OK
Dated	/ /
Approved/Not Approved/Noted	
Further information required	
Minister	
Dated	/ /
Noted /	
Further information required	
DG DERM	
Dated	/ /

TIMEFRAME

- Noting of this brief is required urgently as requested by the Minister's Office.

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended that the Minister **note** the progress of the review of Wivenhoe Dam's full supply level being conducted by the Queensland Water Commission (QWC) and Seqwater.

BACKGROUND

- One of the recommended planning activities to be undertaken by the QWC identified in the *South East Queensland Water Strategy* (the Strategy) is a review of the operation of the Brisbane River system to optimise the water supply yield and to balance the flood storage and water supply storage volume requirements.
- The Wivenhoe Dam is operated with a normal storage capacity at full supply level (FSL) of 1.165 million megalitres (ML). It is able to hold back a further 1.45 million ML during a flood situation. This additional storage is used to provide flood mitigation benefits along the Brisbane River downstream of the dam by spreading release over a large period.
- An investigation into increasing the yield from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams was undertaken by Seqwater. Seqwater's March 2007 report, *Provision of Contingency Storage in Wivenhoe and Somerset Dam*, investigated three levels of possible increases to the current FSL of Wivenhoe Dam of two metres, three metres and four metres. This report, which is available on the QWC's website, did not consider the requirements of the Moreton Water Resource Plan in terms of environmental flow.

CURRENT ISSUES

- A detailed investigation is being conducted by the QWC in conjunction with Seqwater and in consultation with the Brisbane and Ipswich City Councils to determine the maximum level to which the FSL of Wivenhoe Dam could be raised without raising the dam wall.
- In addition, a study will be undertaken to identify alternative options to access additional water from the Brisbane River system to identify the most advantageous option.

Key stages in the assessment

- Pre-feasibility study** – a desk top study using existing models is anticipated to be completed by March 2011. It involves:
 - assessing the maximum yield within the environmental parameters of the Moreton Water Resource Plan;
 - assessing the upstream and downstream flooding impacts;
 - undertaking a cost benefit assessment of these impacts against the value of the water sourced;
 - identifying alternative options to access water in the system;
 - peer review of the work undertaken; and
 - preparing a report on the study.

- Cost impacts would be based on the Brisbane City Council's Brisbane River Flood Damages Study and would be undertaken in conjunction with Brisbane and Ipswich City Councils.
- Based on the pre-feasibility investigation, the QWC will recommend to the Minister whether the option warrants further investigation through a feasibility study or not to proceed.
- **Feasibility study** – This will be at a more detailed level and will involve refinement of the models and may involve some site inspections. The feasibility study is anticipated to take 12 months and would involve:
 - upstream and downstream flood hydrology sufficient to clearly identify flood risks including infrastructure impacts and upstream land acquisition (amend leases);
 - identifying dam structure impacts;
 - identifying environmental impacts including fauna and flora;
 - quantifying the project costs and yield benefits; and
 - identifying the project delivery time frame including environmental approvals.
- A report will be prepared including briefing material to advise the Minister of the outcome of the studies with a recommendation to proceed or not proceed with the preparation of a business case.

Current status of project

- Preliminary investigations have been undertaken by QWC using the Integrated Quantity and Quality Model (IQQM) and the WATHNET model to determine the additional yield meeting both the environmental requirements under the Moreton Water Resource Plan and the Level of Service criteria adopted for supplies in south east Queensland.
- The investigations also indicate that an additional 5,000 ML per annum could be accessed with a 1 metre raising of Wivenhoe Dam's FSL.
- The investigations indicate that any raising of FSL above one metre actually results in a lower overall yield from the system due to higher evaporation losses.
- The Wivenhoe system is nearly at its limit in terms of the end of system environmental flow objective (EFO) which is set under the Moreton Water Resource Plan at 67.22%. The one metre raising results in a 67.28% end of system flow whereas two metres results in 67.03%.
- QWC is currently awaiting costs from Seqwater to undertake components of the work but Seqwater will fund all its internal costs.
- The project will be overviewed by a Project Steering Committee which will include representatives from the QWC, Department of Environment and Resource Management, Seqwater, Brisbane City Council, Ipswich City Council and two independent experts in hydrology and water engineering.
- Once the costing from Seqwater is received, work on the pre-feasibility study will commence and should be completed by March 2011.
- If the pre-feasibility study indicates that a proposal is viable, at least another 12 months of further detailed technical studies at an estimated cost of \$500,000. This cost would be incurred by the QWC.
- Consultation with stakeholders and the community will be undertaken during the feasibility study, but ultimately this could easily add to that timeframe, given the complex nature of the impacts to be investigated.
- Until this work has been completed, and in consideration of the safety of the community, flood waters will be cleared in accordance with the existing Flood Operations Manual developed by Seqwater and approved by the Dam Safety Regulator.

RESOURCE/IMPLEMENTATION IMPLICATIONS

- The pre-feasibility investigations are expected to be finalised in March 2011 at an estimated cost of \$100,000. If the pre-feasibility study indicates that a proposal is viable, at least another 12 months of further detailed technical studies at an estimated cost of \$500,000. This cost would be incurred by the QWC.

PROPOSED ACTION

- The QWC will continue to work with Seqwater to undertake a pre-feasibility study on the viability of raising the Wivenhoe Dam FSL or an alternative option if identified.

OTHER INFORMATION

- *Consultation:* Meetings have been held with Seqwater and discussions have been arranged with Brisbane City Council and Ipswich City Council.
- *Legislation:* Any option considered will be compliant with the Moreton Water Resource Plan.
- *Key Communication Messages:* As indicated in the Strategy, the QWC, in conjunction with Seqwater, will be investigating the maximum level to which the storage level of Wivenhoe Dam could be raised without raising the dam wall, while still remaining within acceptable risk levels. Until the detailed investigations have been completed, flood waters will be cleared in accordance with the existing gazetted Flood Operations Manual developed by Seqwater and approved by the Dam Safety Regulator. It is vital the Government takes all the time needed to get it right and the Government will not be rushed into making hasty decisions in the area of public safety. Getting this wrong has the potential to endanger homes, property and livelihoods of residents both upstream of the dam and downstream as far as Brisbane City.

MINISTER'S COMMENTS

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 11 October 2010 6:18 PM
To: Waldman Karen; Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: review of wivenhoe supply level

Categories: T11

If an increase in FSL of above 1m will decrease system yield, why are investigations into increases of 2, 3 and 4m ongoing?

[REDACTED]
Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone [REDACTED]
Mobile [REDACTED]
Fax: (0) [REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 11 October 2010 5:25 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Waldman Karen; [REDACTED] Spiller Daniel (SEQWGM); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: review of wivenhoe supply level

Good evening [REDACTED]

Please find attached a Ministerial Brief on increasing Wivenhoe Dam's Full Supply Level approved by Karen Waldman, CEO, QWC. The brief has also been progressed urgently via MECS: CTS 18474/10.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
A/Senior Policy and Project Officer
Corporate Policy Unit - Queensland Water Commission Department of Environment and Resource
Management
T: [REDACTED] | PO Box 15087 City East QLD 4002 | E:
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 11 October 2010 12:11 PM
To: Waldman Karen
Cc: [REDACTED] spiller daniel @ SEQWGM; Dennien Barry
Subject: review of wivenhoe supply level

Hi Karen

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[REDACTED]
Policy Advisor

Office of the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade

Phone [REDACTED]

Mobile [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

+-----+

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2010 8:02 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEOWGM Communications Staff
<SEOWGMCommunicationsStaff@seqwgm.com.au>; Barry Dennien
[REDACTED] Dan Spiller
[REDACTED] Mike Foster [REDACTED]
Subject: HIB - Dam releases as at 12 October 2010
Attach: Hot Issues Brief - SEQ Water Grid Dam releases - as at 12 October 2010.doc

H [REDACTED] - please find attached the HIB for Dams for 12 October 2010.

[REDACTED]
Senior Correspondence Officer
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
SEQ Water Grid Manager
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

HOT ISSUE BRIEFING NOTE

HOT ISSUE G.X	SEQ Water Grid Dams – as at 12 October 2010
Question	What is happening with South East Queensland's Dams?

Issue:

- What dam gates are opened or will be today?
- What dams are spilling?

Answer:

Wivenhoe Dam

- A spillway gate at Wivenhoe Dam was opened just after 7pm on Saturday 9 October 2010.
- Approximately 23,000 megalitres per day is currently being released from Wivenhoe Dam's spillway gates.
- The gate was opened partially following a review of updated information from the Weather Bureau and monitoring of inflow data collated from the catchment.
- Wivenhoe Dam is still rising and Seqwater's Flood Control Centre will reassess the amount of water released today.
- Water is also being passed through the dam's hydro-electric generator for supply into the Grid. The remainder is contributing to environmental flows.

Somerset Dam

- The 4 gates and a cone valve were opened at Somerset Dam at approximately 10.00 pm on Saturday 9 October 2010.
- Water will continued to be released until the dam reaches full supply level.
- Released water from Somerset Dam flows into Wivenhoe and forms part of Wivenhoe Dam's controlled releases.

North Pine Dam

- Water has been released from North Pine Dam from approximately 8 am Monday 11 October 2010.
- Released water from the North Pine Dam is channelled into North Pine River, contributing to environmental flows.

- Gates will be closed later this afternoon or Wednesday morning.

Leslie Harrison Dam

- Leslie Harrison Dam in the Redlands area began controlled gate releases from 3.00am Monday morning.
- The gates will be closed sometime today.

Hinze Dam

- Seqwater is currently monitoring Hinze Dam, which is still under Stage 3 construction.
- The new emergency gates were opened at 7.30am this morning when the dam reached the trigger point to release water.
- Authority has been granted from DERM to operate controlled releases, to maintain the dam at the current full supply level.
- Released water from Hinze Dam will flow into Nerang River contributing to environmental flows.

Sunshine Coast dams

- All Gold dams on the Sunshine Coast remain spilling and will do well into next week. These dams are built with spillways rather than gates.
- Water spilling from the Sunshine Coast dams also flow into local waterways, contributing to environmental flows.

Road closures and safety

- Local Councils are responsible for road closures as a result of spilling dams or controlled releases.
- We recommend due to road safety that people avoid travel to dams and storages, particularly during the heavy weather and at night.

Flood Operations Centre

- Seqwater's Flood Operations Centre was activated over the weekend and will operate 24 hours a day.
- The Flood Operations Centre will continue to advise local and emergency authorities on potential impacts downstream as a result of the gated dam releases.

From: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2010 8:59 AM
To: Bradley John <John.Bradley@[REDACTED]>
Cc: [REDACTED] Dan Spiller
Subject: Mt Crosby loss of production due to turbid water

John [REDACTED]

The Grid emergency team have just met to discuss the Mt Crosby incident.

Status:

Water supply demand supply balance is now stable for central Brisbane zone.

West Bank water treatment plant Mt Crosby is now back online at reduced production at 95 ML/d compared to 250 ML/d typical.

To supply the differential:

- North Pine water treatment plant has been increased by 50 ML/d from 100ML/d
- Southern Regional pipeline transfers from the Gold Coast to Brisbane has been increased to full capacity i.e. from 25ML/d to 90ML/d
- Molendinar Water treatment Plant (Hinze Dam) has been increased to full production from 80 ML/d to 120 ML/d
- East Bank water treatment plant remains off.

Of note the desalination plant at 44ML/d is critical to ensure the Gold Coast region can produce enough water to allow for the export into Brisbane at full capacity.

More fulsome incident report will be coming through shortly.

regards

Barry Dennien

Chief Executive Officer

SEQ Water Grid Manager

Phone [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street, Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East Qld 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

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[REDACTED]

From: SEQWGM Media
Sent: Tuesday, 12 October 2010 9:39 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Mike Foster; SEQWGM Communications Staff; Dan Spiller; Barry Dennien
Subject: Media enquiries

Hi [REDACTED]

Please note media enquiries below. Are you happy for these to go ahead? Both radio options are grabs for the news bulletin and the Channel 7 piece is a general 'changing landscape' feature.

Channel 7

[REDACTED] is doing a piece on the wonder of our catchments, and the changing landscape over the last few years. He is heading out to Wivenhoe today and will be speaking with landowners about change, progression and transformation. He wants to also speak with Rob Drury, Dam Manager at Seqwater, and take him up in the helicopter to comment on the changing landscape.

3C Gold Coast

Request for news bulletin grabs re Hinze Dam opening and why we need desal?

QUT news radio

Request for grabs on dam levels, where are we releasing water and current water restrictions – will they be eased? Also asked for comment on the 2021 drinking supply reported in The Australian.

Channel 7, Channel 9, Courier Mail, Gold Coast Bulletin and Brisbane Times are all after images of Hinze Dam gates opened. Given it is a construction site, we are looking at pooling options for images and footage. We are also looking at putting out an advisory to all other media, to allow access to this footage/images.

We look forward to your response.

[REDACTED]

Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2010 11:46 AM
To: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Mt Crosby loss of production due to turbid water

[REDACTED]
Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone: [REDACTED]
Mobile: [REDACTED]
Fax: (0) [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 12 October 2010 10:27 AM
To: 'Barry Dennien'; 'Dan Spiller'
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mt Crosby loss of production due to turbid water

Barry Dan

Can you confirm whether desal production has been / will be increased in order to cover for the loss of supply from Mt Crosby?

Are you also able to provide some more details in lay-mans terms about what happened at Mt Crosby East – the Min will front the media later today and will need to be able to explain this.

Also – why can't the West WTP be turned up to 250ML – I assume it is because it is modular and maintenance means capacity can't be increased further at this stage, but I want to clarify.

Also – are you able to advise how long the full dams are expected to last – even without inflows/with inflows at lowest recorded levels, the dams will last until...

[REDACTED]
Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone: [REDACTED]
Mobile: [REDACTED]
Fax: (0) [REDACTED]

From: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 12 October 2010 8:59 AM
To: Bradley John [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Dan Spiller; [REDACTED]
Subject: Mt Crosby loss of production due to turbid water

John [REDACTED]

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More fulsome incident report will be coming through shortly.

regards

Barry Dennien

Chief Executive Officer

SEQ Water Grid Manager

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street, Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East Qld 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

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From: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2010 12:05 PM
To: [REDACTED] Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mt Crosby loss of production due to turbid water

[REDACTED]

Desalination is still at 33% (44ML/d) and on standby to increase if needed. The most likely cause of this is if Hinze water becomes more turbid (dirty) thus reducing the capacity of the sand filters and treatment plant capacity. All of the 44ML/d is required for the export to Brisbane.

Mt Crosby East Bank treatment plant filters and chemical dosing could not handle the turbid water and ensure the water was safe to drink. Like a swimming pool filter the dirty water could not be cleaned enough to ensure no bugs were getting through. Mt Crosby East and West bank draws water from the Brisbane river for treatment and is susceptible to more poor quality water infiltration from creeks like the Lockyer creek. Unlike Hinze water treatment plants that draws water straight from the Dam.

West bank is limited to 80 to 100 ML/d because this is all the filters and chemical dosing can handle. They are being backwashed frequently this reduces production.

North Pine is due to be shut off later today. Wivenhoe Dam is expected to spill until the end of this week. This is being continuously recalculated.

Regards

Barry

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 12 October 2010 11:45 AM
To: Barry Dennien; Dan Spiller
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mt Crosby loss of production due to turbid water

Barry Dan

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[REDACTED]

Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone: [REDACTED]
Mobile: [REDACTED]
Fax: (0) [REDACTED]

From: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
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To: Bradley John [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Dan Spiller; [REDACTED]
Subject: Mt Crosby loss of production due to turbid water

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regards

Barry Dennien
Chief Executive Officer
SEQ Water Grid Manager
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 55 Albert Street, Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East Qld 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2010 12:17 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Subject: Water issues
Attach: Doc1.docx

Tim [REDACTED]

Some additional talking points we are coming up soon.

