
Attachments to Submissions by SEQ Water Grid Manager on 4 April 2011

*In the matter of the Commissions of Inquiry Act 1950, Commissions of
Inquiry Order (No 1) 2011*

Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry

Volume 2 of 3



Matter barcode: 158740-00001

SEQ WATER GRID MANAGER
SEQ Water Grid Manager
Level 15
53 Albert Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dated: 4 April 2011

Email: [REDACTED]

Ph: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

2011 BRISBANE FLOODS

F: 0089

FD: Attachments to Submissions by SEQ Water Grid Manager on 4 April 2011 -
Volume 2 of 3

Acting FE: MMC

Resp FE: MMC

Intro FE: MMC



Folder barcode: F00392199

Date Created: 27/01/2011

Tea **11**

Barry Dennien

From: Mike Foster [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 13 October 2010 5:40 PM
To: Barry Dennien; Dan Spiller; Michael Lyons; SEQWGM Communications Staff
Cc: Rob Drury; Peter Borrows; Jim Pruss
Subject: Seqwater response

Folks,

First up we should be telling Courier Mail to contact BOM. In our discussions with BOM they agreed the discharges from Wivenhoe will have an insignificant impact on flood levels on lower Brisbane River compared to the high tide impact.

Response for the Courier

- Releases from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dam 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.
- Wivenhoe and Somerset Dam have provided significant flood mitigation for this event reducing the peak flow in Brisbane by between fifty to sixty percent.
- 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.
- As part of managing inflows over the past week Seqwater has held back 500,000-600,000 mega litres (equivalent of a Sydney harbor) which is now being discharged through controlled release.
- The current release was held back until the flood flows from the Bremer and Lockyer had subsided sufficiently.
- The threshold for damaging floods in the Brisbane area is 3500 cubic metres per second and our current releases are well below (1200 cubic metres per second).
- Seqwater does not believe the current releases will have any significant impact in levels in the lower Brisbane River in the coming days.

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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to this email is not waived, lost or destroyed by reasons of mistaken delivery to you. If you have received this email in error please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from your email system. QLD Bulk Water Supply Authority ABN75450239876 (Trading as Seqwater).

Tab 12

Barry Dennien

From: Geoff Stead [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 13 October 2010 6:45 PM
To: Stephen Robertson
Cc: Nicole Scurrah; Bradley John; Lance McCallum; Tim Watts; Dan Spiller; Barry Dennien; Michael Lyons; Aleisha Coote; Shelley Banks; Premiers Office - Media Unit
Subject: draft MR
Attachments: 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. G

<<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.

Table 13

Barry Dennien

From: Peter Baddiley [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 13 October 2010 9:37 PM
To: Barry Dennien
Cc: 'Duty Engineer', Peter Baddiley
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).

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 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 : www.bom.gov.au

Tab 14

Barry Dennien

From: Bradley John [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 13 October 2010 10:29 PM
To: Barry Dennien
Subject: Re: Fwd: Water levels in the Brisbane River at Brisbane City [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Excellent ta

I am going to tville tomorrow from 7 am
Could you pls copy ken and nic into new info from bom etc/media HIBS etc

Well done in media today Baz

Thanks
JB

----- 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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Table 5

Barry Dennien

From: Lance McCallum [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 8:25 AM
To: Barry Dennien; Dan Spiller
Cc: Tim Watts; Bradley John; Geoff Stead
Subject: Q & As

Importance: High

Barry/Dan

Further to questions put to you from Geoff 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.

Lance McCallum | 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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Table 16

Barry Dennien

From: Geoff Stead [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 8:33 AM
To: Barry Dennien
Subject: FW:

Barry, can I get a quick answer on this: G

From: Nicole Scurrah
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 8:20 AM
To: Lance McCallum
Cc: Geoff Stead; Tim Watts; Megan Saunders
Subject: RE:

The Modelling – who has it what is the difference and why? What is the modelling that Dam Safety Regulatory release on BOM, BCC or their own?

From: Lance McCallum
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 8:15 AM
To: Nicole Scurrah
Cc: Geoff Stead; Tim Watts
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: Lance McCallum
Subject: FW:

It is really important that we get the answers to Megan's 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: Megan Saunders
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 7:32 AM
To: Geoff Stead; Kimberley Gardiner; Nicole Scurrah
Cc: Premiers Office - Media Unit; Lance McCallum; Tim Watts; 'John.Bradley@derm.qld.gov.au'
Subject: Ré:

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: Geoff Stead
To: Kimberley Gardiner; Megan Saunders; Nicole Scurrah
Cc: Premiers Office - Media Unit; Lance McCallum; Tim Watts; 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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Tab 17

Barry Dennien

From: Geoff Stead [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 8:33 AM
To: Michael Lyons; Barry Dennien
Subject: urgent request

Hi guys, can you do a quick Q and A to these questions below. Thanks Geoff

From: Megan Saunders
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 7:32 AM
To: Geoff Stead; Kimberley Gardiner; Nicole Scurrah
Cc: Premiers Office - Media Unit; Lance McCallum; Tim Watts; [REDACTED]
Subject: Re:

Sit tight on release for now. Monitor radios closely and keep us posted. In the meantime we need some answers to the key qus: who authorises the release? Who determines how much to release? Are high tides taken into acct in 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: Geoff Stead
To: Kimberley Gardiner; Megan Saunders; Nicole Scurrah
Cc: Premiers Office - Media Unit; Lance McCallum; Tim Watts; Bradley John
Sent: Thu Oct 14 07:23:12 2010
Subject:

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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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Tea
18

Barry Dennien

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 oif the situation.

EMQ will keep us up to date if the situation changes. We will let you know.

Dan

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

From: Megan Saunders [REDACTED]
To: Scott Chandler [REDACTED]
Cc: Nicole Scurrah [REDACTED] Premiers Office - Media Unit
[REDACTED] Geoff Stead
[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: Scott Chandler
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 8:13 AM
To: Megan Saunders
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.

Scott Chandler

Phone: [REDACTED]

From: Megan Saunders
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 7:36 AM
To: Scott Chandler
Cc: Nicole Scurrah; Premiers Office - Media Unit
Subject: Cd we pls get an EMQ update re potential flood situation?

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Table 19

Barry Dennien

From: Geoff Stead [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 9:47 AM
To: Michael Lyons; Barry Dennien; Dan Spiller
Subject: draft media release
Attachments: 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 Geoff
<<Water- draft seqwater 141010.docx>>

Geoff Stead
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon Stephen Robertson MP
Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Trade

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.

Tab 20

Suzie Emery

Subject: FW: URGENT : Meeting with Minister Robertson and Water Grid CEO's, DG and CEO Water Commission

Importance: High

From: Hebblewhite Marie [REDACTED] **On Behalf Of** DLO NRMET
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 9:53 AM
To: peter.mcmanamon [REDACTED] pborrows [REDACTED] keith.davies [REDACTED]
dan.spillar [REDACTED]; Barry Dennien; Jade Simmons; Oliver Greg; tim.watts [REDACTED]
mfoster [REDACTED] Bradley John; Best Debbie; Waldman Karen; Michael Lyons; Clunes Donald;
paul.rees [REDACTED] stacey.renouf [REDACTED] QWC Correspondence Unit; Barry Dennien;
Michael Lyons; Jade Simmons; Hopper Karen; Robson Chris; Barry Dennien; jpruss [REDACTED] Arnou Pruden;
Wall, Rebecca; Donna.Smith [REDACTED] Stevenson Julia
Cc: WD Office of DDG
Subject: URGENT : Meeting with Minister Robertson and Water Grid CEO's, DG and CEO Water Commission
Importance: High

Good Morning All

Please note the change of time - this meeting is to be held at 1pm today.

The Minister has asked that the focus of the meeting change to address the possibility of any flooding in Brisbane today, or while releases are being made from Wivenhoe. The agenda will be address if there is time.

Please ensure that you are ready to discuss:

- what modelling has been done in relation to the water levels in Brisbane while releases occur from Wivenhoe?
- any agreed arrangements and processes that might be in place, between State, Council and Commonwealth bodies, for the flood management/warnings in the Brisbane City area.

A key question that will need to be answered is why are different bodies giving different advice about flood?

regards
Marie

Marie Hebblewhite

Senior Departmental Liaison Officer (Resource Management)

Office of the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Department of Environment and Resource Management

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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3 sheets of A4 paper = 1 litre of water

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Tab 21

Barry Dennien

From: Jeff Perkins [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 10:12 AM
To: Barry Dennien
Cc: jtibaldi [REDACTED] Peter Baddiley
Subject: Tide levels in Brisbane [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: Outlook.jpg

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.

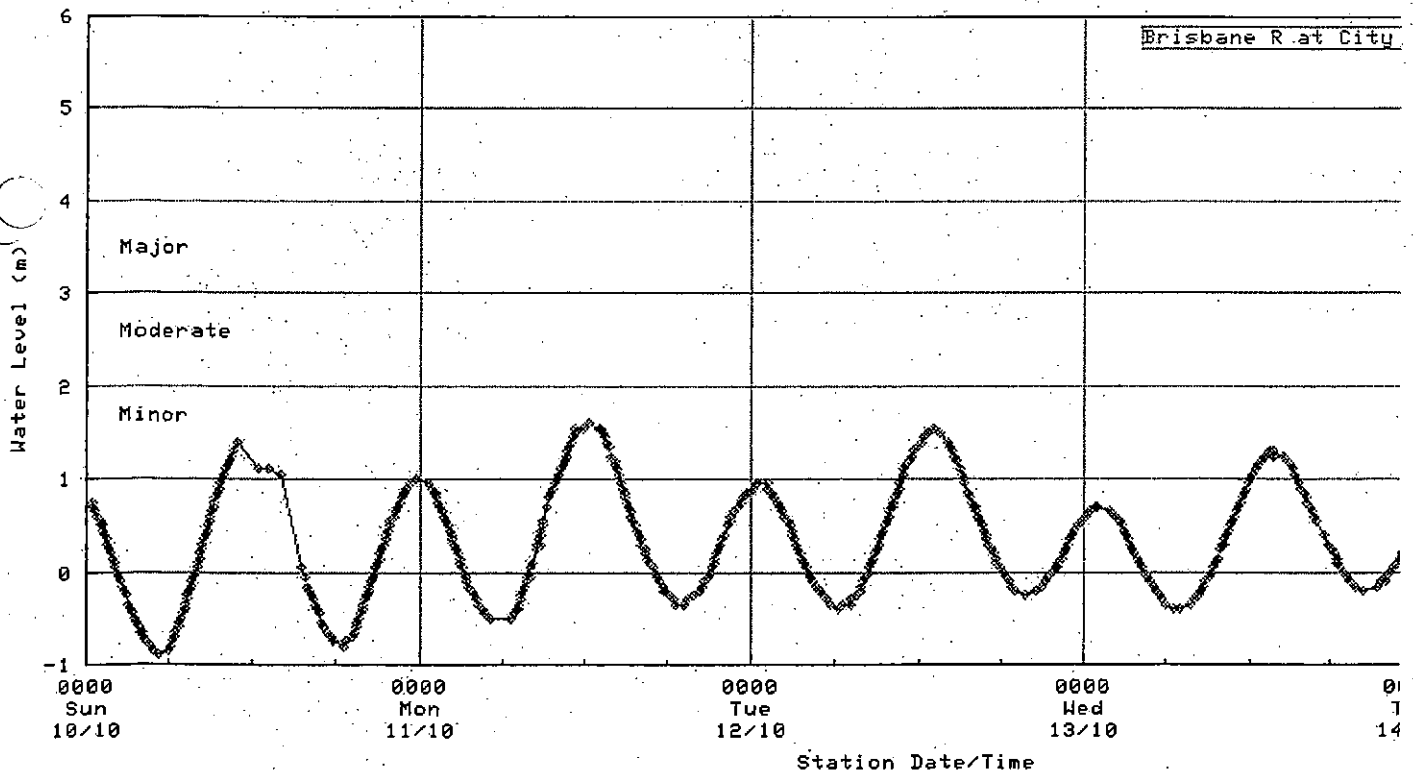
From my perspective the measured tides are matching well with the flood model predictions.

cheers

Jeff Perkins
Supervising Hydrologist
Seasonal Streamflow Forecasting, Extended Hydrological Prediction
Climate and Water Division

Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology
Level 21, 69 Anit Street, QLD 4001
Phone: [REDACTED]

<http://www.bom.gov.au/fwo/IDQ65389/IDQ65389.540198.plt.shtml>



Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology

(Generated:

Jeff Perkins
Supervising Hydrologist
Seasonal Streamflow Forecasting, Extended Hydrological Prediction
Climate and Water Division

Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology
Level 21, 59 Ann Street QLD 4001
Phone: [REDACTED]

Tab 22

Barry Dennien

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 10:12 AM
To: peter.allen [REDACTED]
Cc: Barry Dennien
Subject: FW: Flood Mitigation operational arrangements for Wivenhoe/Somerset Dams

Peter,

It would be worth forwarding this onto Tim Watts in the Minister's Office. He has asked similar questions.

Dan

From: Allen Peter [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 10:09 AM
To: Barry Dennien; Reilly Bob
Cc: Ellwood Dean; Peter Borrows; Dan Spiller; ken.smith [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Flood Mitigation operational arrangements for Wivenhoe/Somerset Dams

Barry,

The following arrangements apply in terms of modelling for Brisbane River discharges:

- Seqwater (through their Flood Operations Centre) are responsible for doing sufficient modelling to determine the appropriate discharges from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams. This is typically hydrological models of inflows into the dams. They also have the capability of doing numerical modelling of flows from Wivenhoe to the mouth of the Brisbane River (to include tidal effects)
- Seqwater advise the BoM of the discharges (and the planned discharges) from Wivenhoe and the BoM feed this into their own models and determine whether they need to issue downstream flood warnings.
- I understand BCC get this data from the BoM and then do their own modelling to determine if there are local impacts on Brisbane creeks etc.

Seqwater Duty Flood Engineers understand that the BoM has not issued a flood warning for the Lower Brisbane River and don't, at this time, have any intention of doing so. The Seqwater Flood Control Centre has also spoken to Ken Morris from the BCC and I have been advised that he doesn't see how the published flood warnings were justified.

I am also advised that there will be a meeting at the Flood Control Centre of the Dam Flood Engineers, the BCC flood engineers and the BoM to discuss the issue.

Peter Allen

Director Dam Safety (Water Supply)

Office of the Water Supply Regulator

Telephone [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]
www.derm.qld.gov.au

From: Reilly Bob
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 9:44 AM

To: 'ken.smith [REDACTED]'
Cc: 'Dennien Barry'; Ellwood Dean; 'Tim Watts'; '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: [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

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

Tab 23

Barry Dennien

From: Peter Borrows [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 10:21 AM
To: ken.smith [REDACTED]
Cc: Barry Dennien; Tim Watts; Dan Spiller; Allen Peter; Reilly Bob
Subject: RE: Flood Mitigation operational arrangements for Wivenhoe/Somerset Dams
Attachments: Issues Brief - Seqwater - as at Oct 14.doc

Info from Seqwater as requested

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: Reilly Bob [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 9:44 AM
To: ken.smith [REDACTED]
Cc: Dennien Barry; Ellwood Dean; Tim Watts; Peter Borrows; Spiller Daniel (SEQWGM); Allen Peter
Subject: Flood Mitigation operational arrangements for Wivenhoe/Somerset Dams

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Dot points below:

Background

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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).

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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 exceeded 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: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

www.derm.qld.gov.au

Department of Environment and Resource Management

Lvl 3 41 George Street, Brisbane Q 4000

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

HOT ISSUE BRIEFING NOTE

HOT ISSUE G.X	Seqwater - as at 14 October 2010
Question	Impact of current Wivenhoe releases

Issue:

- Impact of current Wivenhoe releases
- Development of Wivenhoe and Somerset Dam Flood Control Manual

Answer:

- Seqwater is required to develop a Manual of Operational Procedures for Flood Mitigation at Wivenhoe and Somerset Dam.
- Current releases from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dam 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 in accordance with the *Water Supply Act 2008*. Seqwater is required to release in accordance with the approved flood release procedures in this manual. The procedures may only be altered if warranted in the opinion of the Senior Flood Operations Engineer (SFOE). In exercising this discretion, must make a reasonable attempt to consult with the Chairperson of Seqwater and the DG, DERM.
- The current flood release manual was reviewed in during 2009 and finalised in January 2010. Seqwater is required to provide relevant catchment councils with a copy of the flood manual and this occurred. Councils provided with copies include Somerset Regional Council, Ipswich City Council and Brisbane City Council.
- The trigger levels and release procedures are the same as those used to manage the last multi-gate release in 1999
- Wivenhoe and Somerset Dam have provided significant flood mitigation for this event reducing the peak flow in Brisbane by between fifty to sixty percent.
- 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.
- Wivenhoe Dam has a 1,450,000 megalitre 'flood compartment'. More than one third of the 'flood compartment' was 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.
- The current release was held back until the flood flows from the Bremer and Lockyer had sufficiently subsided.
- The threshold for damaging floods in the Brisbane area is 3500 cubic metres per second and our current releases are well below (1500 cubic metres per second).

- The Bureau of Meteorology uses information from Seqwater to do modelling.
- BOM modelling predicts that today's high tide (just before 2:30) will be lower than yesterday's high tide.
- Based on advice from the BOM and its own modeling, Seqwater does not believe the current releases will have any significant impact in levels in the lower Brisbane River in the coming days.
- The release plan does take into account tidal information but not until releases reach the trigger level for damaging floods (3500 cubic metres per second)
- Seqwater's Flood Operations Centre was activated over the weekend and will operate 24 hours a day until the end of the event (expected around next Tuesday)
- The Flood Operations Centre will continue to advise local and emergency authorities on potential impacts downstream as a result of the gated dam releases.

Tab 24

Barry Dennien

From: Colin Jensen [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 11:45 AM
To: Barry Dennien
Subject: Fwd: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

Sorry Barry !

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]

>>> Colin Jensen 14/10/2010 11:38 am >>>
Barry & Peter

As discussed with Barry, I would like BCC to issue a Community Service Announcement that reduces the extent of the expected minor flooding as predicted by Council yesterday afternoon, and the extent of that flooding

Our updated modelling based on the actual releases from Wivenhoe overnight (as compared with our modelling yesterday of 1500 m3/s release - which did not commence until 8.00 today) is predicting a 1.4AHD event (rather than 1.7AHD)

I would like to issue this to make the noon news and seek your input urgently. I seek to ensure that BCC continues to publically support Seqwater's release strategies, show this as a proactive management plan, and possibly also state that the releases are necessary to maintain flood mitigation capacity for future rainfall (not yet added the last)

Your response and input is appreciated

Regards

Colin

DRAFT CSA RELEASE FOLLOWS

Flooding risk reduced due to decreased water output October 14, 2010

Brisbane City Council has been advised that Seqwater is continuing to monitor and manage the output of water being released from Wivenhoe Dam and its impact downstream.

As a result, less water was released overnight and this is expected to reduce the high tide peak, which is due at Brisbane Bar at 2.23pm, by up to 300mm. This 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:

- 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:

- Darra Works Depot, Shamrock Rd, Darra
- 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.

-ENDS-

Media Contact (not for publication):

Lisa Martin
Media Officer



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:
Email:

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Tab 25

Barry Dennien

From: Ken Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 11:57 AM
To: 'CEO [REDACTED] Barry Dennien
Subject: Re: Fwd: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

Colin

From discussions with SEQ water, I think there is dispute that any less volume has been released from Wivenhoe. Can you get facts from Peter B on this?

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

From: Colin Jensen [REDACTED]
To: Ken Smith
Sent: Thu Oct 14 11:49:20 2010
Subject: Fwd: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

Ken

First Draft CSA follows. I discussed some suggestions with Barry for his consideration that are not in this draft. Happy for any urgent input you care to supply. Will supply the final to all when done

Regards

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]

>>> Colin Jensen 14/10/2010 11:44 am >>>
Sorry Barry !

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]

>>> Colin Jensen 14/10/2010 11:38 am >>>
Barry & Peter

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For more information, phone Council on 3403.8888.

-ENDS-

Media Contact (not for publication):

Lisa Martin
Media Officer

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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Tab 26

Barry Dennien

From: Geoff Stead [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 12:02 PM
To: Michael Lyons; Barry Dennien; Dan Spiller
Cc: Megan Saunders; Lance McCallum; Tim Watts
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 Geoff

From: Michael Lyons [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 11:46 AM
To: Geoff Stead
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 Aleisha,

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:

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- 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.

Lisa Martin
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 [REDACTED] 13/10/2010 4:31:05 pm >>>
Hi Lisa

As discussed, can you please forward me a copy of the media release you have issued this afternoon regarding flooding.

Thanks

Aleisha Coote
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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Tab 27

Suzie Emery

Subject: FW: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

From: Michael Lyons
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 12:09 PM
To: Geoff Stead; ken.smith [REDACTED]
Cc: Barry Dennien
Subject: FW: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

As reviewed by seqwater and SEQWGM

From: Peter Borrows [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 12:05 PM
To: Michael Lyons; Barry Dennien
Cc: Mike Foster; Peter Borrows
Subject: RE: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

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: Michael Lyons [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 11:50 AM
To: Barry Dennien
Cc: Peter Borrows; Mike Foster
Subject: RE: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

From: Barry Dennien
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 11:47 AM
To: Michael Lyons
Subject: Fwd: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

Regards
Barry Dennien

Begin forwarded message:

From: Colin Jensen [REDACTED]
Date: 14 October 2010 11:44:54 AM AEST
To: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

Sorry Barry !

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]

Colin Jensen 14/10/2010 11:38 am >>>

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Your response and input is appreciated

Regards

Colin

DRAFT CSA RELEASE FOLLOWS

Brisbane City Council has revised its flooding risk assessment.

Brisbane City Council, the Bureau of Meteorology and Seqwater 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:

- TBA

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For more information, phone Council on 3403 8888.

-ENDS-

Media Contact (not for publication):

Lisa Martin
Media Officer



Colin Jensen
Chief Executive Officer
Brisbane City Council
GPO Box 1434 | Brisbane Qld 4001
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Phone: 
Email: 

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Tab 28

Barry Dennien

From: Geoff Stead [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 12:12 PM
To: Michael Lyons; Barry Dennien
Subject: FW: release figures

Hi, Mike mentioned this morning that output may have been increased from Wivenhoe today. Can I get the situation and figures please and the projection for tomorrow asap. Thanks, G

From: Megan Saunders
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 12:09 PM
To: Geoff Stead
Cc: Nicole Scurrah
Subject: release figures

Hi,

Believe the BCC want to try and say flooding risk reduced due to increased water output.

I understand that water output has not decreased?

Can we get the figures asap to demonstrate?

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Tab 29

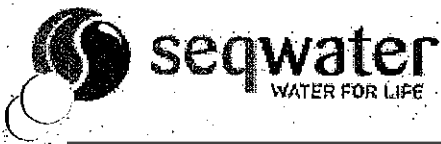
Barry Dennien

From: Peter Borrows [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 12:29 PM
To: [REDACTED] Barry Dennien; Reilly Bob; Allen Peter
Subject: Brisbane River Flood Models
Attachments: image001.jpg; image002.png

FYI

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: Rob Drury
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 12:25 PM
To: Peter Borrows
Subject: FW: Discussions from this morning

Peter,
Comments as per this morning.

Rob

Rob Drury
Team Operations Manager
Water Delivery
Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority *trading as Seqwater*



Swimming in weirs and
flowing water is FAT

rethink



Ph [REDACTED]
Wivenhoe Dam, Brisbane Valley Highway, via Fernvale Q4306 Australia
PO Box 37, Fernvale QLD 4306
Website | www.seqwater.com.au

From: Rob Drury
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 11:42 AM
To: 'greg.scroope [REDACTED]'
Cc: 'ken.morris [REDACTED]'; 'james.charalambous [REDACTED]'
Subject: Discussions from this morning

As we discussed this morning, we agreed on the following points

- Brisbane City Council, Seqwater and the Bureau of Meteorology do not have any disagreement on the technical assessment of river levels or models to determine those levels
- Results of those assessments do not show that there should be any flooding in the Brisbane area however Brisbane City Council have undertaken precautionary actions to ensure procedures are in place in case of any unexpected impacts
- BCC, Seqwater and the BoM are continuing sharing of data and information and will continually improve this for future events.

Rob

Robert Drury
Operations Manager
Water Delivery
Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority trading as Seqwater



Swimming in weirs and
flowing water is FAT

rethink



Ph [REDACTED]
Wivenhoe Dam, Brisbane Valley Highway, via Fernvale Q4306 Australia
PO Box 37, Fernvale QLD 4306
Website | www.seqwater.com.au

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Trajectories

Barry Dennien

From: Geoff Stead [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 12:32 PM
To: Barry Dennien; Michael Lyons
Subject: FW: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement
Attachments: image001.png

Hi guys, below is the direction from the Prem's media unit. The joint release should not go ahead. G

From: Megan Saunders
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 12:29 PM
To: Geoff Stead; Nicole Scurrah
Cc: Lance McCallum; Tim Watts; Ken Smith
Subject: RE: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

There should be no joint release between BCC and SEQ water. BCC needs to issue it's own explanation. Cheers,
Megan

From: Geoff Stead
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 12:20 PM
To: Nicole Scurrah; Megan Saunders
Cc: Lance McCallum; Tim Watts
Subject: FW: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

Hi, SEQwater are in the belief that Ken Smith's involvement in the wording of the release below is Prem's Dept approval. I have been advised by Megan and Lance that the Premier doesn't want any joint release to go out. SEQwater are holding at the moment. Can I get direction please. G

From: Michael Lyons [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 12:09 PM
To: Geoff Stead; ken.smith [REDACTED]
Cc: Barry Dennien
Subject: FW: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

As reviewed by seqwater and SEQWGM

From: Peter Borrows [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 12:05 PM
To: Michael Lyons; Barry Dennien
Cc: Mike Foster; Peter Borrows
Subject: RE: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

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 16 146, City East QLD 4002
Website | www.seqwater.com.au

From: Michael Lyons [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 11:50 AM
To: Barry Dennien
Cc: Peter Borrows; Mike Foster
Subject: RE: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

From: Barry Dennien
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 11:47 AM
To: Michael Lyons
Subject: Fwd: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

Regards
Barry Dennien

Begin forwarded message:

From: Colin Jensen [REDACTED]
Date: 14 October 2010 11:44:54 AM AEST
To: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

Sorry Barry !