Barry Mike

Ministerial media conference

Tuesday 12 October 2010

Issues and responses

Permanent water restrictions

Let's be clear about this. The permanent water restrictions are about efficiently using every drop that we now have so that it lasts as long as we can make it last. These have been in place since December last year.

- You can still wash your car and your house any time as long as it is with efficient equipment.
- You can water your gardens 6 days a week so long as this is done out of the heat of the day (10am to 4pm) and efficiently.
- Likewise your swimming pools can be filled with town water.

So every weekend can be a wet weekend as long as you are sensible with your water use.

Toowoomba

We have been pumping water and operating the pipeline under instructions from the Toowoomba Regional Council

The pumps have been running every day. Toowoomba takes water during off peak times to take advantage of the lower electricity tariff, this is under instructions from them.

We have never restricted the amount of water being pumped to Toowoomba. Toowoomba has only requested 12% of it's to yearly allocation in the first quarter.

Desal

Desal is an important part of the grid even in times of deluge as we have now.

As you have seen there is a lot of water coming into the dams from the catchments. This water has been churned up by the weather and puts considerable pressure on the water treatment plants to clean it up.

If we have any breakdowns in the plants then the desalination plant can increase production to supplement water supply or blend out water quality problems. It's already done this twice since being built.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 12 October 2010 2:41 PM
To: Dan Spiller; Barry Dennien
Subject: Are you able to fact-check this?

Despite the recent rain, the desal plant and the Water grid have been crucial to the uninterrupted supply of top-quality water to residents in Brisbane, Logan and the Gold Coast.

As a result of heavy rain washing mud and debris from creeks below Wivenhoe Dam into Mt Crosby weir, production has been stopped completely at times today. These stoppages where necessary to ensure top-quality water, with no taste and odour issues, was supplied to SEQ residents.

As residents of South East Queensland know, problems with the taste and odour of drinking water has followed heavy rain in the past.

"With the water grid up-and-running, we have been able to supply the residents of Brisbane Logan and the Gold Coast with top quality water.

This is only possible through the use of the Tugan desal plant and the interconnecting pipelines of the "Water Grid" Minister Robertson said.

Without the Water Grid, Brisbane would have faced a shortage of supply in this situation.

"The water grid has proven its worth again" Minister Robertson said.

Earlier this year, heavy rain created similar problems with the water supply from Hinze Dam.

"When there were water quality problems at Hinze Dam, the Tugan desal plant and the interconnecting pipelines of the Water Grid were used to deliver a non-stop supply of top-quality water for the Gold Coast"

Minister Robertson said.

"South East Queenslanders expect world-class services, and the water grid is another example of the Bligh government getting things done."

[REDACTED]
Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone [REDACTED]
Mobile [REDACTED]
Fax: ([REDACTED])

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2010 2:00 PM
To: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]; Barry Dennien
Subject: Production at Mt Crosby

Dan Barry

What is the proportion of total possible production at Mt Crosby this afternoon?

[REDACTED]
Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone: [REDACTED]
Mobile [REDACTED]
Fax: (0) [REDACTED]

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From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2010 3:12 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Production at Mt Crosby

[REDACTED]
See below.

Total capacity is 1000 ML/day. Typical Grid Instruction is 240 ML/day.

We are currently at 11% on total capacity increasing up to 22.5% tomorrow.

Note that by tomorrow we will be approaching Grid Instruction (225 of 240 ML/day).

Dan

-----Original Message-----

From: Mike Foster [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 12 October 2010 3:08 PM
To: Dan Spiller
Subject: RE: Production at Mt Crosby

Dan

Westbank is currently running at 45% capacity (110ML) of the 240ML required under grid instructions. Expect to get up to 125ML by later today.

Eastbank is starting to produce - 50ML later today - up to 100ML tomorrow.

Cheers Mike

-----Original Message-----

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 12 October 2010 2:02 PM
To: Mike Foster; Jim Pruss
Cc: Barry Dennien
Subject: FW: Production at Mt Crosby

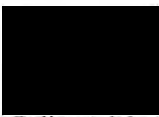
Your advice?

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 12 October 2010 2:00 PM
To: Dan Spiller; Barry Dennien
Subject: Production at Mt Crosby

Dan Barry

What is the proportion of total possible production at Mt Crosby this afternoon?



Policy Advisor

Office of the Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade

Phone

Mobil

Fax: (

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QLD Bulk Water Supply Authority ABN75450239876 (Trading as Seqwater).

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2010 3:23 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Are you able to fact-check this?

- 1) Have added Ipswich in there as well in 1st para
- 2) Have added "or other water quality issues", after taste and odour in second para
- 3) Mentioned water treatment plants in fourth para
- 4) Changed to may in fifth.

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 12 October 2010 2:41 PM
To: Dan Spiller; Barry Dennien
Subject: Are you able to fact-check this?

Despite the recent rain, the desal plant and the Water grid have been crucial to the uninterrupted supply of top-quality water to residents in Brisbane, Ipswich, Logan and the Gold Coast.

As a result of heavy rain washing mud and debris from creeks below Wivenhoe Dam into Mt Crosby weir, production has been stopped completely at times today. These stoppages were necessary to ensure top-quality water, with no taste and odour issues or other water quality issues, was supplied to SEQ residents.

As residents of South East Queensland know, problems with the taste and odour of drinking water has followed heavy rain in the past.

"With the water grid up-and-running, we have been able to supply the residents of Brisbane Logan and the Gold Coast with top quality water. This is only possible through the interconnecting pipelines of the Water Grid, the desal plant and the range of other water treatment plants" Minister Robertson said.

Without the Water Grid, Brisbane may have faced a shortage of supply in this situation.

"The water grid has proven its worth again" Minister Robertson said.

Earlier this year, heavy rain created similar problems with the water supply from Hinze Dam.

"When there were water quality problems at Hinze Dam, the Tugan desal plant and the interconnecting pipelines of the Water Grid were used to deliver a non-stop supply of top-quality water for the Gold Coast" Minister Robertson said.

"South East Queenslanders expect world-class services, and the water grid is another example of the Bligh government getting things done."

[REDACTED]
Policy Advisor

Office of the Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone: [REDACTED]
Mobile [REDACTED]
Fax: (0 [REDACTED]

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From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2010 6:19 PM
To: [REDACTED] Bradley John
Cc: [REDACTED] Barry Dennien
Subject: RE: urgent Min request

The releases were not a surprise.

The trigger levels and release procedures are the same as they were when SEQ Water was owned by Councils, and similar to those used to manage inflows in 1999.

Seqwater has been in regular contact with Council officers regarding the releases plans, including a teleconference with Brisbane City Council's emergency team on Sunday. No objections were raised.

We are updating the HIB to include these points.

Dan

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 13 October 2010 5:55 PM
To: Dan Spiller; Barry Dennien
Subject: urgent Min request

Can you check urgently whether the rules the dam releases are operating under now are the same as those used under SEq water when it was owned by the council. Thanks [REDACTED]

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From: SEQWGM Media [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2010 6:33 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEQWGM Communications Staff; [REDACTED] Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Barry Dennien [REDACTED] Mike Foster [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Re Courier Mail article
Attach: Media release_Flooding 13.10.10.docx

Hi [REDACTED]

Note draft media release attached...

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 13 October 2010 6:17 PM
To: SEQWGM Media
Subject: RE: Re Courier Mail article

Hi [REDACTED] I need some media release words asap. Thanks [REDACTED]

From: SEQWGM Media [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 13 October 2010 5:44 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEQWGM Communications Staff
Subject: RE: Re Courier Mail article

Hi [REDACTED]

H/B attached...

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

Please consider the environment before printing this email. It takes 10 litres of water to make one sheet of A4 paper.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 13 October 2010 5:41 PM
To: SEQWGM Media
Subject: RE: Re Courier Mail article

Thanks, important it is as soon as possible as the Minister may be required to respond. Thanks [REDACTED]

From: SEQWGM Media [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 13 October 2010 5:38 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEQWGM Communications Staff; Dan Spiller; Barry Dennien
Subject: Re Courier Mail article

Hi [REDACTED]

Regarding the Courier Mail piece <http://www.couriermail.com.au/>, we are working on a Hot Issues Brief now... it is looking positive at this stage as the team are not noticing a rise in the Brisbane River.

Full brief and media statement to follow very shortly.

Regards

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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MEDIA RELEASE
13 OCTOBER 2010

FLOOD WARNINGS EXAGGERATED

Recent claims that water released from Wivenhoe Dam will contribute to local flooding in parts of Brisbane are exaggerated.

Minister for Natural Resources, Stephen Robertson, states that releases were not a surprise and that all releases from Wivenhoe Dam are being made in accordance with the approved regional Flood Management Plan and in consultation with Brisbane City Council.

Seqwater advised Council officers of the increased releases. No concerns were raised regarding flooding impacts.

The trigger levels and release procedures are the same as they were when SEQ Water was owned by Councils, and similar to those used to manage inflows in 1999, when Wivenhoe's gates were last opened.

Both the Bureau of Meteorology and the region's dam operator, Seqwater, agree that releases from Wivenhoe Dam will have an insignificant impact on flood levels in the lower Brisbane River over the coming days.

This Flood Management Plan is approved by the Dam Safety Regulator, part of the Department of Environment and Resource Management.

Wivenhoe and Somerset Dam have provided significant flood mitigation during recent heavy rains, reducing the peak flow in Brisbane by between fifty to sixty percent.

"We have worked to best manage our dam release frequency. For example, with approval from the Flood Control Centre, Seqwater recently held back water in Wivenhoe Dam while waiting for the Bremer and Lockyer flows to subside, which they now have," said Mr Robertson.

"Current releases from Wivenhoe are approximately one-third of what would naturally come down the river without the dam in place to store flood water," said Mr Robertson.

"As part of managing inflows over the past week Seqwater has held back 500,000-600,000 mega litres of water, one third of the flood storage capacity which is now being discharged through controlled releases over the coming week."

The threshold for damaging floods in the Brisbane area is 3,500 cubic metres per second. At 1,200 cubic metres per second, current releases from Wivenhoe Dam are well below this threshold.

ENDS

About the Water Grid

Established in June 2008 in response to the crippling Millennium Drought, the SEQ Water Grid represents one of Australia's largest investments in water infrastructure. Through a network of climate resilient water sources, treatment facilities, new two-way pipes and existing pipelines, the SEQ Water Grid gives the South East Queensland region the ability to support water demands, water quality, economic prosperity and lifestyle - regardless of climate change and population growth.

For further information visit www.seqwgm.com.au

For dam level updates visit www.seqwater.com.au

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:

Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | **Email:** media@seqwgm.com.au

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2010 6:45 PM
To: Stephen Robertson [REDACTED]
Cc: Nicole Scurrah [REDACTED]; Bradley John [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; Dan Spiller
[REDACTED] Barry Dennien
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Premiers Office Media Unit
Subject: draft MR
Attach: Water-Brisbane-Wivenhoe 131010.docx

Hi all, this is where I am with the response to Brisbane flooding claims. I believe it should be sent direct to CM from SEQwater. There have been no other media enquiries only a small mention on Ch10 so far. The same MR could go out more generally if needed in the morning [REDACTED]

<<Water-Brisbane-Wivenhoe 131010.docx>>

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Bureau of Meteorology and SEQwater experts agree that Wivenhoe Dam releases will have almost no impact beyond normal high tide levels in the Brisbane River and its feeder creeks today.

In fact, Wivenhoe is protecting low-lying Brisbane suburbs with its flood mitigation capacity.

The dam reduced by one-third the natural flow into the Brisbane River from this week's downpour across the region.

Current releases from Wivenhoe are approximately one-third of what would have naturally come down the river without the dam in place to store flood water.

Releases from Wivenhoe are being made in accordance with the approved flood release manual. This flood management plan is signed off by the Dam Safety Regulator and gazette.

The trigger levels and release procedures are the same as those used by SEQ Water was owned by councils and similar to those used to manage the last multi-gate release in 1999.

Prior to this week's opening of the spill gates at Wivenhoe, SEQwater was in regular contact with Council officers regarding the releases plans, including a teleconference with Brisbane City Council's emergency team on Sunday. No objections to the planned release were raised.

Levels in the Brisbane River today are expected to be within normal expectations on a high tide after a major wet weather event.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2010 6:47 PM
To: [REDACTED] Stephen Robertson [REDACTED]
Cc: Nicole Scurrah [REDACTED] John Bradley [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Premiers Office - Media Unit
Subject: Re: draft MR

Yes thanks [REDACTED] Agree with approach and if possible having min ready to do radio in am [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: Stephen Robertson
Cc: Nicole Scurrah; Bradley John; [REDACTED] Dan Spiller; Barry Dennien [REDACTED] Premiers Office - Media Unit
Sent: Wed Oct 13 18:45:14 2010
Subject: draft MR

Hi all, this is where I am with the response to Brisbane flooding claims. I believe it should be sent direct to CM from SEQ water. There have been no other media enquiries only a small mention on Ch10 so far. The same MR could go out more generally if needed in the morning [REDACTED]

<<Water-Brisbane-Wivenhoe 131010.docx>>

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 8:25 AM
To: Barry Dennien [REDACTED] Dan Spiller
Cc: [REDACTED] Bradley John
Subject: Q & As

Barry/Dan

Further to questions put to you from [REDACTED] can we please include the following in the Q&A - apologies for any overlap:

Who authorises release?
Who determines how much to release?
Are high tides taken into account in the decision to release?
Would holding back the water have resulted in a worse situation ? or bigger flood risk?
What is the modelling that Dam Safety Regulatory relies on BOM, BCC or their own - or a mixture?

Happy to discuss.

[REDACTED] | Acting Principal Policy Advisor
Office of the Hon Stephen Robertson MP
Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy
Minister for Trade
Queensland Government
GPO Box 15216 Brisbane, Qld 4001

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*
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From: [REDACTED] on behalf of
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 8:34 AM
To: Dan Spill [REDACTED]
Subject: FW:

Regards

[REDACTED]
Executive Assistant to Barry Dennien
Chief Executive Officer
SEQ Water
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 33 Albert Street, Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East Qld 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 8:33 AM
To: Barry Dennien
Subject: FW:

Barry, can I get a quick answer on this. [REDACTED]

From: Nicole Scurrah
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 8:20 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE:

The Modelling – who has it what is the difference and why? What is the modelling that Dam Safety Regulatory relies on BOM, BCC or their own?

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 8:15 AM
To: Nicole Scurrah
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE:

We are onto it. Some of the questions can be answered by the release that has been drafted – see below.

A fresh Q&A is being prepared.

What exactly is the last question though?

From: Nicole Scurrah
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 8:01 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW:

It is really important that we get the answers to [REDACTED] questions as soon as possible:

Who authorises release?

Releases from Wivenhoe are being made in accordance with the approved flood release manual. This flood management plan is signed off by the Dam Safety Regulator and gazette.

Who determines how much to release?

The trigger levels and release procedures are the same as those used by SEQ Water was owned by councils and similar to those used to manage the last multi-gate release in 1999

Are high tides taken into account in the decision to release?

I think the short answer this is 'yes'. Will be confirmed. Advice thus far is Bureau of Meteorology and SEQwater experts agree that Wivenhoe Dam releases will have almost no impact beyond normal high tide levels

Would holding back the water have resulted in a worse situation? or bigger flood risk?

It's balancing against the risk of future rain – ie if there are further heavy rains and/or extreme weather (ie cyclone etc) over the weekend and enough water wasn't released beforehand then yes the risk is increased. This is what the science of the flood release plan takes into account – it's prepared by the technical experts.

What is get us some more info on modelling?

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 7:32 AM
To: [REDACTED] Nicole Scurrah
Cc: Premiers Office - Media Unit; [REDACTED] John Bradley [REDACTED]
Subject: Re:

Sit tight on release for now. Monitor radios closely and keep us posted. In the meantime we need some answers to some key qus: who authorises the release? Who determines how much to release? Are high tides taken into acct in that release? Would holding back the water have resulted in a worse situation? Also can you pls get us some more info on the modelling and what it says?