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]

Colin Jensen 14/10/2010 11:38 am >>>

Barry & Peter

As discussed with Barry, I would like BCC to issue a Community Service Announcement that reduces the extent of the expected minor flooding as predicted by Council yesterday afternoon, and the extent of that flooding

Our updated modelling based on the actual releases from Wivenhoe overnight (as compared with our modelling yesterday of 1500 m³/s release - which did not commence until 8.00 today) is predicting a 1.4AHD event (rather than 1.7AHD)

I would like to issue this to make the noon news and seek your input urgently. I seek to ensure that BCC continues to publically support SEQWater's release strategies, show this as a proactive management plan, and possibly also state that the releases are necessary to maintain

flood mitigation capacity for future rainfall (not yet added the last)

Your response and input is appreciated

Regards

Colin

DRAFT CSA RELEASE FOLLOWS

Brisbane City Council has revised its flooding risk assessment.

Brisbane City Council, the Bureau of Meteorology and Seqwater 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:

- 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.

-ENDS-

Media Contact (not for publication):

Lisa Martin

Media Officer



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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Tea 31

Suzie Emery

Subject: FW: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement [MCR-W.FID1884529]

From: Ken Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 12:51 PM
To: Barry Dennien
Subject: Fw: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

See below

From: Megan Saunders [REDACTED]
To: Geoff Stead [REDACTED]; Nicole Scurrah [REDACTED]
Cc: Lance McCallum [REDACTED]; Tim Watts [REDACTED]
Ken Smith
Sent: Thu Oct 14 12:28:52 2010
Subject: RE: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

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Megan

From: Geoff Stead
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 12:20 PM
To: Nicole Scurrah; Megan Saunders
Cc: Lance McCallum; Tim Watts
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Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 12:05 PM
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Regards, Peter.

Peter Borrows
Chief Executive Officer
Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority *trading as Seqwater*

Level 3, 240 Margaret St, Brisbane City QLD 4000
PO Box 16146, City East QLD 4002
Website | www.seqwater.com.au

From: Michael Lyons [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 11:50 AM
To: Barry Dennien
Cc: Peter Borrows; Mike Foster
Subject: RE: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

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Regards
Barry Dennien

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From: Colin Jensen [REDACTED]
Date: 14 October 2010 11:44:54 AM AEST
To: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: URGENT - Proposed Community Service Announcement

Sorry Barry !

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]

Colin Jensen 14/10/2010 11:38 am >>>

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Colin

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- 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.

-ENDS-

Media Contact (not for publication):

Lisa Martin
Media Officer

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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Barry Dennien

From: Ken Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 1:35 PM
To: Barry Dennien; [REDACTED]
Cc: Nicole Scurrah; Chris Taylor; Megan Saunders
Subject: FW: WIVENHOE DAM RELEASE UPDATE @ 11:30am 14 October 2010

Barry and Peter

See BCC SITREP, and in particular reference to Wivenhoe Dam Release data. This information doesn't gel with claims by Council that release of water had declined from information previously given.

Could you check and advise?

Regards


Ken Smith
Director-General
Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Phone [REDACTED]
Mobile [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

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www.towardQ2.qld.gov.au

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From: Bruce Grady [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 1:24 PM
To: Ken Smith
Subject: FW: WIVENHOE DAM RELEASE UPDATE @ 11:30am 14 October 2010

Regards

Bruce Grady
A/Chief Officer
Emergency Management Queensland

[REDACTED]

From: Anthony Holm **On Behalf Of** SDCC
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 12:11 PM
To: Michael Shapland; Warren Bridson; Bruce Grady

Cc: Shane Wood

Subject: WIVENHOE DAM RELEASE UPDATE @ 11:30am 14 October 2010

WIVENHOE DAM RELEASE UPDATE @ 11:30am 14 October 2010

Update from EMQ Brisbane Region & Brisbane City Council

Brisbane City Council (BCC)

- Contingency plans have been put in place to address possible flooding issues at high tide today identified as 14.20 hrs.
 - Summary of effort identified and plans in action / intentions
 - BCC LDCC now at level 3 (fully operational)
 - BCC have identified possible flood risk suburbs as per the BCC Flood modelling, due to possible tidal activity 1420hrs today.
-
- DoCs outreach teams, BCC Staff and Red Cross visiting areas also in preparation for any possible local flooding and assistance – mitigation and recovery issues.
 - BCC LDCC closely monitoring BoM
 - BCC CEO back-briefed on current situation and intentions at 10.00am

Updated Suburbs and Localities @ 1130 hrs by BCC LDCC that may be impacted:

- Newstead
- Albion
- Windsor

Minor road flooding only based on BCC modelling which is 200mm higher than SEQ Water predictions. No habitable floor flood impact

Future Intentions

- BCC LDCC to close (TBC after 1420hr tide,) at approx 1700hrs.
- BCC LDCC to then adjust to Level 2 – (monitoring)

Current summary of BCC business arrangements.

Today 14 October 2010 (AM)

- Two BCC Rapid Response Groups Teams and 10 Community regulation officers will doorknock areas potentially affected by flooding this afternoon to offer advice and support.
- DoC's and Red Cross also involved in areas of operations –coordination in place by BCC and DoCs
- All CityCat and CityFerry operations are suspended until further notice, due to heavy debris load in the area of ferry operations. Current assumption is that they will not recommence today.

WIVENHOE DAM RELEASE DATA

- BCC Flood Information Centre (FIC) has confirmed with SEQ Water that at 8pm last night, the release from the dam was 1342m³/sec. This release was increased this morning 14 October at 8am to 1490m³/sec, with this release being maintained until 10pm Friday. After this time the gate closing strategy will be put into effect, with gates being fully closed by 10pm Sunday.
- Based on the above the FIC have revised their predictions from yesterday with a high tide now being estimated to be 1.4m AHD at approximately 2:30pm today (down from the 1.7m AHD). The risk of habitable floor flooding has significantly decreased

- Confirmation has been received from SEQ Water that their modelling was based on a release of up to 1500m³/sec, which would provide a high tide of no greater than 1.7m AHD.

Tony Holm | Watch Desk Officer, State Disaster Coordination Centre
Emergency Management Queensland | Department of Community Safety
Level 2, Block E, Emergency Services Complex, Kedron, Queensland

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Teab33

Barry Dennien

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 2:25 PM
To: ken.smith [REDACTED]
Cc: Barry Dennien; pborrows([REDACTED]); Nicole Scurrah; chris.taylor [REDACTED]; Megan Saunders; Mike Foster
Subject: RE: WIVENHOE DAM RELEASE UPDATE @ 11:30am 14 October 2010

Ken,

The volumes quoted below accurate (as are the timings of the changes).

The planned increase in releases from 1300 m³/sec yesterday to 1500 m³/sec today was known to BCC yesterday (which is not clear from the statements below). The increase is in accordance with the flood manual. Seqwater has not made any changes today on what it had already planned to do and advised BCC we would be doing. The below again gives the inference that Seqwater made changes and that BCC was not aware of changes until this morning.

On a more technical level:

- In terms of any flooding impact, there is no difference between 1300m³/sec and 1500m³/sec releases.
- Seqwater, BCC and BOM officers met this morning and agreed that there was no discrepancy between modelling.

A release is being prepared with information about releases over coming days, and the process to close the gates.

Please call let me if you require any further information.

Regards,
Dan

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ken Smith <[REDACTED]>
Date: 14 October 2010 1:34:56 PM AEST
To: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]; "pborrows" [REDACTED]; <pborrows [REDACTED]>
Cc: Nicole Scurrah <Nicole.Scurrah [REDACTED]>; Chris Taylor <Chris.Taylor [REDACTED]>; 'Megan Saunders' <Megan.Saunders [REDACTED]>
Subject: FW: WIVENHOE DAM RELEASE UPDATE @ 11:30am 14 October 2010

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Ken Smith
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Phone: [REDACTED]
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A/Chief Officer

Emergency Management Queensland

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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- Two BCC Rapid Response Groups Teams and 10 Community regulation officers will doorknock areas potentially affected by flooding this afternoon to offer advice and support.
- DoC's and Red Cross also involved in areas of operations –coordination in place by BCC and DoCs.
- All CityCat and CityFerry operations are suspended until further notice, due to heavy debris load in the area of ferry operations. Current assumption is that they will not recommence today.

WIVENHOE DAM RELEASE DATA

- BCC Flood Information Centre (FIC) has confirmed with SEQ Water that at 8pm last night, the release from the dam was 1342m3/sec. This release was increased this morning 14 October at 8am to 1490m3/sec, with this release being maintained until 10pm Friday. After this time the gate closing strategy will be put into effect, with gates being fully closed by 10pm Sunday.
- Based on the above the FIC have revised their predictions from yesterday with a high tide now being estimated to be 1.4m AHD at approximately 2:30pm today (down from the 1.7m AHD). The risk of habitable floor flooding has significantly decreased
- Confirmation has been received from SEQ Water that their modelling was based on a release of up to 1500m3/sec, which would provide a high tide of no greater than 1.7m AHD.

Tony Holm | Watch Desk Officer, State Disaster Coordination Centre

Emergency Management Queensland | Department of Community Safety

Level 2, Block E, Emergency Services Complex, Kedron, Queensland

T: [REDACTED]

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Tab 34

Barry Dennien

From: Geoff Stead [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 3:39 PM
To: Barry Dennien; Michael Lyons; SEQWGM Media
Attachments: Water SEQW followup 141010.docx

Premis has ticked off, showing Min now, Can you have a quick check.

<<Water SEQW followup 141010.docx>>

Geoff Stead
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon Stephen Robertson MP
Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Trade

P: [REDACTED]
M: [REDACTED]

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Media Release

**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.seqwqm.com.au

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

Ph: [REDACTED]

Tea
35

Barry Dennien

From: Colin Jensen [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2010 4:05 PM
To: ken.smith [REDACTED] pborrows [REDACTED] Barry Dennien
Subject: Fwd: Council committed to public safety
Attachments: 20101014_Council committed to public safety_APPROVED.pdf

Gentlemen

FYI.

All clear downstream of the City. However, we have some park facilities being closed at Jindalee

Regards

Colin Jensen
Chief Executive Officer
Brisbane City Council
PO Box 1434 | Brisbane Qld 4001
Level 23, Brisbane Square | 266 George Street, Brisbane, Qld 4000
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

>>> "Media Release" [REDACTED] 14/10/2010 3:57

pm >>>

BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT 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.

Residents have a right to know if flooding is possible to give them the opportunity to undertake the necessary precautions.

Brisbane City Council has products available, such as the Floodwise Property Report, Flood Flag Maps and the Early Warning Alert Service, to give residents the opportunity to find out their flooding risk and be alerted to severe weather.

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 and 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):
Kate Haddan
Media Officer
[REDACTED]

4d5052656c526f7749643a[16039_2596126]

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Media Relations Unit T. F.

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Council committed to public safety.

October 14, 2010

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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):

Kate Haddan
Media Officer



Tea
36

Barry Dennien

From: Reilly Bob [redacted]
Sent: Friday, 15 October 2010 10:30 AM
To: Barry Dennien
Subject: FW: Outcomes of Flood Information/Communications Protocol meeting of 15 October 2010

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: Reilly Bob
Sent: Friday, 15 October 2010 10:24 AM
To: 'michael.shapland [redacted]'; 'brad.smith [redacted]'; 'owens.petert [redacted]'; 'rdrury [redacted]'; 'p.baddiley [redacted]'; 'b.dennien [redacted]';
Cc: Allen Peter; 'irina.stankovska [redacted]';
Subject: Outcomes of Flood Information/Communications Protocol meeting of 15 October 2010

Hi everyone

Outcome of the meeting were:

1. DPC (Brad Smith) will seek direction on whether the protocol should cover all Councils affected by releases from Wivenhoe dam, and whether the focus should be solely on Wivenhoe releases or flooding more generally. Brad will also advise when the Premier's letter is sent and provide an electronic copy of it to the people in this email group. (*Subsequently, Brad has advised that: all councils affected by Wivenhoe releases should be covered, and that the protocol should only cover releases from Wivenhoe, not flooding generally*)

2. BOM (Peter Baddiley) will advise whether BOM wishes to be a signatory to the protocol, or whether their role will be primarily described in an Appendix. Drafting of the protocol will proceed on the basis that it will be primarily in an Appendix.

3. EMQ (Mike Shapland/Irina Stankovska) will draft the protocol. They will circulate a revised version by 1pm Monday (18 October 2010), with comments back to EMQ by 4pm Monday (18 October 2010). EMQ will then circulate a revised draft Monday (18 October 2010) night for discussion at the group's next meeting at 8am on Tuesday 19 October 2010.

Next meeting: Floor 3 Mineral House Conference Room, 8am, 19 October 2010. (The meeting's aim will be to refine the draft protocol so that it is sufficiently advanced for discussion with Council(s) on 20 October 2010, if needed).

(Please circulate these minutes to other members of your organisation, as appropriate. Please note that I will not be in the office on Monday 18 October 2010, but any queries can be directed to Peter Allen)

Thanks for coming at short notice and a special thanks to Irina/Mike for having a draft protocol for us to make some preliminary comments on today.

Bob

Bob Reilly

General Manager, Office of the Water Supply Regulator

Phone: [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

Thank B4U Print

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3 sheets of A4 paper = 1 litre of water

Table 37

Barry Dennien

From: Reilly Bob [Bob.Reilly [REDACTED]]
Sent: Friday, 15 October 2010 12:11 PM
To: irina.stankovska [REDACTED]; owens.petert [REDACTED];
p.baddiley [REDACTED]; rduray [REDACTED]; Barry Dennien
Cc: Michael Shapland; Brad Smith; Peter Borrows
Subject: Letter to Lord Mayor from Premier re Protocol
Attachments: doc20101015095646.pdf

Colleagues

Attached is a letter from the Premier to the Lord Mayor. It has been faxed to him today. Brad Smith, from DPC, is following up within DPC as to how Somerset and Ipswich Councils will be asked to become parties to this protocol.

Regards

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

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Premier of Queensland

For reply please quote: SB/ODG - TF/10/24671 - DOC/10/136546

15 OCT 2010

Executive Building
100 George Street Brisbane
PO Box 15185 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3224 4500
Facsimile +61 7 3221 3631
Email ThePremier@premiers.qld.gov.au
Website www.thepremier.qld.gov.au

The Right Honourable Lord Mayor
Councillor Campbell Newman
Office of the Lord Mayor
GPO Box 2287
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Councillor Newman

I refer to recent advice from the Brisbane City Council to the Brisbane community in relation to possible flooding impacts associated with the release of water from the Wivenhoe Dam.

Regrettably, when the community is in need of important information that impacts their wellbeing, conflicting institutional advice, such as differential flood modelling by Seqwater, the Bureau of Meteorology and the Brisbane City Council, is of great concern.

As you are aware, as we are in a La Nina weather pattern, there is likely to be significant rainfall across Queensland including southeast Queensland, over the summer months. This may be exacerbated by cyclones which have the potential to generate storm surges and disperse huge volumes of rainfall in very short periods of time.

I therefore believe it is essential to develop a Protocol between the Bureau of Meteorology, State Government and the SEQ Mayors, to ensure a process for the development of consistent and robust information which the community can rely upon in times of such emergencies. For example, during major events, we could agree upon a process to issue joint media and community information to the community, following consultation between our technical experts.

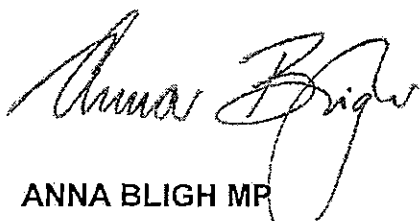
I seek your urgent nomination of a senior officer to work with the Department of Community Safety (Emergency Management Queensland), the Department of Environment and Resource Management, Seqwater, the Bureau of Meteorology and other water entities to develop and finalise the Protocol.



Queensland
Government

I expect this group to meet early next week and provide a draft Protocol for our consideration by the end of next week. Should you or your officers require further information, please contact Mr Ken Smith, Director-General, Department of the Premier and Cabinet on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Anna Bligh', written in black ink.

**ANNA BLIGH MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND**

Taebeom

Barry Dennien

From: Reilly Bob [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 18 October 2010 3:30 PM
To: Barry Dennien; pborrows [REDACTED] michael.shapland [REDACTED]
Cc: Allen Peter
Subject: Fw: Friendly Reminder: Release of water from Wivenhoe Dam Protocol
Attachments: Letter from the Premier to Councilor Pisalis a protocol on the release of water from Wivenhoe dam and flooding impacts.docx; letter from Premier to Councilor Lehmann protocol concerning the release of water from Wivenhoe dam and possible flooding.docx; letter - Premier to Councilor Clark, Looking the release of water from storage facilities and possible flooding impacts.docx; letter - Premier to Councilor Parker, Looking the release of water from storage facilities and possible flooding impacts.docx; letter - Premier to Councilor Jones, Looking the release of water from storage facilities and possible flooding impacts.docx; letter - Premier to Councilor Hobson, Releasing the release of water from storage facilities and possible flooding impacts.DOCX; letter - Premier to Councilor Brent, Seeing the release of water from storage facilities and possible flooding impacts.DOCX; letter - Premier to Councilor Abbot, Sunning the release of water from storage facilities and possible flooding impacts.DOCX; letter - Premier to Councilor Taylor, Looking the release of water from storage facilities and possible flooding impacts.DOCX; letter - Premier to Councilor Sutherland looking the release of water from storage facilities and possible flooding impacts.DOCX

Fyi--we should concentrate on wivenhoe first

Regards

Bob

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

From: Brad Smith [REDACTED]
To: Reilly Bob
Sent: Mon Oct 18 14:35:50 2010
Subject: RE: Friendly Reminder: Release of water from Wivenhoe Dam Protocol

Hi Bob

The D-G's office has confirmed that the Premier has signed the letter to Ipswich and Somerset and that they have been faxed through. I have been waiting to receive the signed copy to send to you and others on the working group. While I have asked for them, I haven't received them.

In the interim, please find an unsigned copy in word version of these letters. The Premier has also requested that all other Mayors in SEQ be engaged with the protocol and receive a letter. We have managed to separate the 2 issues with the Wivenhoe protocol being the first (as discussed previously), followed by other protocols relating to specific councils and release of water from storage facilities that affect their authority. Unsigned copies of the letters to the other Mayors are also attached for your information. I am advised that these have also been signed and faxed. Ken may send copies of the signed letters directly to relevant D-G's and yourself to action. If not, I will keep on chasing.

Regards

Brad Smith
Manager, Executive Support
Department of the Premier and Cabinet
Ph: [REDACTED]
Mobi: [REDACTED]

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

From: Reilly Bob [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 18 October 2010 2:18 PM
To: Brad Smith
Subject: Re: Friendly Reminder: Release of water from Wivenhoe Dam Protocol

Hi brad

Have we resolved who is going to contact the other two councils?

Thanks

Bob

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

From: Brad Smith [REDACTED]
To: 'Irina Stankovska' [REDACTED]; Michael Shapland
[REDACTED]; Reilly Bob [REDACTED]

Sent: Mon Oct 18 13:11:00 2010
Subject: RE: Friendly Reminder: Release of water from Wivenhoe Dam Protocol

Good afternoon

Please find attached the DPC comments tracked in the original draft protocol. I am not sure how we put in the protocol (to be agreed by all parties) a mechanism for updating the public record when the authority that initially issued the information refuses to do so. Perhaps it could become a matter that is escalated under the disaster management arrangements. Or alternatively, following the recent legislative amendments to the Disaster Management Act, be a matter for SDMG direction? Either way, it will be political and our political masters need to be engaged before putting out a conflicting statement.

Regards

Brad Smith

Manager, Executive Support

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Ph: [REDACTED]

Mob: [REDACTED]

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From: Irina Stankovska [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 18 October 2010 12:15 PM
To: Michael Shapland; Reilly Bob; rdrury [REDACTED]; mfoster [REDACTED]; Brad Smith; Scott Denner; Barry.dennien [REDACTED]; P.Baardley [REDACTED]; owens.petert [REDACTED]; peter.allen [REDACTED]; Phil Nickerson
Cc: j.perkins [REDACTED]; michael.Lyons [REDACTED]
Subject: Friendly Reminder: Release of water from Wivenhoe Dam Protocol

Good Afternoon

This is just a friendly reminder that the comments for the 'Release of water from Wivenhoe Dam' Protocol are due by 1pm today.

Thank you to everyone who provided their feedback.

Kind Regards

Irina Stankovska | A/Program Officer (SDCG, DDMG & LDMG) | Disaster Management Governance
Unit | Emergency Management Queensland | Department of Community Safety | [REDACTED] |
[REDACTED] | GPO Box 1425 BRISBANE QLD 4001 | State Disaster Management Group Email:
[REDACTED] <BLOCKED::BLOCKED::mailto:[REDACTED]> | State Disaster
Coordination Group Email: [REDACTED]
<BLOCKED::BLOCKED::mailto:[REDACTED]> | P Please consider the environment
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From: Irina Stankovska
Sent: Friday, 15 October 2010 13:04
To: 'Reilly Bob'; Michael Shapland; 'P.Baddiley [REDACTED] Phil Nickerson;
'brad.smith [REDACTED]; 'mfoster [REDACTED]
'michael.Lyons [REDACTED]; 'scott.denner [REDACTED] 'rdrury [REDACTED]
'b.dennien [REDACTED] 'owens.peterf [REDACTED]
'peter.allen [REDACTED]
Cc: Eddie Bennet; Shane Wood; 'j.perkins [REDACTED] 'morganti.davidj [REDACTED]
Subject: Release of water from Wivenhoe Dam Protocol

Good Afternoon Gentlemen

Further to the meeting this morning, please find attached the 'Release of water from Wivenhoe Dam' Protocol.

Please provide your comments and input by 1pm Monday 18 October 2010.

Kind Regards

Irina Stankovska | A/Program Officer (SDCG, DDMG & LDMG) | Disaster Management Governance
Unit | Emergency Management Queensland | Department of Community Safety | [REDACTED] |

Coordination Group Email:

<BLOCKED::BLOCKED::mailto:

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For reply please quote: SB/ODG - TF/10/24671 - DOC/10/136812

Councillor Paul Pisasale
Mayor, Ipswich City Council
PO Box 191
IPSWICH QLD 4305

Dear Councillor Pisasale

Concerns were recently raised following advice from the Brisbane City Council to the Brisbane community in relation to possible flooding impacts associated with the release of water from the Wivenhoe Dam.

Unfortunately, this advice was not consistent with the flood modelling undertaken by Seqwater in conjunction with the Bureau of Meteorology, resulting in a degree of community alarm that was not consistent with the actual risk.

As we are in a La Nina weather pattern, there is likely to be significant rainfall across Queensland including southeast Queensland, over the summer months. This may be exacerbated by cyclones which have the potential to generate storm surges and disperse huge volumes of rainfall in very short periods of time.

I therefore believe it is essential to develop a Protocol between the Bureau of Meteorology, State Government and the SEQ Mayors affected by water release from the Wivenhoe Dam, to ensure a process for the development of consistent and robust information which the community can rely upon in times of such emergencies. For example, during major events, we could agree upon a process to issue joint media and community information to the community, following consultation between our technical experts.

I seek your urgent nomination of a senior officer to work with the Department of Community Safety (Emergency Management Queensland), the Department of Environment and Resource Management, Seqwater, the Bureau of Meteorology, other water entities and affected local governments to develop and finalise the Protocol.

I expect this group to meet early next week and provide a draft Protocol for our consideration by the end of next week. Should you or your officers require further information, please contact Mr Ken Smith, Director-General, Department of the Premier and Cabinet on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

ANNA BLIGH MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND

For reply please quote: SB/ODG - TF/10/24671 - DOC/10/136821

Councillor Graeme Lehmann
Mayor, Somerset Regional Council
PO Box 117
ESK QLD 4312

Dear Councillor Lehmann

Concerns were recently raised following advice from the Brisbane City Council to the Brisbane community in relation to possible flooding impacts associated with the release of water from the Wivenhoe Dam.

Unfortunately, this advice was not consistent with the flood modelling undertaken by Seqwater in conjunction with the Bureau of Meteorology, resulting in a degree of community alarm that was not consistent with the actual risk.

As we are in a La Nina weather pattern, there is likely to be significant rainfall across Queensland including southeast Queensland, over the summer months. This may be exacerbated by cyclones which have the potential to generate storm surges and disperse huge volumes of rainfall in very short periods of time.

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I seek your urgent nomination of a senior officer to work with the Department of Community Safety (Emergency Management Queensland); the Department of Environment and Resource Management, Seqwater, the Bureau of Meteorology, other water entities and affected local governments to develop and finalise the Protocol.

I expect this group to meet early next week and provide a draft Protocol for our consideration by the end of next week. Should you or your officers require further information, please contact Mr Ken Smith, Director-General, Department of the Premier and Cabinet on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

ANNA BLIGH MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND

For reply please quote: SB/ODG - TF/10/24671 - DOC/10/137270

Councillor Ron Clarke
Mayor, Gold Coast City Council
PO Box 5042
GOLD COAST MC QLD 9729

Dear Councillor Clarke

Concerns were recently raised regarding inconsistent advice provided in respect to possible flooding in the Brisbane metropolitan area associated with the release of flood waters from Wivenhoe Dam.

As we are in a La Nina weather pattern, there is likely to be significant rainfall across Queensland including southeast Queensland, over the summer months. This may be exacerbated by cyclones which have the potential to generate storm surges and disperse huge volumes of rainfall in very short periods of time.

While a protocol is being developed this week between the Bureau of Meteorology, State Government and those local governments directly affected by controlled water release from the Wivenhoe Dam, I believe it is timely that similar protocols also be developed in respect to other water storage facilities in South East Queensland.

The proposed protocols should provide a process for the development of consistent and robust information which the community can rely upon. For example, during major events, we could agree upon a process to issue joint media and community information, following consultation between our technical experts to enable appropriate preparations to be made for either possible flooding or provide community with an assurance that no flooding is anticipated to occur.

I seek your nomination of a senior officer to work with the Department of Community Safety (Emergency Management Queensland), the Department of Environment and Resource Management, Seqwater, the Bureau of Meteorology, other water entities and affected local governments to develop and finalise a suitable protocol in respect to water storage facilities that impact on your local government area.