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED] Nicole Scurrah

Cc: Premiers Office - Media Unit; [REDACTED] Bradley John
Sent: Thu Oct 14 07:23:12 2010
Subject:

Hi all, I have spoken to Min R and SEQwater Barry Dennien this morning and they agree on this. A computer model exists that shows it could flood this afternoon. Our thoughts are we need to tread lightly at the moment. To say it won't flood this morning raises the risk of being slammed as not knowing what we are doing in the event it does flood. We can take the high ground this afternoon if it doesn't.

I have so far received no requests for media. BOM is saying a flood is unlikely which is good for us. If there is a belief that we need to put something out, I'm suggesting we can cast a version of the SEQwater release given to the CM that outlines the benefits of Wivenhoe for Brisbane and some of the technical data about river flows. Or we can just sit tight and wait. Thoughts?

FYI - JPL has given a strong interview to ABC radio on electricity prices. The Min is responding. Expected to run on 7.45 bulletin

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From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 8:39 AM
To: Mike Foster [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Q & As

Please call urgently to discuss.

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 8:25 AM
To: Barry Dennien; Dan Spiller
Cc: [REDACTED] Bradley John; [REDACTED]
Subject: Q & As
Importance: High

Barry/Dan

Further to questions put to you from [REDACTED] can we please include the following in the Q&A - apologies for any overlap:

Who authorises release?

Releases are made in accordance with the Flood Management Plan approved by the Dam Safety Regulator.

Who determines how much to release?

Releases are made in accordance with the Flood Management Plan approved by the Dam Safety Regulator.

Are high tides taken into account in the decision to release?

? Mike and Rob to address

Would holding back the water have resulted in a worse situation ? or bigger flood risk?

Wivenhoe Dam has a 1,450,000 megalitre flood compartment. More than one third full yesterday - holding about 500,000 ML. For comparison, this is more than the total storage capacities of North Pine (215,000 ML), Hinze (161,000 ML) and Baroon Pocket (61,000 ML) dams combined.

Releases were held back until after flows from the Lockyer Valley had reduced.

Further holding back water - by not acting in accordance with the approved Flood Management Plan - would

What is the modelling that Dam Safety Regulatory relies on BOM, BCC or their own - or a mixture?

Happy to discuss.

[REDACTED] Acting Principal Policy Advisor
Office of the Hon Stephen Robertson MP

Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy
Minister for Trade
Queensland Government
GPO Box 15216 Brisbane, Qld 4001

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*
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From: Bradley John [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 8:40 AM
To: Barry Dennien [REDACTED] Dan Spiller
Subject: Fw: Lines sent to Premier as discussed

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED] Bradley John; [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu Oct 14 08:17:32 2010
Subject: Lines sent to Premier as discussed

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 8:15 AM
To: [REDACTED] Nicole Scurrah
Subject:

No doubt there has been a massive rain event.

We're taking advice from the experts at SEQ water who tell us that water is being released in a controlled manner within flood prevention guidelines.

Like to assure people that it's because of investment in Wivenhoe that Brisbane is in a much better position than 74.

I'm advised the latest advice from BOM and SEQ water is that:

Since Monday the peak water level has been getting slightly less each day.

In fact, today's peak level is likely to be similar to or slightly less than yesterday's highest level.

-----Original Message-----

From: Bradley John [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 7:42 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: Fwd: Water levels in the Brisbane River at Brisbane City [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

[REDACTED]
Assume you saw this advice last night from BOM - logic is quite strong.
JB

----- Original Message -----

From: Bradley John [REDACTED]
To: Nicole.Scurrah [REDACTED]; ken.smith [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Stephen.Robertson [REDACTED]
<Stephen.Robertson [REDACTED]>

[REDACTED]

Cc: 'Barry.Dennien' [REDACTED] 'dan.spiller' [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent: Wed Oct 13 22:11:14 2010

Subject: Fw: Fwd: Water levels in the Brisbane River at Brisbane City [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Nicole

Further to previous - BOM is very clear.

John B

----- Original Message -----

From: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]

To: Bradley John; spiller daniel @ SEQWGM

Sent: Wed Oct 13 21:55:08 2010

Subject: Fwd: Water levels in the Brisbane River at Brisbane City [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

John

As discussed the levels are showing a decrease bcc models are predicting an increase

My only assumption is the modellers are using different wivenhoe release volumes or below wivenhoe side stream flow data eg Lockyer ck

We will run to ground first thing

Regards

Barry Dennien

Begin forwarded message:

From: Peter Baddiley [REDACTED]

Date: 13 October 2010 9:37:20 PM AEST

To: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]

Cc: 'Duty Engineer' [REDACTED], Peter Baddiley [REDACTED]

Subject: Water levels in the Brisbane River at Brisbane City [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Barry and all

Further to our discussions this evening regarding water levels at Brisbane City, here is a summary of key facts:

1. The highest level reached at the Brisbane City gauge (at bottom end of Edward Street, and near Thornton St ferry on opposite bank of river) this week was about 1.6m AHD just after midday on Monday 11th. This level is just above the Highest Astronomical Tide (HAT or "king tide") of 1.55m AHD at this location.

(The higher than predicted tide will have been caused by a combination of meteorological factors (high onshore winds causing setup, atmospheric pressure etc) and hydrological factors (local inflows, incl creeks & parts of Bremer R flow).

2. Since Monday, the peak water level at the Brisbane City gauge has been getting slightly less each day.

(The reason for this is the decreasing astronomical tide (dropping by about 0.1 metre each day) and the reducing local flood inflows which is outweighing the minimal increase associated with the arriving Wivenhoe Dam discharge.)

3. Today, Wednesday 13 Oct, the peak level had fallen to about 1.3m AHD which occurred at about 2pm. (i.e. about 0.3m less than Monday)

4. For tomorrow Thursday 14, based on flood modelling, the expected highest level is predicted to be quite similar to, and likely slightly less than, today's highest level.

(Current modelling indicates about 1.2m AHD at about 3pm, although this is sensitive to the timing of reductions of local flows compensating slight increases associated with arriving Wivenhoe Dam discharge.)

5. Current modelling indicates that a level of about 1.0 to 1.2 metres AHD will be reached at the Brisbane City gauge with each afternoon/evening high tide for the next few days as releases from Wivenhoe Dam continue.

For future occurrences, it seems that an improved communications strategy is needed to address the issues of misinformation appearing in the media and the associated suggestions of variances between agencies. It may require a daily media release containing some technical information (in appropriate language). The Bureau's flood warning for the Brisbane River is one vehicle for information regarding Brisbane City. For these "non-flood" events, the warning could include a statement (for example) that "flood levels will remain below minor flood level in Brisbane City" or "water levels will remain below normal highest tide levels".

I feel though that an additional statement from an agency associated with the operation of Wivenhoe Dam is needed to ensure a strong, consistent unambiguous message to the media and public.

regards, peter

Peter Baddiley
Regional Hydrology Manager
Climate & Water Division
Bureau of Meteorology
Level 21, 69 Ann Street
GPO Box 413, BRISBANE, QLD, AUSTRALIA 4001
Phone: [REDACTED]
EMAIL [REDACTED]
WWW : <<http://www.bom.gov.au>> www.bom.gov.au

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+-----+

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3 sheets of A4 paper = 1 litre of water

+-----+

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 8:59 AM
To: Barry Dennien [REDACTED] Des Seiler [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: Media Release

FYI

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 8:59 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: urgent request

Ok on Nova – but along the lines that we are monitoring, I'm pulling together a statement based on stuff you've already sent up and will get it approved up here then will send to you guys to look at. It should then go out on your masthead. G

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 8:50 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: urgent request

[REDACTED] – we are on to it. NOVA is asking for a grab. They are the only outstanding request.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 8:33 AM
To: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Subject: urgent request

Hi guys, can you do a quick Q and A to these questions below. Thanks [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 7:32 AM
To: [REDACTED] Nicole Scurrah [REDACTED]
Cc: Premiers Office - Media Unit; [REDACTED] John Bradley [REDACTED]
Subject: Re:

Sit tight on release for now. Monitor radios closely and keep us posted. In the meantime we need some answers to some key qus: who authorises the release? Who determines how much to release? Are high tides taken into acct in that release? Would holding back the water have resulted in a worse situation? Also can you pls get us some more info on the modelling and what it says?

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED] Nicole Scurrah [REDACTED]
Cc: Premiers Office - Media Unit; [REDACTED] Bradley John [REDACTED]
Sent: Thu Oct 14 07:23:12 2010
Subject:

Hi all, I have spoken to [REDACTED] and SEQwater Barry Dennien this morning and they agree on this. A computer model exists that shows it could flood this afternoon. Our thoughts are we need to tread lightly at the moment. To say it won't flood this morning raises the risk of being slammed as not knowing what we are doing in the event it does flood. We can take the high ground this afternoon if it doesn't.

I have so far received no requests for media. BOM is saying a flood is unlikely which is good for us. If there is a belief that we need to put something out, I'm suggesting we can cast a version of the SEQwater release given to the CM that outlines the benefits of Wivenhoe for Brisbane and some of the technical data about river flows. Or we can just sit tight and wait. Thoughts?

FYI – JPL has given a strong interview to ABC radio on electricity prices. The Min is responding. Expected to run on 7.45 bulletin

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From: Dan Spiller <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 9:14 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Barry Dennien <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: are you able to check this for accuracy?

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 9:00 AM
To: Dan Spiller
Cc: Barry Dennien <[REDACTED]>
Subject: are you able to check this for accuracy?

Dan...

The dam safety regulator does not undertake flood modelling - its main role is to assess and manage the risk of catastrophic dam failure. This means ensuring that dams can pass floods without collapsing.

BOM is the point of truth - and public notification - for flood modelling as they have the best information about rainfall and tides. Seqwater provides information on releases to BOM, as one of the inputs to modelling and flood notifications.

BOM modelling predicts that today's high tide (just before 2:30) will be lower than yesterday's high tide. If this prediction is correct, there would not be flooding.

BOM modelling takes into account the impact of releases from Wivenhoe. However, there are many variables which are hard to quantify and might impact on the actual water level at high tide:

- Around half the catchment of the Brisbane R is below Wivenhoe Dam, and it is difficult to precisely predict run-off from this part of the catchment
- The actual height that the tide reaches can vary with onshore wind and other factors
- Wivenhoe is 200km away from the mouth of the river and there are a lot of environmental variables

Council undertakes its own flood modelling. Some differences in the predictions of these kind of models is normal, as there are so many variables. Issuing flood warnings is a council responsibility and this is why BCC does their own flood modelling.

The Flood Manual that governs the release of water from Wivenhoe was put together in consultation with councils and State agencies.

While the drinking water storage part of Wivenhoe is 100% full, the

flood storage part is about one third full. Wivenhoe contains 500 000ML of flood water that must be released - this is more than North Pine, Maroon and Hinze Dam put together. Failure to release flood water from Wivenhoe puts Brisbane at greater risk of significant flooding - particularly with more rain predicted to be on the way. It should not be forgotten that the 1974 floods occurred after two significant rain events close together.

[REDACTED]
Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone: [REDACTED]
Mobile [REDACTED]
Fax: (0 [REDACTED]

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From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 9:34 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Cd we pls get an EMQ update re potential flood situation?

For info.

-----Original Message-----

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 9:32 AM
To: 'Bradley John'
Cc: Barry Dennien
Subject: RE: Cd we pls get an EMQ update re potential flood situation?

John,

EMQ is a member of the Brisbane Local Disaster Management Group.

The EMQ representative has advised that the group has not been officially activated, but has been in touch with BCC representatives and are being kept up to date of the situation.

EMQ will keep us up to date if the situation changes. We will let you know.

Dan

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Nicole Scurrah, Premiers Office - Media Unit, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Bradley John

Sent: Thu Oct 14 08:19:07 2010
Subject: RE: Cd we pls get an EMQ update re potential flood situation?

Thanks

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 8:13 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Nicole Scurrah, Premiers Office - Media Unit
Subject: RE: Cd we pls get an EMQ update re potential flood situation?

Brisbane Local Disaster Management Group is meeting this morning and has undertaken to update EMQ on the situation. As soon as we get that we'll pass it on

BCC has been undertaking hydrology scenario planning overnight and today to try and predict what might happen.

The BOM has not issued any flood warnings for the situation as of yet.

[REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

From [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 7:36 AM

To [REDACTED]

Cc: Nicole Scurrah; Premiers Office - Media Unit

Subject: Cd we pls get an EMQ update re potential flood situation?

+-----+

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+-----+

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 9:47 AM
To: [REDACTED] Barry Dennien
[REDACTED] Dan Spiller
Subject: draft media release
Attach: Water- draft seqwater 141010.docx

Hi guys, can you have a look at this, tweak where necessary and then prepare for you to send out asap. Can you send a final draft to me before it goes, thanks [REDACTED]
<<Water- draft seqwater 141010.docx>>

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon Stephen Robertson MP
Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Trade
P: [REDACTED]
M: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

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DRAFT RELEASE TO GO OUT FROM SEQWATER THIS MORNING

SEQwater is monitoring levels in the Brisbane River as this afternoon's high tide approaches.

Water Grid Manager CEO Barry Dennien said water has been released from Wivenhoe Dam in accordance with the approved flood release manual which is based on scientific and historical data.

The amount of water being released is the same as what was released when the spillway gates were last opened in 1999. No flooding in Brisbane resulted from that release.

Wivenhoe and Somerset Dam have provided significant flood mitigation during recent heavy rains, reducing the peak flow in the Brisbane River by at least 50 percent.

"As part of managing inflows over the past week SEQwater has held back 500,000 megalitres of water, one third of the flood storage capacity which is being discharged through controlled releases over the coming week," Mr Dennien said.

Water needs to be released to restore the dam's flood mitigation capacity. This flood buffer capacity is needed to handle any further major wet weather events over the coming months.

Since Monday, the peak water level of the Brisbane River has been reducing daily since last weekend's heavy downpours.

Today's peak level is likely to be similar to, or slightly less than, yesterday's highest level

The Bureau of Meteorology has advised that, based on its computer modelling, there will be minimal impact on the lower reaches of the Brisbane River.

SEQwater's modelling also suggests minimal downstream impacts from water released from Wivenhoe Dam.

The Bureau has not issued any flood warnings for that area.

[REDACTED]

From: Reilly Bob [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 9:52 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Dan Spiller
Subject: RE: Flood Mitigation operational arrangements for Wivenhoe/Somerset Dams

Hi [REDACTED]

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

I am going to a meeting with Ken Smith, Barry Dennien and Peter Borrows to discuss the matter further at 10.30am. I will let you know the meeting's outcomes.

Regards

Bob

Bob Reilly
General Manager, Office of the Water Supply Regulator
Telephone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
www.derm.qld.gov.au

Department of Environment and Resource Management
Lvl 3 41 George Street, Brisbane Q 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane Q 4001

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 9:48 AM
To: Reilly Bob
Subject: RE: Flood Mitigation operational arrangements for Wivenhoe/Somerset Dams

Thanks Bob

[REDACTED]
Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone: [REDACTED]
Mobile: [REDACTED]
Fax: (0) [REDACTED]

From: Reilly Bob [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 9:44 AM
To: ken.smith [REDACTED]
Cc: Dennien Barry [REDACTED] Peter Borrows; Spiller Daniel (SEQWGM); Allen Peter
Subject: Flood Mitigation operational arrangements for Wivenhoe/Somerset Dams

Hi Ken

Dot points below:

Background

Wivenhoe and Somerset dams were designed as flood mitigation dams. In other words, they have a substantial storage capacity that is normally empty, and is used to store floodwaters. The aim is to release the flood waters gradually once the immediate downstream flooding impacts, (from floodwaters that come from streams/ivers other than the one on which the dam is located), have passed.