I expect this group to meet in the near future following the finalisation of the protocol in respect to Wivenhoe Dam this week. Should you or your officers require further information, please contact Mr Ken Smith, Director-General, Department of the Premier and Cabinet on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

**ANNA BLIGH MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND**

For reply please quote: SB/ODG -- TF/10/24671 - DOC/10/137287

Councillor Pam Parker
Mayor, Logan City Council
PO Box 3226
LOGAN CITY DC QLD 4114

Dear Councillor Parker

Concerns were recently raised regarding inconsistent advice provided in respect to possible flooding in the Brisbane metropolitan area associated with the release of flood waters from Wivenhoe Dam.

As we are in a La Nina weather pattern, there is likely to be significant rainfall across Queensland including southeast Queensland, over the summer months. This may be exacerbated by cyclones which have the potential to generate storm surges and disperse huge volumes of rainfall in very short periods of time.

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I seek your nomination of a senior officer to work with the Department of Community Safety (Emergency Management Queensland), the Department of Environment and Resource Management, Seqwater, the Bureau of Meteorology, other water entities and affected local governments to develop and finalise a suitable protocol in respect to water storage facilities that impact on your local government area.

I expect this group to meet in the near future following the finalisation of the protocol in respect to Wivenhoe Dam this week. Should you or your officers require further information, please contact Mr Ken Smith, Director-General, Department of the Premier and Cabinet on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

ANNA BLIGH MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND

For reply please quote: SB/ODG - TF/10/24671 - DOC/10/137298

Councillor Steve Jones
Mayor, Lockyer Valley Regional Council
PO Box 82
GATTON QLD 4343

Dear Councillor Jones

Concerns were recently raised regarding inconsistent advice provided in respect to possible flooding in the Brisbane metropolitan area associated with the release of flood waters from Wivenhoe Dam.

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Yours sincerely

ANNA BLIGH MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND

For reply please quote: SB/ODG - TF/10/24671 - DOC/10/137304

Councillor Melva Hobson
Mayor, Redland City Council
PO Box 21
CLEVELAND QLD 4163

Dear Councillor Hobson

Concerns were recently raised regarding inconsistent advice provided in respect to possible flooding in the Brisbane metropolitan area associated with the release of flood waters from Wivenhoe Dam.

As we are in a La Nina weather pattern, there is likely to be significant rainfall across Queensland including southeast Queensland, over the summer months. This may be exacerbated by cyclones which have the potential to generate storm surges and disperse huge volumes of rainfall in very short periods of time.

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Yours sincerely

**ANNA BLIGH MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND**

For reply please quote: SB/ODG - TF/10/24671 - DOC/10/137319

Councillor John Brent
Mayor, Scenic Rim Regional Council
PO Box 25
BEAUDESERT QLD 4285

Dear Councillor Brent

Concerns were recently raised regarding inconsistent advice provided in respect to possible flooding in the Brisbane metropolitan area associated with the release of flood waters from Wivenhoe Dam.

As we are in a La Nina weather pattern, there is likely to be significant rainfall across Queensland including southeast Queensland, over the summer months. This may be exacerbated by cyclones which have the potential to generate storm surges and disperse huge volumes of rainfall in very short periods of time.

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Yours sincerely

**ANNA BLIGH MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND**

For reply please quote: SB/ODG - TF/10/24671 - DOC/10/137330

Councillor Bob Abbot
Mayor, Sunshine Coast Regional Council
Locked Bag 72
SUNSHINE COAST MAIL CENTRE QLD 4560

Dear Councillor Abbot

Concerns were recently raised regarding inconsistent advice provided in respect to possible flooding in the Brisbane metropolitan area associated with the release of flood waters from Wivenhoe Dam.

As we are in a La Nina weather pattern, there is likely to be significant rainfall across Queensland including southeast Queensland, over the summer months. This may be exacerbated by cyclones which have the potential to generate storm surges and disperse huge volumes of rainfall in very short periods of time.

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Yours sincerely

ANNA BLIGH MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND

For reply please quote: SB/ODG - TF/10/24671 - DOC/10/137340

Councillor Peter Taylor
Mayor, Toowoomba Regional Council
PO Box 3021 - Village Fair
TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350

Dear Councillor Taylor

Concerns were recently raised regarding inconsistent advice provided in respect to possible flooding in the Brisbane metropolitan area associated with the release of flood waters from Wivenhoe Dam.

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Yours sincerely

ANNA BLIGH MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND

For reply please quote: SB/ODG --TF/10/24671 - DOC/10/437353

Councillor Allan Sutherland
Mayor, Moreton Bay Regional Council
PO Box 159
CABOOLTURE QLD 4510

Dear Councillor Sutherland

Concerns were recently raised regarding inconsistent advice provided in respect to possible flooding in the Brisbane metropolitan area associated with the release of flood waters from Wivenhoe Dam.

As we are in a La Nina weather pattern, there is likely to be significant rainfall across Queensland including southeast Queensland, over the summer months. This may be exacerbated by cyclones which have the potential to generate storm surges and disperse huge volumes of rainfall in very short periods of time.

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Yours sincerely

ANNA BLIGH MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND

Tea
39

Barry Dennien

From: Barry Dennien
Sent: Tuesday, 19 October 2010 5:20 PM
To: 'Bradley John'
Cc: Dan Spiller
Subject: Actions

John

1. Letter from the Minister to Peter Borrows requesting some analysis of the flood risk benefits of reducing water supply levels below full supply level as a pre-emptive action for this wet season. The analysis should include:
 - various reductions in water levels and measures of flood impact benefit taking into account the variability of rainfall patterns.
 - options on release rates, ie fast rates over several days close to imminent events, slow releases over several weeks months and downstream impacts.

Letter out by end of week.

2. Contact WaterSecure for an assessment on the impacts of the desalination plant being put on hot standby over the coming wet season. The analysis is to include:
 - Veolia staff issues including EBA or union
 - Veolia contractual issues
 - What is required to have the plant on hot standby
 - Can / is commission completedAnalysis completed in 48hours (John I have spoken to Sam this is underway)
3. Further analysis on the Recycled Scheme mothballing and water treatment plant mothballing. This analysis will be included in the advice from the QWC, SEQWGM and Water Secure due in three/four weeks.

Dan Spiller is coordinating this advice and feeding any savings into the bulk price modelling and CBRC Commission

I am away tomorrow Dan is now across all the issues.

Regards

Barry Dennien
Chief Executive Officer
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.

Tab 40

Suzie Emery

Subject: FW: Protocols - final drafts [MCR-W.FID1884529]
Attachments: Protocol_Release of water from dams (2).doc

From: Rob Drury [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, 19 October 2010 10:06 PM
To: Michael Shapland; Irina Stankovska; Michael Lyons; Mike Foster; Barry Dennien; Reilly Bob; brad.smith [redacted]; Scott Denner; P.Baddiley [redacted]; Barry Dennien; owens.petert [redacted]; peter.allen [redacted]; Bruce Grady
Cc: j.perkins [redacted]; morganti.david [redacted]; Peter Borrowes; Jim Pruss
Subject: RE: Protocols - final drafts

Michael,

I realise it is last minute but can you adjust before our meeting tomorrow morning as there were a few things that came from our meeting today that are not quite reflected in this document.

At the meeting we agreed that Seqwater did NOT have the responsibility for getting agreement by the parties on their predictions or actions, hence the change in Item 8 of the Monitoring and Assessment section to something that says Seqwater will provide a situation report to the Grid Manager.

We also agreed towards the end of the meeting that the Situation Report from Seqwater would just be a summary of our assessments and proposed releases and details of our discussions with BoM and BCC. It was discussed and agreed that we could not be responsible for getting sign off by BoM (they would provide information on their assessments somehow). Nor did we have the authority or capability to get signoff by BCC. Our only responsibility is to operate under the manual and discuss and advise BoM and BCC of our plans. This was agreed by the Dam Safety Regulator that it was not within our scope under the regulations to get involved in getting sign off by BCC. Indeed it may in some way conflict with our duties under the regulations.

Also, during an event we will consult with BoM and BCC but getting sign off could take time. BCC may even have to go away and do considerable work deciding the implications. We cannot allow this to interfere with our core responsibilities.

Hence the Situation Report cannot be coordinated by Seqwater as it states, we can only provide Part A of the report. Part A would be just our proposed releases and a record of our discussions to ensure there is a clear record of discussions and information transfer. Again this was what we discussed towards the end of the meeting. The other parts of the report would need to be collected from BoM or BCC directly or removed from the report. This matches with what was discussed earlier that the main impetus was getting communications and tracking of discussions right and not getting sign off by BCC on how they interpret the Seqwater and BoM data. Which is unlikely to happen.

However, although Seqwater does not have the authority or ability to coordinate such responses, if it is considered necessary, an extra item under Monitoring and Assessment could be that BCC provides a Situation Report direct to the Grid Manager same as us. This would put in the protocol a responsibility for them. Unlikely they would agree but then if they didn't, they certainly wouldn't agree to give us one either.

I have attached a version that reflects what we discussed at the meeting. The Item 9 relating to BCC is only there if it considered feasible.

Rob

Robert Drury

Dam Operations Manager
Water Delivery
Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority trading as Seqwater



Swimming in weirs and
flowing water is FAI

rethink



Ph [REDACTED]

Wivenhoe Dam, Brisbane Valley Highway, via Fernvale Q4306 Australia

PO Box 37, Fernvale QLD 4306

Website | www.seqwater.com.au

From: Michael Shapland [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, 19 October 2010 6:52 PM

To: Michael Shapland; Irina Stankovska; michael.Lyons [REDACTED] Mike Foster;
Barry.dennien [REDACTED] Reilly Bob; brad.smith [REDACTED] Scott Denner; Rob Drury;
P.Baddiley [REDACTED]; Barry.dennien [REDACTED] owens.peter [REDACTED]
peter.allen [REDACTED] Bruce Grady

Cc: j.perkins [REDACTED] morganti.davidj [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Protocols - final drafts

Please find attached slightly updated protocols following discussions with Seqwater. Changes are small and will be covered in the 0800 meeting tomorrow.

Mike

Mike Shapland MBE | Director, Disaster Management

Emergency Management Queensland | Department of Community Safety

Level 3, Block E, Emergency Services Complex, Kedron, Queensland

T: [REDACTED]

From: Michael Shapland

Sent: Tuesday, 19 October 2010 16:32

To: Irina Stankovska; 'michael.Lyons [REDACTED] 'mfoster [REDACTED]
'Barry.dennien [REDACTED] 'Reilly Bob'; 'brad.smith [REDACTED]; 'Scott Denner'; 'Rob Drury';
'P.Baddiley [REDACTED]; 'Barry.dennien [REDACTED] 'owens.peter [REDACTED]
'peter.allen [REDACTED]; Bruce Grady

Cc: 'j.perkins [REDACTED] 'morganti.davidj [REDACTED]

Subject: Protocols - final drafts

Please find attached two draft protocols on the issue of communication of;

- A flooding information from releases - Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams,
- B natural hazards affecting the community.

Final checks will be made here this afternoon.

Mike

Mike Shapland MBE | Director, Disaster Management

Emergency Management Queensland | Department of Community Safety

Level 3, Block E, Emergency Services Complex, Kedron, Queensland

From: Irina Stankovska
Sent: Monday, 18 October 2010 17:30
To: Michael Shapland; michael.Lyons [REDACTED] mfooster [REDACTED]
Barry.dennien [REDACTED] Reilly Bob; brad.smith [REDACTED] Scott Denner; Rob Drury;
P.Baddiley [REDACTED] Barry.dennien [REDACTED] owens.petert [REDACTED]
peter.allen [REDACTED]
Cc: j.perkins [REDACTED] morganti.davidj [REDACTED]
Subject: Release of Water from Wivenhoe Dam' protocol - final draft

Good Afternoon Gentlemen

Please find attached the final draft of the 'Release of Water from Wivenhoe Dam' protocol, for tomorrow's meeting.

Kind Regards

Irina Stankovska | A/Program Officer (SDCG, DDMG & LDMG) | Disaster Management Governance Unit | Emergency Management Queensland | Department of Community Safety | [REDACTED] | GPO Box 1425 BRISBANE QLD 4001 | State Disaster Management Group Email: [REDACTED] | State Disaster Coordination Group Email: [REDACTED] | Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail |

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Protocol for the Communication of Flooding Information from Releases - Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this protocol is to outline the processes to be followed by the Brisbane, Ipswich and Somerset Councils, relevant Queensland Government agencies, South East Queensland Water and the Bureau of Meteorology, which will ensure the provision of consistent and robust information to the community, concerning potential flooding impact during release of floodwater from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams.

The intent is to ensure that consistent, harmonised information, based on an agreed single point of truth, is communicated to the public in a way that contributes to disaster resilient communities.

BACKGROUND

Wivenhoe Dam controls only half of the Brisbane River catchment above Brisbane City. Other factors will influence inundation levels from the river.

The operational strategy for water release from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams is governed by the *Manual of Operational Procedures for Flood Mitigation at Wivenhoe Dam and Somerset Dam*, henceforth referred to as the Flood Mitigation Manual.

The Flood Mitigation Manual is approved and gazetted by the Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM), in accordance with the provisions of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*.

The Flood Mitigation Manual was developed to ensure that operational decisions at Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams are based on sound engineering principles, which ascertain the structural safety of the dam while minimising downstream impacts.

In the event of a major impact on communities, whole-of-government disaster management arrangements in Queensland ensure the collaborative and effective coordination of planning, services, resources and information for all hazards. The Queensland arrangements are based on disaster management groups at local, district and state level, supported by disaster coordination centres.

Local, district and state disaster management and hazard-specific plans document how a community or group intends to deal with disasters. They outline arrangements and structures for disaster management, or the hazard, identify the need for appropriate resourcing, and provide direction on coordination and communications.

This protocol adds to such plans by outlining specific arrangements necessary when advice to the community needs to be based on technical assessments from hazard-specific primary agencies, and other complementary stakeholders across differing levels of government.

GENERAL DECISION MAKING - GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Protection of public safety is paramount throughout both the Flood Mitigation Manual and this Protocol;
- The Flood Mitigation Manual is used to determine how Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams will be operated during flood events;
- Public inconvenience is a legitimate consideration of any risk assessment;
- Agreed regular communications within government and to the public, in relation to the impacts of floodwater releases from Wivenhoe Dam, are essential;
- Decision-making chains regarding the communications strategy and disaster management should remain flexible;
- If the flood release strategies are followed, then the Queensland Government, rather than the dam owner, assumes legal liability for any consequences.

PROCESS OF COMMUNICATION

There are three stages in the process of communication

- Monitoring and Assessment
- Briefing and Activation
- Public Communications

Monitoring and Assessment

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 (human safety and property damage) from the releases.

A fundamental principle is that all floodwater should be released from the dams within seven days of the flood event peaking in Wivenhoe or Somerset Dam. This ensures the dams can cope with closely spaced major rain events.

The process is as follows:

1. Routine monitoring of weather events and dam levels by relevant agencies via established systems and procedures;
2. The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) provides weather forecasts and warnings (e.g. Tropical Cyclone, Severe Weather, Severe Thunderstorm, Flood). In the event of heavy rain and runoff in the Wivenhoe and/or Somerset Dam catchments, BoM and the Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority (Seqwater) discuss modelled inflows to Wivenhoe and/or Somerset Dam and downstream flood levels.
3. Seqwater discusses and models implications of the necessary water release from Wivenhoe Dam and/or Somerset Dam in accordance with the Flood Mitigation Manual.
4. Seqwater calculates the releases according to dam levels and predicted weather events.
5. BoM undertakes modelling of the Brisbane River catchment and its river systems using Seqwater advice of actual and projected Wivenhoe Dam and/or Somerset Dam releases when these are, or are expected, to occur.

6. BoM participates in technical discussions with Seqwater, Brisbane City Council, Ipswich City Council and Somerset Regional Council as necessary, to share modelling results and establish agreement on predicted flood levels and timing, to be released to the public in Flood Warnings.
7. Councils identify flood inundation areas and assess impacts for their communities.
8. ~~Following agreement on pre-agreed triggers, Seqwater provides Part A of the coordinates the completion of the Flood Release Operations and Impact Report (FROIR - Appendix C) to the and advises the SEQ Water Grid Manager of the results, according to their Emergency Response Plan at certain pre-agreed triggers.~~

Only if considered necessary

- 8.9. BCC provides Part C of a Flood Release Operations and Impact Report (FROIR - Appendix C) to the SEQ Water Grid Manager.

If, during this continuous process, there is agreement that the situation is likely to result in significant public safety issues, the SEQ Water Grid Manager will commence briefing and activation of disaster management arrangements as appropriate.

Briefing and Activation

Once the FROIR has been issued, the Disaster Management arrangements will be activated in the following way:

1. SEQ Water Grid Manager will alert the Director-General (DG) of the Department of Community Safety (DCS), DG DERM, and the local governments;
2. DG DCS will inform the State Disaster Management Group (SDMG), and it will activate the State Disaster Coordination Centre (SDCC);
3. Councils will activate their Local Disaster Management Groups (LDMGs);
4. The SDCC and LDMGs will inform the relevant District Disaster Coordinators (DDCs);
5. The Queensland Police Service (QPS) will consider initiating disaster management actions as provided for under the *Disaster Management Act 2003*;
6. DG DERM will inform the Ministers for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy;
7. In the case of a disaster event, the Crisis Communications Network, chaired by the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC), may be activated at the direction of the SDMG Chair to coordinate public messaging agreed by BoM, Seqwater, SEQ Water Grid Manager, QPS, relevant Councils and DCS as per this protocol.

Public Communications Issues

SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit will coordinate the input and liaise with the following, or their representatives over public safety messages (depending on the severity of the event):

- BoM;
- Seqwater;
- Councils' Media Directors.
- QPS Media Director; and
- DCS Media Director.

The BoM, Seqwater and Local Governments are to maintain continual discussions, to ensure that conflicting predictions are not released to the public at any time. Where differences arise, officers of the agencies concerned will liaise and consult to ensure that the information released to the public by all agencies is consistent. Before the information is released to the public, it must be ascertained that agencies share technical information and agree in principal not to differ. Agencies must exchange public releases.

After confirmation, harmonised public communications messages will be released by agreed spokesperson from the following agencies:

- **Bureau of Meteorology** - concentrating on Flood Warnings which are widely disseminated to the BoM website, agencies and the media. BoM also participates in media (radio, television, newspaper) interviews to provide factual information regarding observed and forecast weather conditions, rainfalls and water levels;
- **SEQ Water Grid Manager** - concentrating on the technical aspects of release timings and duration of effects. SEQ Water operational staff are to ensure that technical information is communicated to the SEQ Water Grid Emergency Response Team (if activated) and the SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit;
- **Local Governments /Local Disaster Management Groups** - concentrating on the effects of release and safety for residents;

If necessary these will be augmented by:

- **Queensland Police Service** - concentrating on specific community safety messaging during operations.
- **Department of Community Safety** - concentrating on general safety matters regarding flooding;
- **Department of Premier and Cabinet (extreme events only)** - concentrating on uniting front and filtering consistent information to media and agencies concerned.

Event-specific information will be released to the public as frequently as required by the severity and scope of the event. Timings of media releases will be dependent on the event and may range from once a day to once an hour.

Questions from the Public

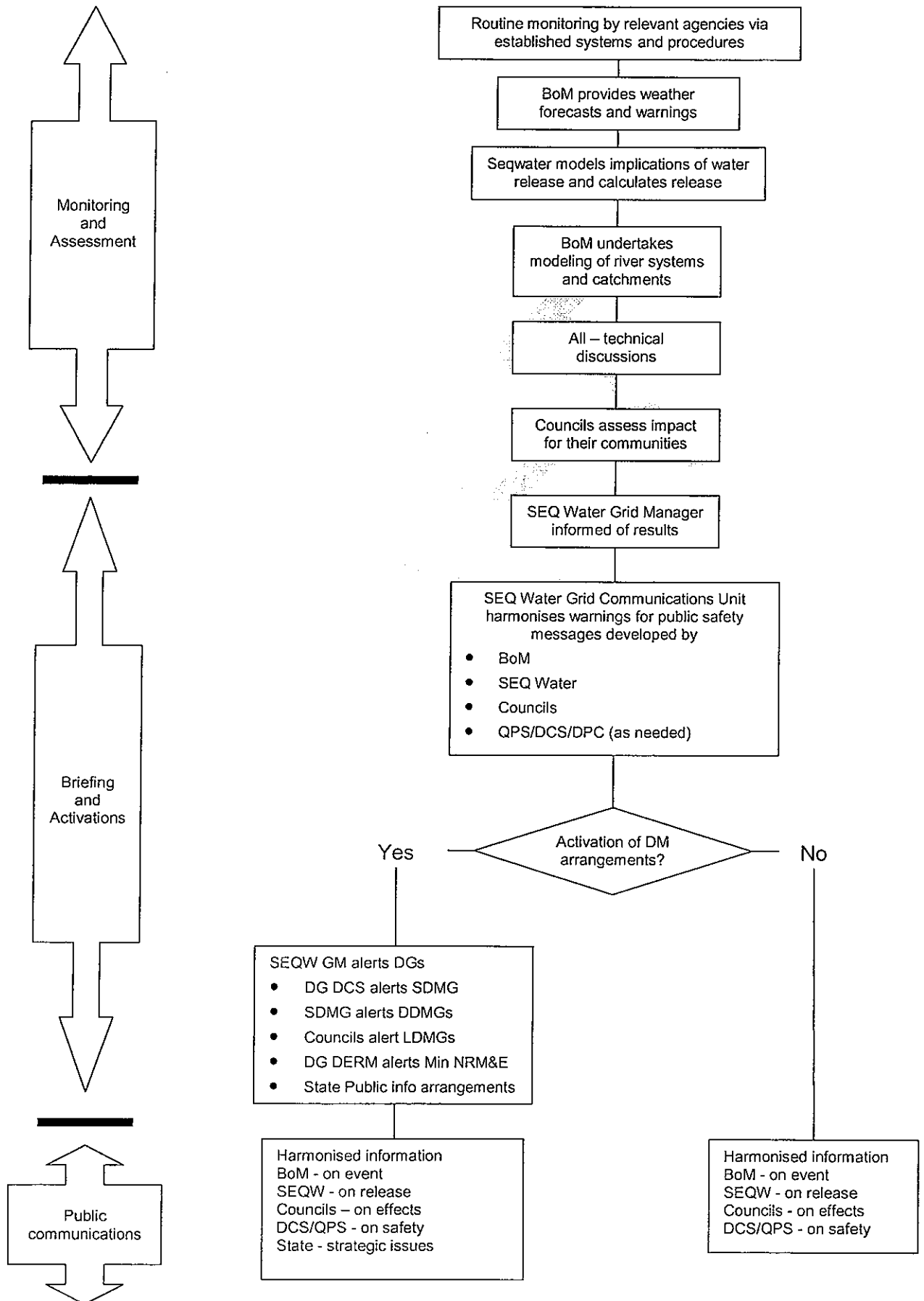
All questions from the public should be directed to the relevant local government. Any questions relating to the release of water should be directed to the SEQ Water Grid Manager Communications Unit. Any queries about disaster management should be addressed by the relevant local and district disaster management groups.

Protocol Maintenance

This protocol will be reviewed annually by agencies involved and exercised, during

the years when operational floodwater release does not occur, under DDMG arrangements.

Release of water from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams



ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) is the agency responsible for issuing flood warnings for the Brisbane River and its major tributaries. These, when required, include rainfall forecasts for the Brisbane catchment and predicted river heights for Brisbane City, Ipswich, Jindalee and Moggill according to established procedures.

River height predictions are agreed in consultation with South East Queensland Water (Seqwater), Brisbane City Council (BCC), Ipswich City Council (ICC) and Somerset Regional Council (SRC), as required.

- Seqwater (Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority) operates Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams in accordance with the Flood Mitigation Manual. It provides dam outflow information to BoM, to allow the development of Flood Warnings and to local authorities, to assist them in quantifying likely impacts within their areas.

It informs BoM and other agencies on the status of dams, and actual and projected releases from Wivenhoe Dam.

It consults BoM regarding inflows to Wivenhoe Dam and expected flood heights along the Brisbane River downstream of Wivenhoe Dam.

Seqwater initiates proposed changes to the Flood Mitigation Manual, undertaking consultation with Councils and other stakeholders.

- Brisbane City Council (BCC), Ipswich City Council (ICC) and Somerset Regional Council (SRC) distribute consistent, detailed local flood level information, both to their respective operational units, and their broader communities. This should include the interpretation of BoM flood warnings and river height forecasts into expected areas and depths of inundation. Councils are responsible for activating their respective Local Disaster Management Groups (LDMGs), which then undertake the disaster management responsibility for response in the community.
- DERM consults with the stakeholders prior to the approval of any updates to the Flood Mitigation Manual. DERM also approves any necessary variations to the strategies in the manual if required during the course of a flood event.
- Queensland Police Service (QPS) assumes a legislative role, as per the Disaster Management system, to provide disaster management at a district level during an event, including provision of necessary community advice for public safety.
- Emergency Management Queensland (EMO) provides support and general community safety advice on flooding issues, during non-operational times.
- SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit coordinates the general harmonisation, but not specific detail of public messaging with BoM, SEQ Water Grid, BCC and DCS, as required. It does this by ensuring that each agency understands the extent of the release and that there is a general consensus as to the level of potential impacts.

FLOOD RELEASE OPERATIONS AND IMPACT REPORT

OPREP Number	Date of OPREP release	Time of OPREP release
--------------	-----------------------	-----------------------

Issue of SITREPs

Next OPREP due	Date	Time
----------------	------	------

Collated and distributed by Seqwater

Seqwater Contact Officer signature	
Seqwater Contact Officer name	
Seqwater Contact Officer position title	
Seqwater contact details	

Part A – Seqwater assessment

(to include details of the current and predicted levels within the flood storage compartment and the agreed release strategy with assessment as governed under the Manual of Operational Procedures for Flood Mitigation at Wivenhoe Dam and Somerset Dam)

Includes details of discussions with BoM and BCC.