As Wivenhoe and Somerset dams are on the same river, they are effectively operated as one unit for flood management purposes.

The floodwater release strategy is a balance between releasing the water quickly enough so that the flood storage capacity is available if another major rain event occurs, versus minimising downstream flooding impacts (basically property damage) from the releases

The strategy is contained in a flood mitigation plan that is approved by DERM.

Key Issues

The current strategy for Wivenhoe was approved in 2009, but the basic water release strategies, which are still being used today, were approved in 1992. While the plan was submitted by the dam owner (now Seqwater, but then a council-controlled entity) , it involved extensive negotiation and discussions with all of the Councils downstream of Somerset/Wivenhoe dams and Emergency Services. Brisbane City Council was included in these discussions.

A fundamental principle behind the plan is that all floodwater should be released from the dams within seven days. This ensures the dam can cope with another major rain event. (Because the dam has an auxiliary spillway, it is unlikely that it would collapse if the floodwaters were not released, but the flooding impacts would be worse because the floodwaters would be released in an uncontrolled manner) .

The plan contains quite detailed flood release strategies which Seqwater is obliged to follow.

For releases such as is occurring at the moment, the approval strategy for individual releases is based on the levels in Wivenhoe and Somerset, and the discharges from downstream Lockyer Ck and Bremer River catchments. The aim is to limit total flows (including discharges from Wivenhoe) at Mt Crosby to less than 1900 cubic metres per second. In this instance, the total flows have not needed to go to the full 1900 cubic metres per second, and total flows (including the discharge from Wivenhoe Dam) at Mt Crosby is about 1500 cubic metres per second.. (It is worth noting that flood damage in Brisbane commences at a total flow around 4,000 cubic metres per second.).

If the flood release strategies are followed, then the Queensland Government, rather than the dam owner, assumes legal liability for any consequences. (This is of little practical significance in this case, given the ownership of Seqwater).

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Regards

Bob

Bob Reilly

General Manager, Office of the Water Supply Regulator

Telephone:

Email:

www.derm.qld.gov.au

Department of Environment and Resource Management

Lvl 3 41 George Street, Brisbane Q 4000

GPO Box 2454, Brisbane Q 4001

+-----+

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From: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 10:17 AM
To: Bradley John [REDACTED] Don Spiller [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Ken Smith [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Tide levels in Brisbane [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Guys

Good news we are on track to meet the forecast lower level in the river today.

Barry

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 10:12 AM
To: Barry Dennien
Cc: jtibald [REDACTED] Peter Baddiley
Subject: Tide levels in Brisbane [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Barry,

The URL below will take you to the latest version of the attached image showing the tide level at the Brisbane City gauge. We have provided access to our model results to SEQWATER flood operations centre and I suggest that if you wish to see the results then I would talk with the current duty engineer which I think is John Tibaldi.

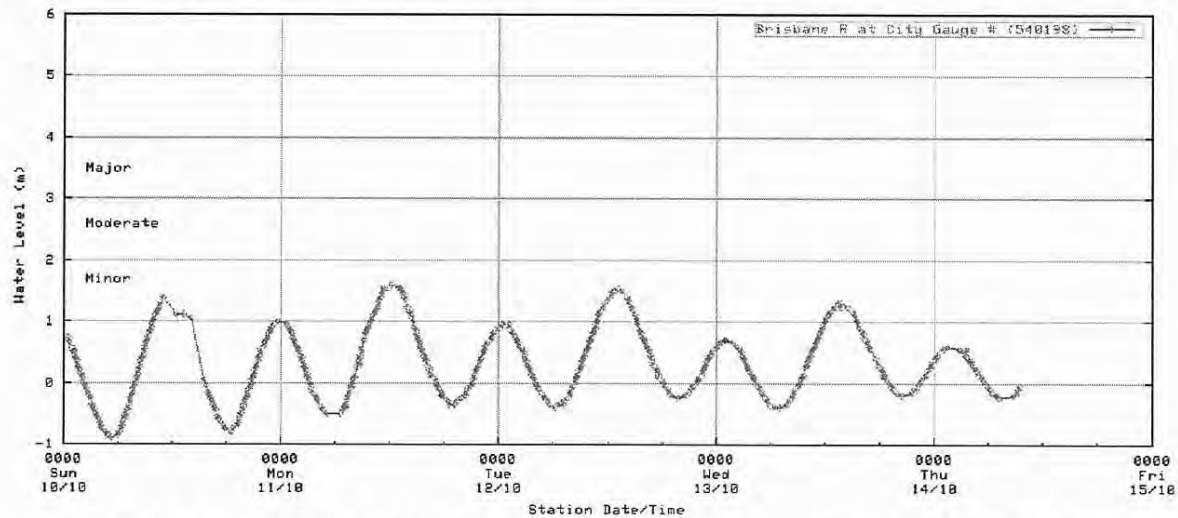
From my perspective the measured tides are matching well with the flood model predictions.

cheers

[REDACTED]
Supervising Hydrologist
Seasonal Streamflow Forecasting, Extended Hydrological Prediction
Climate and Water Division

Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology
Level 2
Phone [REDACTED]

<http://www.bom.gov.au/fwo/DQ65389/DQ65389.540198.plt.shtml>



Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology

<Generated: 14/10/2010 09:44:00>

[REDACTED]
Supervising Hydrologist
Seasonal Streamflow Forecasting, Extended Hydrological Prediction
Climate and Water Division

Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology
Level 2
Phone [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: SEQWGM Media
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 10:24 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEQWGM Communications Staff; Dan Spiller; Barry Dennien
Subject: Media release for approval

Importance: High

Hi [REDACTED]

Please note media release below. Are you happy for this to go out to all appropriate SEQ media this morning?

Regards
[REDACTED]

MEDIA RELEASE
4 OCTOBER 2010

BRISBANE RIVER LEVELS TRACKING LOWER THAN YESTERDAY

The Bureau of Meteorology is monitoring levels in the Brisbane River as this afternoon's high tide approaches. At this point, river levels are tracking lower than at this time yesterday.

Water Grid Manager CEO Barry Dennien said water has been released from Wivenhoe Dam in accordance with the approved flood release manual, which is based on scientific and historical data.

"The amount of water being released is the same as what was released when the spillway gates were last opened in 1999. No flooding in Brisbane resulted from that release," he said.

Wivenhoe and Somerset Dam have provided significant flood mitigation during recent heavy rains, reducing the peak flow in the Brisbane River by at least 50 percent.

"As part of managing inflows over the past week we have held back 500,000 megalitres of water, one third of the dam's flood storage capacity. This water is being discharged through controlled releases over the coming week," Mr Dennien said.

Water needs to be released to restore the dam's flood mitigation capacity. This flood buffer capacity is needed to handle any further major wet weather events over the coming months.

Since Monday, the peak water level of the Brisbane River has reduced each day.

The Bureau of Meteorology, along with Seqwater modelling, is forecasting that today's peak level will be similar to, or slightly less than, yesterday's highest level.

It has advised that, based on its computer modelling, there will be minimal impact on the lower reaches of the Brisbane River. The Bureau has not issued any flood warnings for this area.

ENDS

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:

Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Email: media@seqwgm.com.au

SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit

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From: SEQWGM Media [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 10:33 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEQWGM Communications Staff
[REDACTED] Dan Spiller
Subject: FW: Media release for approval

Hi [REDACTED] note updated version below...

**MEDIA RELEASE
14 OCTOBER 2010**

BRISBANE RIVER LEVELS TRACKING LOWER THAN YESTERDAY

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Water needs to be released to restore the dam's flood mitigation capacity. This flood buffer capacity is needed to handle any further major wet weather events over the coming months. Since Monday, the peak water level of the Brisbane River has reduced each day.

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ENDS

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:

Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Email: media@seqwgm.com.au

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit

Phone: ([REDACTED])
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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From: SEQWGM Media
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 10:24 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEQWGM Communications Staff; Dan Spiller; Barry Dennien
Subject: Media release for approval
Importance: High

Hi [REDACTED]

Please note media release below. Are you happy for this to go out to all appropriate SEQ media this morning?

Regards,
[REDACTED]

MEDIA RELEASE
14 OCTOBER 2010

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Water needs to be released to restore the dam's flood mitigation capacity. This flood buffer capacity is needed to handle any further major wet weather events over the coming months. Since Monday, the peak water level of the Brisbane River has reduced each day.

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the Brisbane River. The Bureau has not issued any flood warnings for this area.

ENDS

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:

Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Email: media@seqwgm.com.au

SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 12:02 PM
To: [REDACTED] Barry Dennien; Dan Spiller
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: URGENT - MEDIA RELEASE HOLD

Hi all, I have been advised that SEQWater should not approve or send out any joint release on the river level this afternoon without prior approval from the Premier's Department or Minister Robertson's office. Thanks [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 11:46 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Copy of media release
Importance: High

From: SEQWGM Media
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 11:16 AM
To: Dan Spiller; Barry Dennien; SEQWGM Communications Staff
Subject: FW: Copy of media release
Importance: High

Hi [REDACTED]

As discussed, this was the wording we were looking at putting out - still confirming what locations may be affected now the risk is reduced. Below is my normal day to day contacts - but for the next couple of days, best number to get one of the media team on is [REDACTED]

Brisbane City Council has been advised that Seqwater is continuing to monitor the output of water being released from Wivenhoe Dam and its impact downstream.

As a result, output has been reduced and this is expected to reduce the high tide peak, which is due at Brisbane Bar at 2.23pm, by up to 300mm.

This will reduce the possible flooding risk today to only a handful of locations across the city on the high tide peak.

The revised list of locations that may possibly be impacted by minor street flooding are:

- TBA

Residents can find out where flooding may occur from creeks, rivers and storm tides by downloading the Flood Flag map for their suburb. These maps are free for download and are available from Council's website at www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/floodwise

Sandbags are available for residents to collect at the following locations today:

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- Morningside Works Depot, Redfern Street, Morningside
- Newmarket SES Depot, Wilston Rd, Newmarket (in carpark off Erneton Street)
- Zillmere Works Depot, Jennings St, Zillmere

For more information, phone Council on 3403 8888.

[REDACTED]
Media Officer, Marketing and Communication | Marketing and Communication Branch
Corporate Strategy Office | BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL
Brisbane Square | Level 19, 266 George Street, Brisbane, Qld 4000
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Web: <http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/>
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/brisbanecityqld>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/BrisbaneCityCouncil>

>>> SEQWGM Media <media@seqwgm.com.au> 13/10/2010 4:31:05 pm >>>

Hi [REDACTED]

As discussed, can you please forward me a copy of the media release you have issued this afternoon regarding flooding.

Thanks

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 12:34 PM
To: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Cc: Mike Foster [REDACTED] Barry Dennien
[REDACTED] SEQWGM Communications Staff
Subject: RE: Incorrect local reports of Mt Crosby weir flooding

Turns out that Channel 10 was at Mt Gravatt, not Mt Crosby. Not sure who was at Mt Crosby now, if anyone.

Dan

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 12:06 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: 'Mike Foster'; Barry Dennien; SEQWGM Communications Staff
Subject: Incorrect local reports of Mt Crosby weir flooding

[REDACTED]

For information, Karalee State School had issued a statement to all staff advising that the Mt Crosby weir was expected to be flooded by 2 pm this afternoon. Some staff have contacted parents advising them to collect children beforehand.

The information was incorrect and we have advised the principal accordingly. Without significant rain, river levels are expected to remain constant to Saturday and reduce thereafter. We have also advised our call centre, the Council and the police.

Separately, Channel 10 has been interviewing residents in the area about roadwork. We have been advised that this has created concern within the local community about the weir will be flooded, with reports of people calling their neighbours to recommend that they return home. We have spoken to Channel 10, who confirmed that they were interviewing about roadwork.

I suspect that there may be more of this misinformation around, which may make it to the media. We will intercept as we become aware (but will primarily rely on Council and the police).

Please call me if you have any queries.

Dan

Daniel Spiller
Director, Operations
SEQ Water Grid Manager
Phone [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 12:59 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Dan Spiller
Subject: Revised BCC release for forwarding to BCC

[REDACTED] - send back to BCC asap

Mike

DRAFT CSA RELEASE FOLLOWS

Brisbane City Council has revised its flooding risk assessment.

Brisbane City Council, the Bureau of Meteorology are continuing to monitor the output of water being released from Wivenhoe Dam and its impact downstream.

The most recent data available confirms earlier advice that the possible flooding risk today will be minimal.

The high tide is now expected to be similar in height to a usual Spring Tide with the associated levels of minor flooding.

This will limit the possible flooding risk today to only a handful of locations across the city on the high tide peak. No flooding of habitable areas in residential properties is expected.

The revised list of locations that may possibly be impacted by minor street flooding are:

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- Zillmere Works Depot, Jennings St, Zillmere

For more information, phone Council on 3403 8888.

-ENDS-

Media Contact (not for publication):
[REDACTED]

Colin Jensen
Chief Executive Officer
Brisbane City Council
GPO Box 1434 | Brisbane Qld 4001
Level 22, Brisbane Square, 1866 George Street, Brisbane, Qld 4000
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

From: SEQWGM Media
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 1:08 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Dan Spiller
Subject: RE: Revised BCC release for forwarding to BCC

Thanks [REDACTED] this updated version has been sent to BCC

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
Phone [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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- Zillmere Works Depot, Jennings St, Zillmere

For more information, phone Council on 3403 8888.

-ENDS-

Media Contact (not for publication):

[REDACTED]

Media Officer

[REDACTED]

Colin Jensen
Chief Executive Officer
Brisbane City Council
GPO Box 1434 | Brisbane Qld 4001
Level 23, Brisbane Square | 266 George Street, Brisbane, Qld 4000
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 2:19 PM
To: Mike Foster [REDACTED]
Cc: Dan Spiller <[REDACTED]>
Subject: URGENT check for accuracy

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 2:15 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW:

Just checking you have these. Mr really only needs a few opening lines as to flooding didn't occur and then This is the management SEQwater has been conducting, then the bullet points

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 1:51 PM
To: [REDACTED] Premiers Office - Media Unit; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject:

Around 34,000 megalitres per day was spilled from Wivenhoe when one spill gate was opened last weekend. Water was being held back until storm runoff eased in the catchment areas BELOW the dam wall.

Once this occurred, the four other gates were progressively opened until 116,000 megalitres per day was spilling by late Tuesday.

The output from Wivenhoe was further INCREASED gradually and by today at 8am the spill was at 130,000 megalitres per day.

Releases will stay at this volume until around 10 pm Friday when the gradual closing of the gates will begin.

By the time this is completed on Tuesday morning, the dam's full flood storage capacity will be restored and the full supply level (drinking water) will be at 100 per cent.

The Flood Centre remains open 24 hours reviewing the situation. The projected spillgate program may be affected by the next forecast rain event due to start tomorrow afternoon.

Rainfalls (between 20 and 40mm is predicted) and whether significant runoffs are above or below the wall will decide whether the closing of the gates proceeds as planned or is halted.

It should be noted it takes about two days for the water released from

Wivenhoe to make its way to the lower reaches of the Brisbane River. The gates need to be closed and opened gradually to avoid creating large backslash waves.

Mike [REDACTED] this information needs to be included in the SEQWater release being drafted now for release this afternoon. Thanks [REDACTED]

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From: SEQWGM Media [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 2:22 PM
To: SEQWGM Communications Staff [REDACTED]
Dan Spiller [REDACTED] Gary Demmen [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Revised BCC release for forwarding to BCC

Hi team

Lisa from Brisbane City Council has called and at this stage they will not be putting out the media release drafted today. Instead they are waiting to see what happens.

Regards

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 55 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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Cc: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
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Email: [REDACTED]
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For more information, phone Council on 3403 8888.

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Chief Executive Officer
Brisbane City Council
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Phone [REDACTED]
Email [REDACTED]

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From: Mike Foster [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 2:38 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: URGENT check for accuracy

Checking as we speak.

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: Mike Foster
Cc: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Thu Oct 14 14:19:23 2010
Subject: URGENT check for accuracy

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 2:15 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW:

Just checking you have these. [REDACTED] really only needs a few opening lines as to flooding didn't occur and then This is the management SEQwater has been conducting, then the bullet points

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Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 1:51 PM
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Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject:

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Mike [REDACTED] this information needs to be included in the SEQWater release being drafted now for release this afternoon. Thanks Geoff

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From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 2:55 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Barry Dennien
Subject: Anti-climax

My graduates have so far found nothing more than a bunch of bored TV crews. I'll let you know if they find any flooded roads.

Dan

Daniel Spiller

Director, Operations

SEQ Water Grid Manager

Phone [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

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From: SEQWGM Media [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 3:25 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEQWGM Communications Staff
[REDACTED] Dan Spiller
Subject: RE: Draft media release attached
Attach: MEDIA RELEASE - River peak reached - 14.10.10.docx

Hi [REDACTED]

Please see updated release attached with a few small changes from Seqwater – awaiting your approval.

Thanks

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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From: SEQWGM Media
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 2:51 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEQWGM Communications Staff; Dan Spiller; Barry Dennien; [REDACTED]
'mfoster [REDACTED]
Subject: Draft media release attached

Hi team

Note draft media release attached - RIVER PEAK REACHED WITH MINIMAL FLOOD IMPACTS AS FORECAST.

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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Media Release

**MEDIA RELEASE
14 OCTOBER 2010**

RIVER PEAK REACHED WITH MINIMAL FLOOD IMPACTS AS FORECAST

The Brisbane River reached its peak level this afternoon with minimal impact from the controlled releases from Wivenhoe Dam, as forecast by the Water Grid and the Bureau of Meteorology.

Bureau of Meteorology data indicates that, since Monday, the peak water level at the Brisbane City measuring point has been decreasing each day. The reason for this is the decreasing astronomical tide, dropping by about 0.1 metre each day.

Water Grid Manager CEO Barry Dennien says

around 34,000 megalitres per day began spilling from Wivenhoe last weekend when the first of the five flood gates was opened.

Following the initial release, the remaining four gates were progressively opened until 116,000 megalitres per day was spilling by late Tuesday night.

The output from Wivenhoe has been further increased gradually and by 8am this morning, the dam was releasing approximately 130,000 megalitres per day, or 1,500 tonnes per second.

There has been no reduction in the amount of water being released from Wivenhoe since Sunday (we decreased slightly on Sunday morning but had to increase with rainfall Sunday night)

Mr Dennien says releases are expected to stay at this volume until early Saturday morning, when the gradual closing of the gates will begin - subject to inflows from further rain.

In the absence of any significant rainfall all gates are expected to be closed early next week.

The Flood Centre continues to monitor the situation on a 24 hour basis.

"The release of water from Wivenhoe Dam has been carefully managed to ensure minimal impacts downstream," says Mr Dennien.

"With approval from the Flood Control Centre, we held back water in Wivenhoe Dam while waiting for the Bremer and Lockyer flows to subside, which they now have."

It takes about two days for the water released from Wivenhoe to make its way to the lower reaches of the Brisbane River. The gates need to be closed and opened gradually to minimise downstream impacts including bank slumping.

With a flood storage capacity more than three times the size of Sydney Harbour, Wivenhoe Dam provides vital protection for Brisbane from flood.

ENDS

For further information visit www.seqwgm.com.au

For further details contact the SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit on:

Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Email: media@seqwgm.com.au

From: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 3:42 PM
To: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Subject: FW:
Attach: Water SEQW followup 141010.docx

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 3:39 PM
To: Barry Dennien; [REDACTED] SEQWGM Media
Subject:

Premis has ticked off, showing Min now, Can you have a quick check

<<Water SEQW followup 141010.docx>>

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon Stephen Robertson MP
Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Trade
P: [REDACTED]
M: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

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**MEDIA RELEASE
14 OCTOBER 2010**

RIVER PEAK REACHED AS FORECAST

The Brisbane River peaked this afternoon within water levels forecast by the Water Grid and the Bureau of Meteorology.

No flooding was reported in Brisbane suburbs.

Water Grid Manager CEO Barry Dennien said the release rate from Wivenhoe Dam was in line with established water management plans and took into account information provided by BOM relating to the Brisbane River and flood risk.

There has been no reduction in the amount of water released from Wivenhoe.

Spills from the dam will continue through until early next week to ensure the dam retains its full flood mitigation capacity for any major wet weather events in the coming months. Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) data indicates that, since Monday, the peak water level in the river at the Brisbane City measuring point has decreased each day this week – even though releases from Wivenhoe Dam were increased today to a peak 130,000 megalitres per day.

Around 34,000 megalitres per day began spilling from Wivenhoe last weekend when the first of the five flood gates was opened.

Following the initial release, the remaining four gates were progressively opened until 116,000 megalitres per day was spilling by late Tuesday night.

The output from Wivenhoe has been further increased gradually and by 8am this morning, the dam was releasing approximately 130,000 megalitres per day, or 1,500 tonnes per second.

Mr Dennien said releases are expected to stay at this volume until early Saturday morning, when the gradual closing of the gates will begin – subject to inflows from further rain.

In the absence of any significant rainfall, all gates are expected to be closed by early next week. The gates need to be closed gradually to minimise downstream impacts including the risk of bank slumping.

The Flood Centre continues to monitor the situation on a 24-hour basis.

"The release of water from Wivenhoe Dam has been carefully managed to ensure absolute minimal impacts downstream," Mr Dennien said.

"With approval from the Flood Control Centre, we held back water in Wivenhoe Dam while waiting for the Bremer and Lockyer flows to subside, which they now have."

The amount of water currently being released from Wivenhoe Dam is less than what was released when the spillway gates were last opened in 1999. No flooding in Brisbane resulted from that release.

Wivenhoe and Somerset Dam provided significant flood mitigation during last weekend's heavy rain, reducing the peak flow in the Brisbane River by at least 50 percent.

ENDS

For further information visit www.seqwgm.com.au

**For further details contact the SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit on:
Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Email: media@seqwgm.com.au**

From: SEQWGM Media [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 4:02 PM
To: Barry Dennien <[REDACTED]> Dan Spiller
[REDACTED]
Cc: mfooster [REDACTED] SEQWGM
Communications Staff [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: FYI : BCC release
Attach: 20101014_Council committed to public safety_APPROVED.pdf

Hi team

Note media release attached issued by BCC this afternoon...

[REDACTED]
Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] Media Monitors [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 4:00 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FYI : BCC release

[REDACTED]
Account Director - Queensland
Media Monitors Pty Ltd
4 Higgs St, Albion, QLD 4010, Australia
T: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

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Dedicated to a better Brisbane

Media Relations Unit T

F

www.brisbane.qld.gov.au

Council committed to public safety

October 14, 2010

Brisbane City Council has reopened all roads at risk of flooding following high tide this afternoon.

While street flooding did not occur in river and creek side locations this afternoon on the high tide peak, Council stands by its decision to alert residents to the potential for flooding.

Brisbane City Council has products available to give residents the opportunity to find out their flooding risk and be alerted to severe weather, such as the Floodwise Property Report, Flood Flag Maps and the Early Warning Alert Service,

Council's flooding information products are free and available on Council's website.

Flood Flag Maps alert residents to where flooding may occur from creeks, rivers and storm tides in all suburbs across Brisbane. These maps are free for download and are available from Council's website at www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/floodwise

The Early Warning Alert Service provides weather warnings on events such as flooding, storms and king tides, which are based on a person's residential address. Residents can choose to receive free warnings by SMS, email or a recorded phone message to their landline.

-ENDS-

Media Contact (not for publication):

Media Officer

From: SEQWGM Notifications [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 15, 2010 10:04 AM
To: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]; Dan Spiller
[REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Incident closure - Level 3 incident - Mt Crosby

From: SEQWGM Notifications
Sent: Friday, October 15, 2010 11:04:22 AM
To: SEQWGM Notifications;
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Karen Waldman (QWC);
[REDACTED]
Cc: jpruss [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Jim Pruss; [REDACTED]
Subject: Incident closure - Level 3 incident - Mt Crosby
Auto forwarded by a Rule

Dear Colleagues,

Incident closure

This email serves as formal closure to the Mt Crosby level 3 emergency that was notified at 0948hr on Tuesday 12 October 2010.

What we did

During the emergency, an Emergency Response Team consisting of participants from the SEQ Water Grid Manager, Seqwater, Linkwater and QUU was formed. The production at Molendinar and North Pine Water Treatment Plants was substantially increased, as were the North bound flows through the Southern Regional Water Pipeline. As a result of the response, and the quick re-initiation by Seqwater of both East and West Bank Water Treatment Plants at Mt Crosby, there was no impact upon the residents of Brisbane.

Current status

The operations at Mt Crosby are normalised, and the emergency production levels at both Molendinar and North Pine Water Treatment Plants have been returned to normal operating levels.

What we need the Minister's Office to do

This information is for noting.

Next briefing

There will be no further briefings.

[REDACTED]
Duty Manager
SEQ Water Grid Manager

Ph: [REDACTED]

Em [REDACTED]

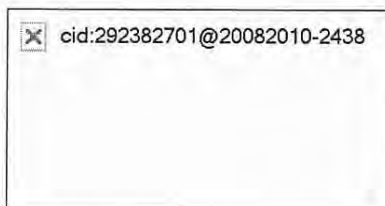
Post: PO Box 16205, BRISBANE CITY EAST, QLD 4002
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert St, BRISBANE
ABN: 14783 317 630

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 15, 2010 8:30 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Weekly Grid Update - 15 October 2010

unchanged at 130000. see update below

Begin forwarded message:

From: SEQWGM Media <[REDACTED]>
Date: 15 October 2010 1:41:15 PM GMT+10:00
Subject: Weekly Grid Update - 15 October 2010



WEEKLY GRID UPDATE

FRIDAY 15 OCTOBER 2010

UPDATE: DAM LEVELS AND CONTROLLED RELEASES

Releases from Wivenhoe Dam continue while Somerset and North Pine Dam gates have closed.

Five gates at Wivenhoe Dam will remain open this weekend with a release volume of 130,000 megalitres per day. Based on current forecasts, rainfall over the next 48 hours will not significantly alter the current release plan. Releases from Wivenhoe are expected to continue to at least Monday next week.

The gates at North Pine Dam were closed yesterday while Somerset ceased releases early this morning. Levels at both dams are being closely monitored.

Hinze Dam continues to release between 4,000 and 5,000 megalitres a day, into the Nerang River, contributing to environmental flows.

Dams on the Sunshine Coast have spillways rather than gates. All are spilling and are expected to continue to do so well into next week. Water from the Sunshine Coast dams also flows into local waterways, contributing to environmental flows.

WATER GRID URGES COMMUNITY TO TAKE CARE IF VISITING WIVENHOE DAM

More than 5000 people visited Wivenhoe Dam last Sunday and similar numbers are expected this weekend.

Water Grid Manager CEO Barry Dennien urges visitors to exercise care and patience. Delays are expected due to the number of people and vehicles. Traffic control officers are on duty.

Parking at the dam may be difficult. The grass in the recreation areas at Wivenhoe is sodden. Vehicles may become bogged if they are driven off the formed road onto the grassed areas.

Vehicles are also not permitted to stop while travelling over the dam wall, which forms part of the Brisbane Valley Highway.

WATER GRID RECREATION FACILITIES CLOSED

A number of Water Grid recreation sites remain temporarily closed and some activities suspended due to the large inflows still being experienced across the region.

Billies Bay (Hays Landing), Hamon Cove, Logan's Inlet and Captain Logan's Camp at Lake Wivenhoe remain closed due to rising dam levels.

Lake Somerset remains closed for all recreational boating. Baroon Pocket on the Sunshine Coast also remains closed to all recreation activities.

GRID TWELVE

With heavy rain continuing for much of this week, the supply capacity for the majority of Brisbane's key dams remains at 100 per cent.

The current capacity of the **Grid Twelve is 100.0 %**, up by 1.0 % on last week. The Grid Twelve makes up nearly 90% of South East Queensland's total water storage volume. See below for further breakdowns:

Dam	Current capacity (%)	Change in capacity on last week(%)	Rainfall (mm over past seven days)
Wivenhoe	100%	No change	131mm
Somerset	99.9%	0.1% ↓	254mm
North Pine	100%	3.0% ↑	286mm
Hinze	100%	9.2% ↑	212mm
Baroon Pocket	100%	7.0% ↑	387mm
Leslie Harrison	100%	5.7% ↑	150mm
Ewen Maddock	100%	4.7% ↑	309mm
Cooloolabin	100%	4.6% ↑	243mm
Lake Kurwongbah	100%	7.1% ↑	286mm
Lake MacDonald	100%	No change	223mm
Little Nerang	100%	1.7% ↑	212mm
Wappa	100%	No change	243mm

The current capacity of the **Grid Three 3 (Wivenhoe, Somerset and North Pine) is 100 %**, no change from last week.

Note: The Grid Twelve and Grid Three % full is calculated by dividing the combined current storage volume of the dams in the group by the combined full storage volume.

DID YOU KNOW?

Last time dam storages were this full was in August 1999 when the three major dams, Wivenhoe, Somerset and North Pine, were undertaking gate releases.

CONTACT DETAILS

Please direct all media enquiries to the Water Grid Communications Unit:

Phone (07) 3247 3000

Email: media@seqwgm.qld.gov.au



SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 27 October 2010 2:24 PM
To: Dan Spiller
Subject: update

Dan
Can you send me current dam levels and update me on the likelihood of opening the Wivenhoe gates tomorrow.
We have an acting Min so I am trying to be across things well in advance.

[REDACTED]
Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone: [REDACTED]
Mobile: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 11, 2010 4:07 PM
To: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Cc: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Weir safety campaign media update

FYI

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 11 November 2010 4:05 PM
To: SEQWGM Media
Subject: RE: Weir safety campaign media update

Just heard it on ABC now. Good job all!

From: SEQWGM Media [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 11 November 2010 3:52 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEQWGM Communications Staff
Subject: Weir safety campaign media update

Hi [REDACTED]

Channel 9 and Sunshine Coast Daily attended the weir safety launch today at Caboolture State High, with coverage set for tonight and tomorrow.

ABC, 4KQ and 573 FM spoke with Dan Spiller, with grabs included in news breaks throughout the day.

Cheers

Senior Media Advisor
SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: <http://www.seqwatergrid.com.au>
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 10 November 2010 5:41 PM
Subject: Media alert - launch of "No Lifeguard Here" weir safety campaign

**10 NOVEMBER 2010
MEDIA ALERT**

What: Launch of the SEQ Water Grid summer Weir Safety Campaign "No Lifeguard Here"

When: 9.40 am, Thursday 11 November 2010 at Caboolture State High School, Lee St Caboolture

Who: Andrew Flint – Hannah's Foundation
Deanna Allen – mother of drowned student Brandi Allen
Michael Fiechter – SEQ Water Grid / Seqwater
Representative – Swift Water Rescue Team

**MEDIA RELEASE
EMBARGOED - 11 NOVEMBER 2010**

Weirs can be deadly – stay clear this summer

Water Grid representatives today pleaded with the community and particularly young people to be aware of the dangers of swimming in weirs and fast flowing water. The call came as part of the in-school launch of this year's 'No Lifeguards Here' weir safety campaign.

The State MP for Pumicestone Carryn Sullivan welcomed the launch of the campaign. "It is important that our young people can stay safe while having fun this Summer. I'm pleased that this campaign is providing information to encourage everyone to make safer choices".

During periods of heavy rain, an overflowing weir can easily become a dangerous place. Increased water volume and pressure can force people underwater - making rescue almost impossible.

Water Grid spokesperson, Dan Spiller, said members of the public need to be aware of the dangers of swimming in weirs and flooded waterways.