Seqwater Technical Officer signature	
Seqwater Technical Officer name	
Seqwater Technical Officer position title	
Date and time of signature	

Part B – BoM assessment

(to include prediction of further inflows to Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams, and details of the predicted river heights and flood warnings for Brisbane City, Ipswich, Jindalee and Moggill based on natural events in combination with the agreed release strategy outlined in Part A)

BoM Technical Officer signature	
BoM Technical Officer name	
BoM Technical Officer position title	
Date and time of signature	

Part C – BCC assessment

(to include predicted local inundation areas and depths of inundation based on the information outlined in Part B)

BCC Technical Officer signature	
BCC Technical Officer name	
BCC Technical Officer position title	
Date and time of signature	

Part D - ICC assessment (if required)

Part E - SRC assessment (if required)

(both part D and part E requirements are the same as part C)

Tab 41

Barry Dennien

From: Barry Dennien
Sent: Wednesday, 20 October 2010 5:36 AM
To: Rob Drury; Peter Borrows; Michael Lyons; Scott Denner; Bob
Subject: Fwd: Protocols - final drafts

Rob

I note your comments about who should coordinate the operational report

It does must need someone to do it

We can do it and will if need be however the gig is about the flood operations of wivenhoe this report is the output of the technical step it needs an owner. I regard this a key core activity of Seqwater and recommend you take it on

Regards

Barry Dennien

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From: "Rob Drury" <rdrury@seqwater.com.au>
To: "Michael Shapland" <Michael.Shapland@seqwater.com.au>, "Irina Stankovska" <Irina.Stankovska@seqwater.com.au>, "Michael Lyons" <Michael.Lyons@seqwater.com.au>, "Mike Foster" <mfoster@seqwater.com.au>, "Barry Dennien" <Barry.Dennien@seqwater.com.au>, "Reilly Bob" <Bob.Reilly@seqwater.com.au>, "brad.smith" <brad.smith@seqwater.com.au>, "Scott Denner" <Scott.Denner@seqwater.com.au>, "P.Baddiley" <P.Baddiley@seqwater.com.au>, "Barry Dennien" <Barry.Dennien@seqwater.com.au>, "owens.petert" <owens.petert@seqwater.com.au>, "peter.allen" <peter.allen@seqwater.com.au>, "peter.allen" <peter.allen@seqwater.com.au>, "Bruce Grady" <Bruce.Grady@seqwater.com.au>
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Dam Operations Manager
Water Delivery
Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority trading as Seqwater
[cid:image001.jpg@01CB6FD4.21002A80]
[cid:image002.png@01CB6FD4.21002A80]
Ph [REDACTED] E
[REDACTED]

Wivenhoe Dam, Brisbane Valley Highway, via Fernvale Q4306 Australia
PO Box 37, Fernvale QLD 4306
Website | www.seqwater.com.au<<http://www.seqwater.com.au>>


From: Michael Shapland [mailto:Michael.Shapland@REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 19 October 2010 6:52:PM
To: Michael Shapland; Irina Stankovska; michael.Lyons@REDACTED Mike Foster;
Barry.dennien@REDACTED Reilly Bob; brad.smith@REDACTED Scott
Denner; Rob Drury; P.Baddiley@REDACTED Barry.dennien@REDACTED
owens.petert@REDACTED peter.allen@REDACTED Bruce Grady
Cc: j.perkins@REDACTED morganti.davidj@REDACTED
Subject: RE: Protocols - final drafts

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Changes are small and will be covered in the 0800 meeting tomorrow.

Mike

Mike Shapland MBE | Director, Disaster Management
Emergency Management Queensland | Department of Community Safety
Level 3, Block E, Emergency Services Complex, Kedron, Queensland




From: Michael Shapland
Sent: Tuesday, 19 October 2010 16:32
To: Irina Stankovska; 'michael.Lyons'; 'mfoster';
'Barry.dennien'; 'Reilly Bob'; 'brad.smith'; 'Scott
Denner'; 'Rob Drury'; 'P.Baddiley'; 'Barry.dennien';
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Cc: 'j.perkins'; 'morganti.davidj';
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B natural hazards affecting the community.

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Emergency Management Queensland | Department of Community Safety
Level 3, Block E, Emergency Services Complex, Kedron, Queensland



From: Irina Stankovska
Sent: Monday, 18 October 2010 17:30
To: Michael Shapland; 'michael.Lyons'; 'mfoster';
'Barry.dennien'; 'Reilly Bob'; 'brad.smith'; 'Scott
Denner'; 'Rob Drury'; 'P.Baddiley'; 'Barry.dennien@seqwgm.com.au';
'owens.petert'; 'peter.allen';
Cc: 'j.perkins'; 'morganti.davidj';
Subject: Release of Water from Wivenhoe Dam' protocol - final draft

Good Afternoon Gentlemen

Please find attached the final draft of the 'Release of Water from Wivenhoe Dam' protocol,
for tomorrow's meeting.

Kind Regards

Irina Stankovska | A/Program Officer (SDCG, DDMG & LDMG) | Disaster Management
Governance Unit | Emergency Management Queensland | Department of Community Safety
[REDACTED] • | GPO Box 1425 BRISBANE QLD 4001 | State Disaster
Management Group Email:

[REDACTED] | State
Disaster Coordination Group Email:

[REDACTED] | P Please
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<image001.jpg>

<image002.png>

<Protocol_Release of water from dams (2).doc>

Tab 42

Barry Dennien

From: Reilly Bob [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 20 October 2010 7:31 AM
To: Barry Dennien; Peter Borrows
Cc: Michael Shapland; rdrury [REDACTED]; Michael Lyons; Scott Denner; Allen Peter
Subject: Wivenhoe/Somerset flood protocol: Responsibilities for Technical Assessment component

Hi everyone

I have discussed this matter with the DG of DERM.

While there is no perfect solution, his firm view is that Seqwater is responsible for this component, including the completion of the Template containing the comments of BOM, Councils etc. I accept that there needs to be some safeguards put around timings of inputs and the like e.g. exactly what Seqwater is responsible for, but he was quite clear that he saw this as Seqwater's role.

While I am happy to discuss the matter between the three of us, this is the position, due to time constraints, that will need to be reflected in today's meeting at 8am, and I will be advising the group accordingly.

I will try to ring you before today's meeting, but may not be able to do so.

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
3 41 George Street, Brisbane Q 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane Q 4001

From: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 20 October 2010 5:42 AM
To: Reilly Bob
Subject: Fwd: Protocols - final drafts

Regards
Barry Dennien

Begin forwarded message:

From: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Date: 20 October 2010 5:35:53 AM AEST
To: Rob Drury <rdrury [REDACTED]>, Peter Borrows
<pborrows [REDACTED]>, Michael Lyons <Michael.Lyons [REDACTED]>

Scott Denner <Scott.Denner [REDACTED]>, Bob <Reilly [REDACTED]>

Subject: Fwd: Protocols - final drafts

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I note your comments about who should coordinate the operational report

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To: "Michael Shapland" <Michael.Shapland [REDACTED]>, "Irina Stankovska" <Irina.Stankovska [REDACTED]>, "Michael Lyons" <Michael.Lyons [REDACTED]>, "Mike Foster" <mfoster [REDACTED]>, "Barry Dennien" <Barry.Dennien [REDACTED]>, "Reilly Bob" < [REDACTED]>, "brad.smith" <brad.smith [REDACTED]>, "Scott Denner" <Scott.Denner [REDACTED]>, "P.Baddiley" <P.Baddiley [REDACTED]>, "Barry Dennien" <Barry.Dennien [REDACTED]>, "owens.petert" <owens.petert [REDACTED]>, "peter.allen" <peter.allen [REDACTED]>, "Bruce Grady" <Bruce.Grady [REDACTED]>
Cc: "j.perkins" <j.perkins [REDACTED]>, "morganti.davidj" <morganti.davidj [REDACTED]>, "Peter Borrows" <pborrows [REDACTED]>, "Jim Pruss" <jpruss [REDACTED]>
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Wivenhoe Dam, Brisbane Valley Highway, via Fernvale Q4306
Australia
PO Box 37, Fernvale QLD 4306
Website | www.seqwater.com.au<<http://www.seqwater.com.au>>

From: Michael Shapland [mailto:Michael.Shapland@
Sent: Tuesday, 19 October 2010 6:52 PM
To: Michael Shapland; Irina Stankovska;
michael.Lyons; Mike Foster;
Barry.dennien; Reilly Bob;
brad.smith; Scott Denner; Rob Drury;
P.Baddiley; Barry.dennien
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Emergency Management Queensland | Department of Community
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Level 3, Block E, Emergency Services Complex, Kedron, Queensland

[.gov.au](#)>

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Sent: Tuesday, 19 October 2010 16:32
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Final checks will be made here this afternoon.

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Level 3, Block E, Emergency Services Complex, Kedron, Queensland

[REDACTED]

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mfoster [REDACTED] Barry.dennien [REDACTED] Reilly
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Disaster Management Governance Unit | Emergency Management
Queensland | Department of Community Safety | [REDACTED]
| • | GPO Box 1425 BRISBANE QLD 4001 | State Disaster
Management Group Email:

[REDACTED]

[gov.au](http://www.qld.gov.au) > | P Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail |

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<image001.jpg>

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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

Barry Dennien

From: Michael Lyons
Sent: Wednesday, 20 October 2010 10:44 AM
To: Barry Dennien
Subject: Re: Protocols - final drafts

Still in this meeting - seqwater owns form. All good so far.

Sent from my iPhone

On 20/10/2010, at 6:35 AM, "Barry Dennien" <Barry.Dennien [REDACTED]> wrote:

Rob

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[REDACTED]

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Cc: 'j.perkins' [REDACTED]; 'morganti.davidj' [REDACTED]
Subject: Protocols - final drafts

Please find attached two draft protocols on the issue of communication of;
A flooding information from releases - Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams,
B natural hazards affecting the community.

Final checks will be made here this afternoon.

Mike

Mike Shapland MBE | Director, Disaster Management
Emergency Management Queensland | Department of Community Safety
Level 3, Block E, Emergency Services Complex, Kedron, Queensland
[REDACTED]

>
From: Irina Stankovska
Sent: Monday, 18 October 2010 17:30
To: Michael Shapland; michael.Lyons; mfooster; Barry.dennien; Reilly Bob; brad.smith; Scott Denner; Rob Drury; P.Baddiley; Barry.dennien; owens.petert; peter.allen; Cc: j.perkins; morganti.davidj
Subject: Release of Water from Wivenhoe Dam' protocol - final draft

Good Afternoon Gentlemen

Please find attached the final draft of the 'Release of Water from Wivenhoe Dam' protocol, for tomorrow's meeting.

Kind Regards

Irina Stankovska | A/Program Officer (SDCG, DDMG & LDMG) | Disaster Management Governance Unit | Emergency Management Queensland | Department of Community Safety | 3247 8419 | 94419 | GPO Box 1425 BRISBANE QLD 4001 | State Disaster Management Group Email:

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ABN75450239876 (Trading as Seqwater).

<image001.jpg>

<image002.png>

<Protocol - Release of water from dams (2).doc>

Tab 43

Barry Dennien

From: Barry Dennien
Sent: Wednesday, 20 October 2010 7:35 AM
To: Reilly Bob
Subject: Re: Wivenhoe/Somerset flood protocol: Responsibilities for Technical Assessment component

Ta bob my thoughts as well

Regards
Barry Dennien

On 20/10/2010, at 7:30 AM, "Reilly Bob" <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi everyone

I have discussed this matter with the DG of DERM.

While there is no perfect solution, his firm view is that Seqwater is responsible for this component, including the completion of the Template containing the comments of BOM, Councils etc. I accept that there needs to be some safeguards put around timings of inputs and the like e.g. exactly what Seqwater is responsible for, but he was quite clear that he saw this as Seqwater's role.

While I am happy to discuss the matter between the three of us, this is the position, due to time constraints, that will need to be reflected in today's meeting at 8am, and I will be advising the group accordingly.

I will try to ring you before today's meeting, but may not be able to do so.

Regards

Bob

Bob Reilly
General Manager, Office of the Water Supply Regulator
Teleph [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: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 20 October 2010 5:42 AM
To: Reilly Bob
Subject: Fwd: Protocols - final drafts

Regards

Barry Dennien

Begin forwarded message:

From: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Date: 20 October 2010 5:35:53 AM AEST
To: Rob Drury [REDACTED], Peter Borrowes
[REDACTED], Michael Lyons
[REDACTED], Scott Denner
[REDACTED], Bob [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Protocols - final drafts

Rob

I note your comments about who should coordinate the operational report

It does must need someone to do it

We can do it and will if need be however the gig is about the flood operations of wivenhoe. this report is the output of the technical step it needs an owner. I regard this a key core activity of Seqwater and recommend you take it on

Regards
Barry Dennien

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Rob Drury" [REDACTED]
To: "Michael Shapland"
[REDACTED], "Irina
Stankovska" [REDACTED]
"Michael Lyons" [REDACTED]
"Mike Foster" [REDACTED] "Barry
Dennien" [REDACTED] "Reilly
Bob" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
<brad.smith> [REDACTED] "Scott Denner"
[REDACTED]
<P.Baddiley [REDACTED] "Barry Dennien"
[REDACTED]
<owens.petert> [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
<peter.allen> [REDACTED], "Bruce Grady"
[REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] <j.perkins> [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
<morganti.davidj> [REDACTED] "Peter Borrowes"
[REDACTED] "Jim Pruss"
Subject: RE: Protocols - final drafts

Michael,

I realise it is last minute but can you adjust before our meeting tomorrow morning as there were a few things that came from our meeting today that are not quite reflected in this document.

At the meeting we agreed that Seqwater did NOT have the responsibility for getting agreement by the parties on their predictions or actions, hence the change in Item 8 of the Monitoring and Assessment section to something that says Seqwater will provide a situation report to the Grid Manager.