"The tragic drowning of 12-year-old Caboolture State High student at Caboolture Weir 18 months ago, sadly highlights the dangers of playing in and around weirs," Mr Spiller said.

"Weirs are dangerous and unpredictable places. They are designed and built to serve a purpose - to regulate water flow. Swimming in weirs can be fatal."

As part of the Water Grid, the state's bulk water supply authority, Seqwater, is responsible for 49 weirs along with 24 dams and 46 operational water treatment plants across South East Queensland.

Mr Spiller said safety at these assets is a key focus for operations at the Water Grid.

"Many people fail to realise that swimming skills have little to do with surviving a flooded weir," Mr Spiller said.

"The facts are that it only takes ankle deep water to knock you off your feet, and only 60 seconds to drown - not enough time for someone to call 000.

"Educating young people to 'rethink' their behaviour is key to preventing future drowning tragedies in weirs."

The "No Lifeguards Here" safety campaign has been designed to highlight the fact that weirs are secluded places that are not patrolled or supervised by anyone.

The campaign has been developed with input and support from Hannah's Foundation, Australia's leading drowning prevention, awareness and support group, Queensland Fire and Rescue, and Emergency Management Queensland (SES).

A mix of outdoor, print and cinema advertising, along with signs at key weir locations are planned.

Hannah's Foundation executive officer, and author of the Brandi Allen Positive Choices program, Ms Katherine Plint said ongoing education of the risks, dangers and consequences that exist around water is vital to the prevention of further drowning accidents.

"Our Positive Choices program is directed at young teens to help them make sensible choices when it comes to water. It is not water that kills people, it is their choices. It only takes a second to rethink a choice and make it positive one or it could sadly end in tragedy. Choices in life have consequences and young people swimming in waterbodies need to know their limitations.

"We fully support the Water Grid and Seqwater's weir safety campaign, and have endorsed the new warning signs being installing at key weir locations around the region."

Statement from Deanna Allen: Brandi Allen's mum

"Seqwater and Hannah's Foundation have my full support to educate children on the dangers of swimming in weirs and flooded waterways. Even though my daughter could swim it didn't save her as the water was too strong - kids need to know this. The 'Positive Choices' and 'No Lifeguards Here' campaigns, along with the new weir warning signs Seqwater has adopted, is a testament to their drive for drowning prevention in Queensland. My daughter Brandi drowned in a weir and I do not want the grief, horror or loneliness since losing her to happen to any other family. My daughter made the wrong choice and it cost her, her beautiful life."

ENDS

Notes to editor

About Hannah's Foundation

Hannah's Foundation is the only dedicated charity supporting families of drowning and injured victims. Among its many aims are:

- educating children about personal water safety
- providing peer-to-peer support to family members who have lost loved ones to drowning
- helping educational facilities to provide CPR training
- designing and implementing a National Rural Swimming Program
- providing financial assistance to families who have lost loved ones to drowning or suffered injuries caused by water accidents
- provide therapy and medical equipment assistance to those who are injured in water activities and now live with disabilities
- lobbying to legislate financial penalties for those who sell non-compliant pools, including real estate agents
- raising awareness of drowning and near-drownings in Australia in the media and
- campaigning for every water immersion and accident to be fully recorded to obtain REAL statistics
- National Drowning Prevention, Awareness and Memorial Day, October 4th, each year.

For more information visit:

<http://www.seqwgm.com.au/>
<http://www.seqwater.com.au/>
<http://hannahsfoundation.org/>

About the SEQ Water Grid

Established in June 2008 in response to the crippling Millennium Drought, the SEQ Water Grid represents one of Australia's largest investments in water infrastructure.

Through a network of climate resilient water sources, treatment facilities, new two-way pipes and existing pipelines, the SEQ Water Grid gives the South East Queensland region the ability to support water demands, water quality, economic prosperity and lifestyle - regardless of climate change and population growth.

Contact details

For further details contact the Water Grid Communications Unit on:
Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Email: media@seqwgm.com.au

Regards

SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit

For further details contact the SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit on:

Ph: (07) 3247 3000 | Email: media@seqwgm.com.au

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The SEQ Water Grid Manager will conduct media management as required.

What we need the Minister's Office to do

This information is for noting.

Key contact person

The contact person for this incident is the SEQ Water Grid Manager's Duty Manager who can be contacted on 0429 068 886 or via email at: notifications@seqwgm.qld.gov.au.

Next briefing

A further update will be provided to the Minister's Office if further developments result in a deterioration in the situation or if there is a high level of media interest

[REDACTED]
Duty Manager

SEQ Water Grid Manager

Ph [REDACTED]

Email: notifications@seqwgm.com.au

Post: PO Box 16205, BRISBANE CITY EAST, QLD 4002

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert St, BRISBANE

ABN: 14783 317 630

What we are doing

Unitywater is managing the incident as per their normal procedure and manual chlorine dosing has been implemented.

What we need the Minister's Office to do

This information is for noting.

Key contact person

The contact person for this incident is the Water Grid Manager's Duty Manager who can be contacted on 0429 068 886 or via email at: notifications@seqwgm.qld.gov.au.

Next briefing

An update will be provided should another positive *E. Coli* be detected.

Regards, Duty Manager

[Redacted]
Duty Manager

SEQ Water Grid Manager

Ph: [Redacted]

Email: notifications@seqwgm.com.au

Post: PO Box 16205, BRISBANE CITY EAST, QLD 4002

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert St, BRISBANE

ABN: 14783 317 630

[REDACTED]

From: Mike Foster [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 10 December 2010 4:01 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Subject: Hinze Dam monthly Ministerial reports
Attachments: TRACKS-#29163705-v2-NOVEMBER_2010_CONFIDENTIAL_MINISTERIAL_REPORT_FINAL.doc; TRACKS-#29163924-v2-NOVEMBER_2010_MINISTERIAL_REPORT_FINAL.doc.doc

Hi [REDACTED]

Further to discussions you have had with WGM on Hinze Dam, I have attached the latest monthly reports on the project, noting that for the first time the completion date for the project has been changed from end of December until the end of the January due to cumulative impact of heavy rainfall over October, November and early December.

However importantly the project will still be able to deliver the required additional 16ML/day by the regulated date of December 31 2010. The completion of the new spillway works has delivered this requirement.

To enable us to store water at the new FSL of EL94.5 (up from the current FSL of 82.2) the following key activities still need to be completed:

- Excavation of the rock fill at the upstream side of the spillway as discussed with Dan today. With approval by WGM to release below the current FSL, this will be completed by end of the year.
- Complete stabilisation works at embankment on the Nerang Murwillumbah Rd (to allow it to cope with new FSL level). This work is expected to be completed mid-January
- Finalisation of the main embankment including capping off the clay core. The clay core takes on average a day to dry out following each rain event before any work can re-commence. (The three-year project allowed 80 days of loss time due to rain based on historic rainfall records. To date the project has experienced almost double this amount.) The amount of material left to top out the embankment is too great to enable completion of the clay core before the Christmas break despite the Hinze Dam Alliance increasing resources over the last month and a half.

Given how close the main embankment is to completion (less than one metre in some places), the Alliance believes even with further rainfall delays all works above should be completed by the end of January 2011 – if not beforehand.

[REDACTED] Seqwater will formally update the current ministerial briefing note on the project early next week.

Give me a call if you have any queries.

Cheers Mike

Mike Foster
Manager Strategic Relations & Communication
Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority *trading as* Seqwater

Ph [REDACTED]
Level 3, 240 Margaret St, Brisbane City QLD 4000
PO Box 16146, City East QLD 4002
Website | www.seqwater.com.au

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QLD Bulk Water Supply Authority ABN75450239876 (Trading as Seqwater).

Part 8 Water Regulation 2002

Confidential Monthly Project Progress Report

November 2010

CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL

Cabinet Briefing Material: This report has been prepared for the purposes of briefing the Deputy Premier as Minister Responsible for the Part 8 Water Regulation 2002 for provision of advice to Cabinet and the Cabinet Budget Review Committee.

Commercial in Confidence: This report contains information that is provided on a commercial-in-confidence basis. This information is provided for the information only of the Queensland Water Commission and the Deputy Premier as Minister Responsible for the Part 8 Water Regulation 2002.

Project:	Measure 11 - Hinze Dam Stage 3
	Take all necessary steps to prepare for, and construct, Hinze Dam Stage 3 and prepare for associated water harvesting works
Service Provider:	Seqwater

Project Scope

Seqwater is moving forward with the Stage 3 upgrade of the Hinze Dam as a priority project. The stage 3 upgrade includes:

- Full Supply Level at RL 94.5m to achieve a minimum water supply increase of 16 ML/day. The spillway will be raised by 12.3m to contain the new full supply level;
- A two level spillway (similar to the existing spillway) located at the existing spillway;
 - The narrow low level spillway with crest level at full supply level will be 12.25m wide. The narrower low level spillway will pass all floods up to the 1 in 100 year flood event. The reduced width of the spillway restricts the flood outflow to achieve flood mitigation.
 - The wide high level spillway with a crest level above the 1 in 100 year flood level will be approximately 70m wide. The high level spillway will only pass rare and extreme floods that are larger than the 1 in 100 year flood event. The high level spillway is required to safely pass extreme floods to achieve dam safety objectives.
- The Dam Crest Level will be at RL 108.4m. The dam crest level is required to safely pass the probable maximum flood (PMF) for dam safety. The dam wall will be raised by approximately 15m to provide the required Dam Crest Level.

The scope of the project includes two phases:

- Phase 1 TOC development phase – consultation, communication, EIS and approvals process, optimisation study and project total Target Outturn Cost (TOC) development phase. This was approved by the proponent in May 2007.
- Phase 2 (TOC2) works delivery phase – ongoing consultation and communication, detailed design, construction, commissioning and handover (Approved November 2007).

Project Status

- The TOC1 was approved by GCCC.
- Community consultation is continuing.
- The Supplementary Report was released in August 2007 by CoG.
- The Coordinator-General's Report was released in October 2007.
- TOC2 was approved by GCCC in November 2007.
- The Federal Government approval under the EPBC Act was approved December 2007.

- On site mobilisation and establishment occurred January 2008.
- Construction is continuing with wet weather delays impacting the schedule, with work being undertaken on:
 - **Main Embankment and Saddle Dam:** Placement of rock in the main embankment continues with the body of the dam now on average above RL 106.5. There are two areas at a lower level to facilitate construction. Clay placement on the main dam and saddle dam has been seriously interrupted as a result of continuing wet weather in the South-east corner. The works in these two areas will proceed as and when weather conditions permit with additional shifts being worked where applicable in an effort to recover some lost time. Delays from wet weather have been ongoing since September with additional resources brought in and additional shifts being used to mitigate the impacts of the wet weather. The project was on schedule to top out the clay core of the embankments by mid December but the very latest rainfall event has prevented placement of embankment materials for the past two weeks and is likely to prevent works recommencing on the embankment before the Christmas shut down. It is estimated that three more weeks is required to complete the embankment.
 - **Quarry:** The actual quarry operation is nearly complete with stockpiles supplying the remaining rock. The mobile operation supplying road pavement material is now complete with stockpiles of the necessary quantities.
 - **Upper Intake Tower and Lower Outlet Works:** The UIT is still shut down but it is expected to be back in service prior to Christmas, with one of the three refurbished pumps on line. Water will be supplied to the Mudgeeraba Water Treatment Plant from Little Nerang Dam and Hinze Dam until the UIT pumps are fully operational. The abutment for the Lower Intake Tower bridge extension has been completed and the bridge segments raised. Commissioning of new works continues as the various new components of the mechanical and electrical systems come together.
 - **Spillway:** This is now complete, including the bridge.
 - **Infrastructure:** The Visitor Centre is progressing very well. The structure is up, with roofing commenced. Final site road layout is underway with bulk earthwork remediation now commenced. General site landscaping is now also well underway.
 - **First Fill Plan:** The first fill plan is out for review by the Dam Safety Regulator (Mr Peter Allen). It was anticipated that we would get to the first fill by 21 December. However, severe weather has put back this date to around January 2011.

Schedule

	Phase or Milestone	Target Completion Date	Forecast Completion Date
1	Procurement – Alliance establishment	29 September 2006 – Alliance established	Completed 29 September 2006
2	TOC Development Phase	May 2007	Completed 4 June 2007
3	Completion of works delivery phase	31 December 2010	January 2011
4	Completion – Regulated Target Date	31 December 2010	January 2011

General commentary on schedule:

The project will be able to deliver the required additional 16ML/day by the regulated date of December 31 2010.

However due to extended wet weather over October, November and early December finalisation of the main embankment is now not expected to be completed until the end of January.

In addition there are also expected delays in the completion of some non-critical infrastructure, including the recreation area, which may not be fully completed until first quarter 2011.

Key drivers for any forecast delay:

- Further wet weather impact on the project is an ongoing concern. Placement of embankment materials cannot continue during wet weather and the final completion of the embankment is extremely vulnerable to wet weather..

Remedial Action Underway or Planned for forecast delay:

- Redeployment of works crews where possible. When the weather permits extra resources will be deployed to make back lost time. Additional shifts are worked including weekend work to make the most of fine weather and minimise wet weather delays..

Implications to Overall Scheme (including impact on other projects) from forecast delay:

- Potential costs to the Alliance and delay in the ability to store water.

Outcomes

	Target Date	Target Outcome (ML/day or equivalent)	Performance to Date	Forecast Performance against Target
1	31 December 2010	16 ML/day	Slightly delayed	Slightly delayed

- In order to maintain dam safety the last section of work planned for completion was the raising of the spillway. The dam then has the potential to store additional water. This was working towards sign-off from the dam safety regulator and the ability to store water. Unfortunately due to a very poor run with weather we have been unable to complete the adjoining main embankment and clay core up to the required height in order for this "sign-off". With further predicted weather this is now unlikely until January 2011. Water is being released via the new spillway gates.

Key drivers for any shortfall:

- Wet Weather

Remedial Action Underway or Planned for any shortfall:

- Urgent works where possible including additional resources and extra shifts

Implications to Overall Scheme (including impact on other projects) from any shortfall:

- Slight delay

TOC Development Phase Internal Budget

Exp. To Date	\$0.68 million	Commitments To Date	\$0.68 million
Target Final Cost	\$0.68 million	Forecast Final Cost	\$0.68 million

Alliance establishment is within budget and completed.

TOC Development Phase (Alliance) Budget

Exp. To Date	\$12.12 million	Commitments To Date	\$12.12 million
Target Final Cost	\$12.12 million	Forecast Final Cost	\$12.12 million

Item Description	Amount	Comment
Target Outturn Cost development (Project Planning Phase)	\$12.8M	Hinze Dam Alliance and project planning phase costs expended to 31 May 2007. COMPLETED
Alliance Target Outturn Cost 1	\$313.6M	Approval to proceed on 4 June 2004
Compensatory Habitat	\$15.4M	Budget estimate - further investigation required
Seqwater Project Management	\$1.6M	Internal costs including project management, Independent estimator, etc
Land Acquisition and Easements	\$1.5M	Budget estimate - further report required
Alliance Target Outturn Cost 2 Cut-Off Wall	\$48.9M	TOC2 approval dated 27 November 2007
Project Cost	\$393.8M	

General comment on budget performance:

Current estimates put the project on or slightly under the budgeted sum.

Works Development phase - Internal Budget

Exp. To Date	\$15.4 million	Commitments To Date	\$18.8 million
Target Final Cost	\$28.4 million	Forecast Final Cost	\$28.4 million

- Costs included in internal budget include project management costs, project Insurance, compensatory habitat delivery and media consultation budget and alliance KPI bonus pool.

Works Development (Alliance) Budget

Exp. To Date	\$312.3 million	Commitments To Date	\$351.4 million
Target Final Cost	\$351.4 million	Forecast Final Cost	\$351.4 million

Key drivers for any significant variances:

- It is not anticipated there will be any cost or budget over-run.

Remedial Action Underway or Planned for any variance:

- Continual overview.

Quality & Compliance

Details of any significant breach of processes, regulations, or relevant standards during period:

- No non compliances to report.

Safety & Environment

Target LTIFR	1.5	Current LTIFR	3.11
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Details of Safety or Environmental Incidents this Period: No incidents this period.

- Project total to date: 41 Recordable Injuries (7 x LTI's, 23 medical treatments, 11 restricted work injuries).

Communications & Community

Seven key programs to help position the HDS3 project are currently underway.	
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A total of 598 correspondences were involved in the management and delivery of the following:

1. Community consultation program
 - Outgoing contact with the community through a program of doorknocking and outgoing phone calls is continuing to provide updates on the progress of the project. During the month stakeholder contacts have covered matters including:
 - Construction activities
 - Recreational facilities
 - Site access
 - Community Christmas barbeque
 - HDS3 update
 - There have been no negative stakeholder contacts during the month
2. Public awareness and education
 - During the month the interactive touch screen has been in use at Coolangatta library
 - Presentations have been given to Rotary Parkwood and the Tamborine Mountain Visitors Information Centre
3. Schools Program
 - The competition has now closed. Nine entries were received from three schools for this round. Winners have been decided with prizes to be awarded in early December
4. E-communications program
 - The Hinze Dam Stage 3 website (www.hinzedamstage3.com) was updated to reflect the current construction activities and images
5. Media and advertising
 - We received one call from the Australian, but there was no further correspondence requesting any information or comment from the project
6. Construction communication program
 - Construction Communication Plan is continuing (includes ongoing consultation, 1800 calls, information sessions, schools presentation, advertising)
7. Stakeholder Analysis program
 - Final round of community and environment surveys being designed for a February roll out

HR & IR

Details of significant HR or IR issues this Period:

- None to report

Risk Management

Details of any significant changes in risk factors across any element of the project.

Risk Element	Change in Risk Status	Implications and Mitigation
Very heavy rain.	Delay.	Lost time therefore our milestone date of being able to store water in Stage 3 by the scheduled date has now slipped. Cannot make up time if weather does not permit.

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completed and the bridge raised. Commissioning of new works continues as the various new components of the mechanical and electrical systems come together.

- **Spillway:** This is now complete, including the bridge.
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- **First Fill Plan:** The first fill plan is out for review by the Dam Safety Regulator (Mr Peter Allen). It was anticipated that we would get to the first fill by 21 December. However, this very latest and severe weather (and what is predicted) has put back this date into next year, hopefully January.

Schedule

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Commentary on schedule issues:

- Slight delay in reaching regulated date and likely delays in some non-critical infrastructure (recreational area etc).

Outcomes

	Target Date	Target Outcome (ML/day or equivalent)	Performance to Date	Forecast Performance against Target
1	31 December 2010	16 ML/day	Slight delay	Slight delay

- The project will be able to deliver the required additional 16ML/day by the regulated date of December 31 2010. However due to extended wet weather over October, November and early December finalisation of the main embankment is now not expected to be completed until the end of January.
- In addition there are also expected delays in the completion of some non-critical infrastructure including the recreation area.

Budget

Exp. To Date	\$340.5M	Commitments To Date	\$385M
Target Final Cost	\$394.8M	Forecast Final Cost	\$394.8M

○

Commentary on Budget Performance:

- It is expected the project will be on budget.
- Regular review and adjustment according to the risk and opportunities register.

Communications & Community

Seven key programs to help position the HDS3 project are currently underway. A total of 598

correspondences were involved in the management and delivery of the following:

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From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 2010 4:59 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Desalination background
Attach: Desalination background.docx

As discussed.

Dan

Need for desalination

- Desalination will underpin future water security for South East Queensland. Additional facilities may be required as part of the response to another severe drought and will be required to meet future demand growth.
- The *South East Queensland Water Strategy* suggests that the most probable date for a new major supply source to meet population growth is about 2025, and potentially not until 2032.

Northern SEQ priority site

- On 11 November 2009, the Queensland Government announced priority and reserve desalination sites.
- Marcoola is the priority site in northern South East Queensland. Bribie Island is the reserve site on the Sunshine Coast.
- As explained in the *South East Queensland Water Strategy*, the Marcoola site was selected as the priority site due to lesser environmental impacts, lower costs and fewer construction and operational issues.
- The Marcoola site is former cane land, devoid of significant vegetation or permanent structures. It is adjacent to the proposed second runway for the Sunshine Coast Airport.
- To avoid impact on the adjoining Mt Coolum National Park by the pipeline to the South East Queensland Water Grid and the inlet and seawater concentrate return system, pipeline tunnelling will be investigated.
- While Bribie Island is potentially one of the best sites in SEQ, a range of issues would need to be addressed as part of detailed planning:

- Bribie Island National Park surrounds most of the land parcel containing the proposed site. To access the sea, pipelines would need to traverse a section of the national park that is also part of the Moreton Bay Marine Park, which is a listed Ramsar Wetland.
- The pipelines to transport product water from the desalination facility to the SEQ Water Grid would traverse Pumicestone Passage. The passage is recognised on the directory of important wetlands and is zoned Conservation Park under the Moreton Bay Marine Park. Tunnelling could be required in order to avoid unacceptable impacts, increasing the cost of the project.
- Power supply to the Bribie Island site would be more expensive than for Marcoola and traffic would need to be managed during construction, particularly around the bridge.
- The priority sites are those recommended by independent consultants in their reports to the Queensland Water Commission. These reports were released with the revised draft Strategy (for example, see page 2 of the executive summary at www.qwc.qld.gov.au/planning/pdf/desalination/main-report-final-d.pdf).

Background

- Ms Carryn Sullivan MP, Member for Pumicestone lodged in the Queensland Legislative Assembly, Petitions No. 1375-10, 1383-10 and 1405-10 which request that the House removes Bribie Island from the list of potential desalination plant sites in Queensland. Responses to Petitions No. 1375-10 and 1383-10 were tabled during the Parliamentary sitting from 9-11 March 2010 and a response to Petition No. 1405-10 was tabled on 22 April 2010.
- The Minister advised that the desalination preliminary investigations had identified a reserve desalination site at Bribie Island and that while it is prudent to preserve the site at Bribie Island now, this site will only be required to meet the demands of a growing population. The Minister also advised that a desalination plant at Bribie Island would not be likely to be needed before 2030, if at all and that no further investigations will be undertaken on this site until a need for the project is defined.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 21 December 2010 4:15 PM
To: Dan Spoiler
Cc: [REDACTED] Barry Dennien
Subject: residents apparently not contacted before twin Bridges drowned out

Dan

As discussed the following person needs to be called re Englands Creek Road being cut by releases from Wivenhoe:

[REDACTED]

Please provide info about how it came to be that he was not notified that releases would increase river level and cut access.

Please also provide info about when the water is expected to recede and the system that will be put in place to ensure the 20 or so households isolated when twin bridges are drowned out are given as much notice as possible of releases from the dam.

[REDACTED]

Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone [REDACTED]
Mobile [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

From: SEQWGM Media
Sent: Wednesday, 22 December 2010 1:58 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SEQWGM Communications Staff; Dan Spiller; Barry Dennien; Mike Foster;
Subject: Approved advertising script and text

Hi [REDACTED]

Please see below the text and script for the advertisements to run over the next week, highlighting safety messages around Water Grid recreation sites.

Approved text for print ads:

(Courier Mail, Queensland Times, Sunshine Coast Daily, Gold Coast Bulletin)

WATER GRID COMMUNITY SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Wet weather means that water releases from dams across the region are likely to continue this holiday season.

For daily information on dam releases in South East Queensland, contact 1800 613 122.

While every effort will be made to keep recreational sites open, public safety is paramount and it is possible that some sites may be closed at short notice due to heavy weather.

The Water Grid is urging campers at South East Queensland dams to consider a plan B this holiday season.

For more information on the status of dam levels and Water Grid recreation sites visit www.watergrid.com.au

For information on local flooding, including road closures, contact the local council or visit their website.

The council areas that are affected by Wivenhoe Dam releases are:

- o Somerset Regional Council; 5424 4000; www.somerset.qld.gov.au
- o Ipswich City Council; 3810 6666; www.ipswich.qld.gov.au
- o Brisbane City Council; 3403 8888; www.brisbane.qld.gov.au

Approved script for radio ads:

(B105, Triple M, River FM, 4BC)

Wet weather means that water releases from dams across South East Queensland are likely to continue this holiday season.

To find out the latest information on dam releases call 1800 613 122.

The Water Grid is making every effort to keep recreational sites open, but public safety is paramount. Some sites may need to be closed at short notice. Visit www.watergrid.com.au for the latest information.

For information on local flooding, including road closures, contact the local council or visit their website.

Senior Media Advisor

SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit

Phone:

Email:

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

Please consider the environment before printing this email. It takes 10 litres of water to make one sheet of A4 paper.



Swimming in weirs and
flowing water is FA

rethink

From: [REDACTED]
Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 23, 2010 8:45 AM
To: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Tech reports and grid media releases

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 23 December 2010 8:38 AM
To: Barry Dennien
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Tech reports and grid media releases

Barry - as discussed, please send tech reports, sitreps and media releases to the following addresses - the Min would like to be kept in the loop directly:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Stephen.Robertson [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone: [REDACTED]
Mobile [REDACTED]
Fax: (0 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Thursday, 23 December 2010 5:38 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: SEQ dam releases: Technical Situation Report

Ta. I resent it directly this afternoon - not a good one to get wrong!

On 23/12/2010, at 5:33 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:

Minister's address is wrong in the below email

It is @ministerial

[REDACTED]
Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone: [REDACTED]
Mobile: [REDACTED]
Fax: (0) [REDACTED]

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 23 December 2010 3:41 PM
To: Stephen.Robertson [REDACTED] Bradley John; Best Debbie; [REDACTED]
Cc: Barry Dennien; Mike Foster; Rob Drury
Subject: SEQ dam releases: Technical Situation Report

All,

For information, this afternoon's:

- Technical Situation Report is attached
- Media update is below.

Please contact me if you require any further information.

Regards,

23 December 2010 - Afternoon

Media update: Dam releases

As at 3pm today the following water releases are being made: Please note that the release strategy is continually being updated based on weather conditions.

Four of the five gates at Wivenhoe Dam are now closed. One gate is still open as a result of the forecast of increasing rain tomorrow. Around 30 000 megalitres is being released through this gate and it is expected that this will be reassessed tomorrow.

It is expected that Kholo Bridge and Burtons Bridge will be open to traffic this evening. Twin Bridges, Savages Crossing and Colleges Crossing are expected to remain closed until at least Christmas Day. Local councils have been consulted regarding the re-opening of the major downstream crossings.

Members of the public seeking information on potential impacts in their local areas, including road closures, should direct inquiries to their local councils.

The gates at Somerset Dam were closed at around 9am this morning.

Further rainfall and inflows may result in overnight gate openings at North Pine Dam. Council will be consulted ahead any gate openings.

For recorded information on current dam releases in South East Queensland, members of the public are encouraged to call **1800 613 122**.

Recreation update

Wivenhoe and Somerset dams are open for all water-based recreational activities, however this may change at short notice depending on weather.

The following recreation sites at Wivenhoe Dam remain closed:

- Billies Bay

- River access at Atkinsons Crossing

All other recreational sites have reopened however this status could change due to weather.

While every effort will be made to keep recreational sites open, public safety is paramount and it is possible that some sites may be closed at short notice due to poor weather.

Members of the public who are considering recreational activities, including camping, at South East Queensland dams over the Christmas/New Year period are urged to consider alternative arrangements.

PLEASE NOTE: Conditions will be extremely dangerous as flood conditions exist in some areas.

For further information on the Water Grid: www.watergrid.com.au

Daniel Spiller

Director, Operations

SEQ Water Grid Manager

Phone:

Email:

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 24, 2010 2:55 PM
To: John Bradley [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Kholo Bridge release and photos
Attach: IMG_1431.JPG; IMG_1430.JPG

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Friday, 24 December 2010 2:41 PM
To: stephen.robertson [REDACTED] John Bradley [REDACTED] Debbie Best [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
la [REDACTED]
Cc: Barry Dennien; John Adcock; bob.reilly [REDACTED] Damien Brown [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; mfoster [REDACTED] Rob Drury [REDACTED]
Subject: Kholo Bridge release and photos

All,

Further to previous email, we have just received a copy of the draft release from BCC (see below). Reference to the bridge is factual.

Barry and I spoke to the CEO of BCC about flood impacts this morning, and I will continue to do so over coming days.

Photos are also attached.

Regards,
Dan

Tidal flooding continues but water levels decreasing

23 December, 2010

Minor tidal flooding again occurred in some areas of Brisbane earlier today due to a higher than usual tide, however water levels are starting to decrease from what was seen earlier in the week as part of the normal tide cycle.

Minor tidal flooding occurred today on roads, parks and bikeways in Albion, Newstead, Windsor, Bowen Hills and East Brisbane.

Roads affected included Waterloo and Ross Street in Newstead, Sandgate Road at Albion, and Windsor's Northey Street.

The roads affected today are expected to experience some tidal flooding tomorrow at high tide, which is due at 12.21pm (Brisbane Bar), and also possibly on Sunday.

Motorists are advised to avoid parking in the areas that may be affected by tidal flooding over the weekend and to be aware that some sections of these roads and bikeways may be closed to vehicles and bikes for a short period during and following the high tide peak.

Residents are also advised that Kholo Bridge on Kholo Road is currently closed due to major flood damage. Repairs will commence next week and the crossing is expected to reopen in the first week of January. Motorists will need to seek alternative routes while works are undertaken.

To find out where flooding may occur from creeks, rivers and storm tides, download the Flood Flag map for their suburb. These maps are free for download and are available from Council's website at www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/floodwise

For more information, phone Council on 3403 8888.





[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 28 December 2010 12:20 PM
To: Dan Spiller
Subject: Re: Water Grid technical report: 28/12

Thanks Dan,
I've received a media update today, just wondering if you could let me know when your next one is due?
Thanks
[REDACTED]

From: Dan Spiller
To: Stephen Robertson; [REDACTED] Ken Smith
[REDACTED]; Debbie Best [REDACTED] Martin.Pete [REDACTED]
Cc: Rob Drury [REDACTED] mfoster [REDACTED] SEOWGM Media ; Damien Brown
[REDACTED]; bob.reilly [REDACTED]
Sent: Tue Dec 28 08:07:37 2010
Subject: Water Grid technical report: 28/12

Attached is an updated version of the Technical Situation Report, thanks to Seqwater. Key points are:

- Rainfall of about 20 to 40mm was recorded in the Wivenhoe and Somerset Dam catchments over the past 24 hours
- The two dams are now storing about 210,000 ML above FSL with inflows reducing (for comparison, total flood compartment volume is 1.45 million ML)
- Releases were scaled back yesterday as flows from the Lockyer Valley increased. On Sunday, the release rate with one gate open was up to 30,000 ML/day. Yesterday this was reduced to 4,000 ML/day. (For comparison, the peak release rate last week was about 115,000 ML/day)
- Releases will be increased today as flows from the Lockyer Valley reduce. The rate and extent of the increase will depend on the Lockyer Valley. Because of the Lockyer, peak releases may be less than was envisaged yesterday and continue for longer
- Seqwater operators will continue to liaise with Councils.

A separate update will be provided later today about proposed operations, other storages and the media update.

Regards,
an

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 29 December 2010 9:59 AM
To: Dan Spiller; SEQWGM Media
Subject: Minister Stephen Robertson today praised the SEQ Water Grid for their management of Wivenhoe Dam during the recent rains.docx
Attachments: Minister Stephen Robertson today praised the SEQ Water Grid for their management of Wivenhoe Dam during the recent rains.docx

<<Minister Stephen Robertson today praised the SEQ Water Grid for their management of Wivenhoe Dam during the recent rains.docx>> Hi guys,

Here's a bit of a draft I'm working on - did you want to go over this and see how it matches up with your lines?

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

Assistant Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Stephen Robertson MP
Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone: [REDACTED]
Mobile: [REDACTED]
e-mail: [REDACTED]
<mailto:[REDACTED]>

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Minister Stephen Robertson today praised the SEQ Water Grid for their management of Wivenhoe Dam during the recent rains.

"They have adjusted the gates on a daily basis to ensure Wivenhoe Dam and the Brisbane River have the safest possible water levels for the people of South East Queensland," Mr Robertson said.

Controlled releases allow water to enter the system when the rain is not falling to ensure the best flood protection possible for the region as we face a major wet weather event.

In fact, Wivenhoe is protecting low-lying Brisbane suburbs with its flood mitigation capacity.

The dam reduced by one-third the natural runoff into the Brisbane River from this week's downpour across the region.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 29 December 2010 11:13 AM
To: Dan Spiller; SEQWGM Media
Subject: Water - Wivenhoe spill 291210.docx
Attachments: Water - Wivenhoe spill 291210.docx

<<Water - Wivenhoe spill 291210.docx>> Thank you for your feedback.

Does this look okay to you?

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

Assistant Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Stephen Robertson MP
Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade

Phone: [REDACTED]

Mobile: [REDACTED]

e-mail: [REDACTED]

<[mailto:\[REDACTED\]](mailto:[REDACTED])>

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Minister Robertson Praises Wivenhoe Flood Mitigation

Minister Stephen Robertson today praised the SEQ Water Grid for their management of Wivenhoe Dam during the recent rains.

"They have adjusted the gates on a daily basis to ensure Wivenhoe Dam and the Brisbane River have the safest possible water levels for the people of South East Queensland," Mr Robertson said.

To further protect South East Queensland, the Water Grid also mobilises a Flood Control Centre during a flood event at North Pine, Somerset or Wivenhoe Dams. It operates 24 hours a day with teams of operators at each dam 24 hours a day managing releases.

Controlled releases allow water to enter the system when the rain is not falling to ensure the best flood protection possible for the region as we face major wet weather events.

In fact, Wivenhoe is protecting low-lying Brisbane suburbs with its flood mitigation capacity.

Wivenhoe and Somerset dams have held back almost 400,000 megalitres of flood water during this event. Now that flows from the Lockyer Valley and Bremer have passed, this water will now be released over a number of days - minimizing the impact on downstream areas.

There have been reports from residents in the upper Brisbane River that flood waters were as bad as in 1974. Without the dam, this water would have flowed down the Brisbane River at around the same time as flows from the Lockyer and Bremer - compounding local flooding.

"We have taken the advice of experts at the Water Grid in order to protect Queenslanders from these floodwaters," Mr Robertson said.

"The flood storage compartment means that we can hold back flood water, and make controlled releases when downstream flows subside.

"Mr Langbroek and the LNP would have the Dam continue to fill, creating a risk for all those residents downstream. We will not take risks with the safety of Queenslanders during flood events."

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 30 December 2010 9:31 AM
To: Dan Spiller
Subject: RE: Water Grid gate releases technical report: 30/12

Dan – as we discussed briefly yesterday, we are considering putting out some media on the usefulness of the desal.

Are we 'out of the woods' yet with regards to Mt Crosby wtp etc?

Obviously I do not want to risk putting something out praising the desal only to then have boil alerts etc due to issues elsewhere in the grid.

Thanks, [REDACTED]

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 30 December 2010 7:40 AM
To: Stephen Robertson [REDACTED]; 'ken.smith' [REDACTED]
'debbie.best' [REDACTED]; 'Martin.Peter' [REDACTED]
Cc: 'rdrun' [REDACTED]; 'mfoster' [REDACTED]; SEOWGM Media: 'damien.brown' [REDACTED]
'rob.reilly' [REDACTED]
Subject: Water Grid gate releases technical report: 30/12

All,

Attached is the updated technical report regarding gate releases. Key points are:

- All gates at Wivenhoe Dam are open, releasing at about 130,000 ML/day (about 140,000 ML/day with Lockyer Valley flows). This is similar to the peak release rate in October and early December
- Shutdown will commence Friday and be complete by Sunday, without further rainfall
- Local bridges and crossings likely to continue to be inundated until Sunday
- Downstream river levels continue to reduce with tides and reduced local flows.

Releases from North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams have ceased, pending any further rainfall. Hinze Dam releases will continue until the weekend.

Separately, extremely poor water quality in the Brisbane River caused operational issues for the Mt Crosby WTP yesterday. The WTP was back online by mid afternoon at reduced output. A number of other operational changes have been made, including operating the desalination facility and Southern Regional Water Pipeline at capacity. I will provide an update on these issues after 9.30am and continue to report as necessary.

Please call me on [REDACTED] if you require any further information.

Regards,
Dan

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From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 4, 2011 2:48 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; John Adcock
Subject: Fact sheet

[REDACTED]
I have briefed [REDACTED] and John. They will come up when suits you. From their perspective, the earlier the better.

Dan

Daniel Spiller
Director, Operations
SEQ Water Grid Manager
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

Please consider the environment before printing this email. It takes 10 litres of water to make one sheet of A4 paper.

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 6 January 2011 3:38 PM
To: [REDACTED] Waldman Karen; Dan Spiller
Cc: Best Debbie; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Advice this afternoon in relation to possible options for the use of water in Wyaralong

Hi [REDACTED]
We met yesterday (DERM, QWC, WGM, QWI, DIP and Seqwater) to discuss this issue. QWC and WGM are preparing a hot issues brief, and Lyall Hinrichson is coordinating a more comprehensive brief with DIP (and others). Give me a call if you want any more information.
Regards

[REDACTED]

A/Deputy Director-General
Water and Ecosystem Outcomes
Department of Environment and Resource Management Level 13, 400 George Street, Brisbane Q 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane Q 4001
Telephone: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 6 January 2011 2:17 PM
To: [REDACTED] Waldman Karen; spiller daniel @ SEQWGM
Subject: Advice this afternoon in relation to possible options for the use of water in Wyaralong
Importance: High

[REDACTED] Karen Dan

With continued inflows into Wyaralong Dam, and the deferral of the treatment plant and connection to the Southern Regional Pipeline, we expect to see media enquiries on this issue very shortly. Would you be able to provide a few bullet points on this issue and check with DIP in relation to their plans and communication strategy.

In the longer term, options previously discussed include seasonal assignment to irrigators. Do you have any info on this, or other, options?

A high level response would be good, with a more detailed brief on options to come next week.

[REDACTED] would you be able to request a briefing note on options for the use of water in Wyaralong prior to its connection to the water grid?

[REDACTED]

Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone: [REDACTED]
Mobile: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]

+-----+-----+

Think B4U Print

1 ream of paper = 6% of a tree and 5.4kg CO₂ in the atmosphere

3 sheets of A4 paper = 1 litre of water

+-----+

Litsupport Brisbane

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 12 January 2011 2:55 PM
To: [REDACTED] Dan Spiller
Cc: Stephen Robertson
Subject: FW: Retailers commitment on customers impacted by floods
Attachments: Qld flood situation principles Jan11.pdf

Fyi . Water DRs might like to consider similar

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 12 January 2011 2:15 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Retailers commitment on customers impacted by floods

FYI

L

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 12 January 2011 2:08 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Retailers commitment on customers impacted by floods

Dear [REDACTED]

Our sympathies go to the people of Queensland at this time.

Given the amount of impacted electricity customers my members signed off on these principles in dealing with the aftermath.

I have circulated to stakeholders.

Regards,

[REDACTED]
Executive Director
Energy Retailers Association of Australia (ERAA)

Suite 2, Level 4
189 Kent Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000
Telephone [REDACTED]
Facsimile [REDACTED]

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Energy Retailers Association
of Australia Limited

MEDIA RELEASE

12 January, 2011

STATEMENT ON QUEENSLAND FLOOD SITUATION

The member companies of the Energy Retailers Association of Australia (ERAA), its board and employees would like to extend their deepest sympathy to the families of those affected by the Queensland floods. In recognition of these uniquely challenging times all member companies have agreed to adopt a common set of customer service principles in dealing with flood affected regions of the State of Queensland. Member companies active in Queensland may be taking additional steps beyond those outlined below and customers should in all cases treat their retailer as the first point of contact. Links to the ERAA member company web-sites are available from the ERAA site www.eraa.com.au.

Customer Service Principles for Flood Affected Regions of Queensland

- Member companies have suspended collection and billing activities involving flood affected customers
- Member companies will proactively offer instalment plans for flood affected customers once billing and collection activity resumes
- Member company hardship teams will work with community groups assisting victims of the floods
- Customers directed to them by community groups assisting flood victims will be given urgent attention by retailer hardship teams
- Member companies will work with distributors to ensure a waiver of any fees associated with meter abolishment or disconnection requests for flood affected customers
- Member companies will prioritise any meter abolishment and disconnection requests for flood affected customers
- Member companies will suspend marketing and sales activities in flood affected regions

About ERAA

The Energy Retailers Association of Australia (ERAA) is the peak industry body representing retailers of electricity and gas in Australia's National Electricity Market (NEM) and national gas market. Member companies operate in all the States of Australia and have over 11 million customers. The members include AGL Energy, Origin Energy, TRUenergy, Energy Australia, Integral Energy, Country Energy, Aurora Energy, Lumo Energy, Simply Energy, Australian Power & Gas, Red Energy, Momentum Energy, ERM Retail, Neighbourhood Energy, Ergon Energy, Synergy, QEnergy, Horizon Power, Power and Water and ActewAGL.

Energy Retailers Association of Australia Limited
Suite 2, Level 4, 189 Kent Street, SYDNEY NSW 2000
T (02) 9241 6556 F (02) 9251 5425 www.eraa.com.au

ABN 24 103 742 605

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2011 8:52 AM
To: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Run Sheet & Briefing Note

Dan I have my own, and have asked [REDACTED] (DLO) to organise size 8 for the Minister. So all should be in hand.

[REDACTED]
Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone [REDACTED]
Mobile [REDACTED]
Fax: ([REDACTED]

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 19 January 2011 6:40 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Run Sheet & Briefing Note

I will be joining you rather than Barry.

Note the steel capped shoe requirement. I suspect you have a pair, but will anyone else require them? QWI will arrange if they are given the shoe size (as they are doing for me).

Dan

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2011 5:06 PM
To: [REDACTED] Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Run Sheet & Briefing Note

Please find attached a run sheet and briefing note for the site visit by Minister Robertson and Minister Hinchcliffe to the Wyaralong Dam Site tomorrow.

Note that QWI's outgoing mail server is not currently working hence the gmail account being used.

I will provide a map to site tomorrow morning.

Please don't hesitate to contact me should you require any further information.

Regards

[REDACTED]
Corporate Relations Manager
Queensland Water Infrastructure Pty Ltd
Tel [REDACTED]
Mo [REDACTED]
Em [REDACTED]

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From:

Sent:

Wednesday, January 19, 2011 10:29 AM

To:

Cc:

Dan Spiller

Dan Spiller

pborrows

Subject:

Min on-site briefs and Wyaralong and Mt Crosby to be rescheduled

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Minister will not be able to attend the planned on-site briefing at Wyaralong dam this afternoon.

He will also not be able to attend the on-site briefing at Mt Crosby East Bank in the morning.

Please pass this info onto those involved in organisation ASAP to minimise inconvenience.

Please arrange a new time for the dam visit with [REDACTED] for next week.

Please arrange for the visit to Mt Crosby to be moved to tomorrow afternoon, if possible.

Please let me know if you have any questions

[REDACTED] would you be able to take these out of the Min's diary now, and re-enter once new times are settled.

[REDACTED]
Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone: [REDACTED]
Mobile: [REDACTED]
Fax: (0) [REDACTED]

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From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2011 11:41 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Tides

[REDACTED]

King tide is at 11.15 tomorrow. The river height will be similar the next day.

Previous dam releases will have a minor impact on levels tomorrow. On Saturday they should have no impact.

Dan

[REDACTED]

From: Mike Foster [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 20 January 2011 1:54 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Dan Spiller; [REDACTED] SEQWGM Media
Subject: FW: Re: Wivenhoe dam

[REDACTED]

Response for SMH as discussed.

If you can provide a copy of the final response that'd be greatly appreciated.

Cheers Mike

From: Peter Borrows
Sent: Thursday, 20 January 2011 1:39 PM
To: Mike Foster; [REDACTED] Jim Pruss
Cc: Rob Drury; [REDACTED] Peter Borrows
Subject: RE: Re: Wivenhoe dam

Approved to advise the WGM of these responses.

Regards, Peter.

Peter Borrows
Chief Executive Officer
Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority *trading as Seqwater*



Ph [REDACTED]
Level 3, 240 Margaret St, Brisbane City QLD 4000
PO Box 16146, City East QLD 4002
Website | www.seqwater.com.au



From: Mike Foster
Sent: Thursday, 20 January 2011 1:37 PM
To: Peter Borrows; [REDACTED] Jim Pruss
Cc: Rob Drury; [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Re: Wivenhoe dam

Pete/Jim

Please see suggested response below to SMH.

Peter B has confirmed both himself and the Chair have had a verbal request on the answer to question1.

Sydney Morning Herald

1. Has the minister or is the minister planning to direct Seqwater to keep releasing water once the dam level reaches 100 per cent capacity? **RESPONSE The flood management of Wivenhoe Dam is now subject of a Commission of Inquiry. However in the wake of the recent extreme flooding event Seqwater will be providing advice to the State on the implications of reducing the dam levels below Full Supply Capacity (FSL) against differing rainfall and inflow events.**
2. Does Seqwater have the authority to make that decision independently? **RESPONSE – No. Any changes to the Flood Operations Manual would need the input and approval of a range of State departments and agencies**
3. What allowances if any are made for rainfall outlook to enable that level to be changed? – **RESPONSE -Rainfall is monitored through the Flood Operations Centre on an ongoing basis and releases are made as required.**
4. When was the 100 per cent / 1.165 million megalitres capacity level set? – **RESPONSE The level was set at construction of the dam, which was completed in 1984**
5. Is it correct that the amount of water permitted in Wivenhoe Dam (1.165 million megalitres?) before releases are mandatory was (and still is) under review at the time of the floods? How long had it been under review and had any reports on this issue been written? **See answer to question 1**

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 20 January 2011 12:03 PM
To: Mike Foster
Subject: FW: Re: Wivenhoe dam

Hi Mike,

Any chance of seeing a response within the hour so that we could hopefully get something to the SMH as requested?

Regards,

Assistant Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Stephen Robertson MP
Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone: [REDACTED]
Mobile: [REDACTED]
e-mail: [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 20 January 2011 11:51 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: RE: Wivenhoe dam

Hi, We have news conference in an hour and a half - it would be good to know the minister's response by then.
Regards,

Investigations Reporter
The Sydney Morning Herald
1 Darling Island Road, Pyrmont 2009

GPO Box 506 Sydney NSW 2001

ph:

fax:

mob:

em:

From:

Sent: Thursday, 20 January 2011 10:49 AM

To:

Subject: RE: Re: Wivenhoe dam

Good morning

I just thought I'd touch base to see if you have any additional questions or queries today to the ones we're already following up for you?

Regards,

Assistant Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Stephen Robertson MP

Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade

Phone:

Mobiles:

e-mail:

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 19 January 2011 10:46 AM

To:

Subject: FW: Re: Wivenhoe dam

Importance: High

Hi

Is it correct that the amount of water permitted in Wivenhoe Dam (1.165 million megalitres?) before releases are mandatory was (and still is) under review at the time of the floods?

How long had it been under review and had any reports on this issue been written?

Regards,

Investigations Reporter

The Sydney Morning Herald

1 Darling Island Road, Pyrmont 2009

GPO Box 506 Sydney NSW 2001

ph:

fax:

mob:

em:

From:

Sent: 2011 11:03 AM