We also agreed towards the end of the meeting that the Situation Report from Seqwater would just be a summary of our assessments and proposed releases and details of our discussions with BoM and BCC. It was discussed and agreed that we could not be responsible for getting sign off by BoM (they would provide information on their assessments somehow). Nor did we have the authority or capability to get signoff by BCC. Our only responsibility is to operate under the manual and discuss and advise BoM and BCC of our plans. This was agreed by the Dam Safety Regulator that it was not within our scope under the regulations to get involved in getting sign off by BCC. Indeed it may in some way conflict with our duties under the regulations.

Also, during an event we will consult with BoM and BCC but getting sign off could take time. BCC may even have to go away and do considerable work deciding the implications. We cannot allow this to interfere with our core responsibilities.

Hence the Situation Report cannot be coordinated by Seqwater as it states, we can only provide Part A of the report. Part A would be just our proposed releases and a record of our discussions to ensure there is a clear record of discussions and information transfer. Again this was what we discussed towards the end of the meeting. The other parts of the report would need to be collected from BoM or BCC directly or removed from the report. This matches with what was discussed earlier that the main impetus was getting communications and tracking of discussions right and not getting sign off by BCC on how they interpret the Seqwater and BoM data. Which is unlikely to happen.

However, although Seqwater does not have the authority or ability to coordinate such responses, if it is considered necessary, an extra item under Monitoring and Assessment could be that BCC provides a Situation Report direct to the Grid Manager same as us. This

would put in the protocol a responsibility for them.
Unlikely they would agree but then if they didn't, they
certainly wouldn't agree to give us one either.

I have attached a version that reflects what we
discussed at the meeting. The Item 9 relating to BCC is
only there if it considered feasible.

Rob

Robert Drury
Dam Operations Manager
Water Delivery
Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority trading as
Seqwater
[cid:image001.jpg@01CB6FD4.21002A80]
[cid:image002.png@01CB6FD4.21002A80]


Wivenhoe Dam, Brisbane Valley Highway, via
Fernvale Q4306 Australia
PO Box 37, Fernvale QLD 4306
Website |
www.seqwater.com.au<<http://www.seqwater.com.au/>>




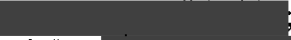
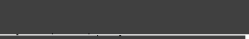
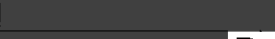



From: Michael Shapland
[mailto:Michael.Shapland@dcs.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 19 October 2010 6:52 PM
To: Michael Shapland; Irina Stankovska;
michael.Lyons; [redacted] Mike Foster;
Barry.dennien; [redacted] Reilly Bob;
brad.smith; [redacted] Scott Denner; Rob
Drury; P.Baddiley; [redacted]
Barry.dennien; [redacted]
owens.petert; [redacted]
peter.allen; [redacted] Bruce Grady
Cc: j.perkins; [redacted]
morganti.davidj; [redacted]
Subject: RE: Protocols - final drafts

Please find attached slightly updated protocols
following discussions with Seqwater. Changes are
small and will be covered in the 0800 meeting
tomorrow.

Mike

Mike Shapland MBE | Director, Disaster Management
Emergency Management Queensland | Department of
Community Safety
Level 3, Block E, Emergency Services Complex,
Kedron, Queensland




From: Michael Shapland
Sent: Tuesday, 19 October 2010 16:32
To: Irina Stankovska;
'[michael.Lyons](#)'
'[mfoster](#)'
'[Barry.dennien](#)' 'Reilly Bob';
'[brad.smith](#)' 'Scott Denmer'; 'Rob
Drury'; 'P.Baddiley'
'[Barry.dennien](#)'
'[owens.peter](#)'
'[peter.allen](#)' Bruce Grady
Cc: '[j.perkins](#)'
'[morganti.davidj](#)'
Subject: Protocols - final drafts

Please find attached two draft protocols on the issue of
communication of;
A flooding information from releases - Wivenhoe
and Somerset Dams,
B natural hazards affecting the community.

Final checks will be made here this afternoon.

Mike

Mike Shapland MBE | Director, Disaster Management
Emergency Management Queensland | Department of
Community Safety
Level 3, Block E, Emergency Services Complex,
Kedron, Queensland



From: Irina Stankovska
Sent: Monday, 18 October 2010 17:30
To: Michael Shapland;

michael.lyons [redacted]
mfoster [redacted]
Barry.dennien [redacted] Reilly Bob;
brad.smith [redacted] Scott Denner; Rob
Drury; P.Baddiley [redacted]
Barry.dennien [redacted]
owens.petert [redacted]
peter.allen [redacted]
Cc: j.perkins [redacted]
morganti.davidj [redacted]
Subject: Release of Water from Wivenhoe Dam
protocol - final draft

Good Afternoon Gentlemen

Please find attached the final draft of the 'Release of Water from Wivenhoe Dam' protocol, for tomorrow's meeting.

Kind Regards

Irina Stankovska | A/Program Officer (SDCG, DDMG & LDMG) | Disaster Management Governance Unit | Emergency Management Queensland | Department of Community Safety | [redacted] | GPO Box 1425 BRISBANE QLD 4001 | State Disaster Management Group Email:



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<image001.jpg>

<image002.png>

<Protocol_Release of water from dams (2).doc>

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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

Tab 44

Barry Dennien

From: Reilly Bob [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 21 October 2010 10:05 AM
To: Robson Chris
Cc: Peter Borrows; Barry Dennien
Subject: Protocol for release of flood waters from Wivenhoe and Somerset dams
Attachments: Protocol_Release of water from dams 21.Oct.doc

Hi Chris

DPC has asked EMQ to lead the engagement with Councils on this matter. As indicated in the email below, a copy of the draft Protocol will shortly be sent to the Ipswich, Somerset and Brisbane City Councils with a request that we meet tomorrow (Friday) with them. The Premier has asked for a copy of the draft Protocol, so you may wish to advise the DG.


Regards

Bob

Bob Reilly
General Manager, Office of the Water Supply Regulator
Telep [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: Michael Shapland [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Thursday, 21 October 2010 9:59 AM
To: Peta Robertson
Cc: Irina Stankovska; Reilly Bob
Subject: Protocol for release of flood waters from Wivenhoe and Somerset dams

Peta, As discussed, can we send the email below plus attachment from Bruce's email to the addresses of those council representative below, copy to Bob Reilly and myself?

Mike

You will know of the recent debate over a protocol on information for the release of water from Wivenhoe and Somerset dams.

Attached is draft protocol that covers both technical and public communication aspects.

In view of the interest in the subject I would appreciate an indication of council's response on Friday 2 October.

Officers from the Department of Community Safety, Environment and Resource Management and Seqwater will be available to respond to points of clarification from 8 am. Friday 22 October. Should you wish to meet to discuss the protocol, the conference room on level 3, 41 George Street has been made available at 0800.

I would be grateful if you would copy Bob Reilly and Mike Shapland into any reply.

Regards,

Bruce Grady.

Mike Shapland MBE | Director, Disaster Management
Emergency Management Queensland | Department of Community Safety
Level 2, Block E, Emergency Services Complex, Kedron, Queensland

Brisbane City Council	Vicki	Pethybridge
Ipswich City Council	Tony	Trace
Somerset Regional Council	Tony	Jacobs

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Protocol for the Communication of Flooding Information during Floodwater Releases - Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this protocol is to outline the processes to be followed by the Brisbane, Ipswich and Somerset Councils, relevant Queensland Government agencies and the Bureau of Meteorology, which will ensure the provision of consistent and robust information to the community, concerning potential flooding impact during release of floodwater from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams.

The intent is to ensure that consistent, harmonised information, based on an agreed single point of truth, is communicated to the public in a way that contributes to disaster resilient communities.

BACKGROUND

Wivenhoe Dam controls approximately half of the Brisbane River catchment above Brisbane City. Other factors such as storm surges, tides, creek flooding, flooding from Brisbane River below Wivenhoe Dam, including Lockyer Creek and the Bremer River, will influence inundation levels in Brisbane.

The operational strategy for water release from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams is governed by the *Manual of Operational Procedures for Flood Mitigation at Wivenhoe Dam and Somerset Dam*, henceforth referred to as the Flood Mitigation Manual.

The Flood Mitigation Manual is approved and gazetted by the Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM), in accordance with the provisions of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*.

The Flood Mitigation Manual was developed to ensure that operational decisions at Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams are based on sound engineering principles, which ensure the structural safety of the dam, while minimising downstream impacts.

In the event of a major impact on communities, Queensland disaster management arrangements, based on disaster management groups at local, district and state level, ensure the collaborative and effective coordination of information for all hazards.

Local, district and state disaster management and hazard-specific plans outline arrangements and structures for disaster management, or the hazard, and amongst other things, identify the need for coordination of public communications.

This protocol adds to such plans by outlining specific arrangements necessary when advice to the community needs to be based on technical assessments from hazard-specific primary agencies and other complementary stakeholders across federal, state and local governments.

GENERAL DECISION MAKING - GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Protection of public safety is paramount throughout both the Flood Mitigation Manual and this Protocol;
- The Flood Mitigation Manual is used to determine how Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams will be operated during flood events;
- Impact on the community upstream or downstream is a legitimate consideration of any risk assessment;
- Agreed regular and consistent communications within government and to the public, in relation to the impacts of floodwater releases from Wivenhoe Dam, are essential;
- Decision-making chains regarding the communications strategy and disaster management should remain flexible;

PROCESS OF COMMUNICATION

There are three stages in the process of communication:

- Monitoring and Assessment
- Briefing and Activation
- Public Communications

Monitoring and Assessment

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 (human safety and property damage) from the releases.

A fundamental principle is that all floodwater should be released from the dams within seven days of the flood event peaking in Wivenhoe or Somerset Dam. This ensures the dams can cope with closely spaced major rain events.

Communications with the public on floodwater releases are based on a continuous process of technical assessment. The process is dynamic and evolves according to the event, but will normally contain the following steps:

- Routine monitoring of weather events and dam levels by relevant agencies via established systems and procedures;
- The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) provides weather forecasts and warnings (e.g. Tropical Cyclone, Severe Weather, Severe Thunderstorm, Flood). In the event of heavy rain and runoff in the Wivenhoe and/or Somerset Dam catchments, BoM and the Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority (Seqwater) discuss modelled inflows to Wivenhoe and/or Somerset Dam, and downstream flood levels.
- Seqwater discusses and models implications of the inflows on the necessary floodwater release from Wivenhoe Dam and/or Somerset Dam.
- Seqwater calculates the releases according to dam levels and predicted weather events in accordance with the Flood Mitigation Manual. Seqwater shares predicted floodwater releases with BoM and with the Councils.
- BoM undertakes modelling of the Brisbane River catchment and its river systems using Seqwater advice of actual and projected Wivenhoe Dam and/or

Somerset Dam releases when these are, or are expected, to occur.

- BoM participates in technical discussions with Seqwater, Brisbane City Council, Ipswich City Council and Somerset Regional Council as necessary, to share modelling results. The discussions aim to establish an agreement on what to tell the public about predicted flood levels and timings.
- Councils identify flood inundation areas and assess impacts for their communities and regularly share this information with all relevant parties.
- Following a decision to release floodwater, or a significant change in the severity and scope of the event, Seqwater coordinates the completion of the *Flood Release Operations and Impact Report* (FROIR - Appendix C) and provides the Report to the SEQ Water Grid Manager according to their Emergency Response Plan, in order to inform the public communications process.

If, during this continuous process, it becomes apparent to either BoM, local governments or Seqwater that the situation is likely to result in significant public safety issues, the SEQ Water Grid Manager, based on the Report, will commence the public communications process and engage with the disaster management arrangements as appropriate.

Briefing and Activation

Consideration will be given to the activation of the Disaster Management arrangements, if not already activated.

1. SEQ Water Grid Manager will alert the Director-General (DG) of the Department of Community Safety (DCS), DG DERM, and the local governments;
2. DG DCS will inform the DG of the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) - the Chair of the State Disaster Management Group (SDMG), and will activate the State Disaster Coordination Centre (SDCC). DG DCS will also inform the Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services;
3. Councils will consider activating their Local Disaster Management Groups (LDMGs);
4. The SDCC and LDMGs will inform the relevant District Disaster Coordinators (DDCs);
5. The Queensland Police Service (QPS) will consider initiating disaster management actions as provided for under the *Disaster Management Act 2003*;
6. DG DERM will inform the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy;
7. DG DPC will inform the Premier;
8. In the case of an extreme event, the Crisis Communications Network, chaired by the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC), may be activated at the direction of the SDMG Chair to coordinate public messaging agreed by BoM, Seqwater, SEQ Water Grid Manager, QPS, relevant Councils and DCS as per this protocol;
9. In the case of a non-disaster, public communications will be in accordance

with this protocol.

Public Communications Issues

SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit will coordinate the input and liaise with the following or their representatives over public safety messages:

- BoM;
- Seqwater;
- Councils' Media Directors.
- QPS Media Director; and
- DCS Media Director.

The BoM, Seqwater and Local Governments are to maintain continual discussions, to ensure that conflicting information is not released to the public at any time. Where differences arise, officers of the agencies concerned will liaise and consult to ensure that the information released to the public by all agencies is consistent. Agencies must exchange public releases.

Harmonised public communications messages will be released from the following agencies:

- **Bureau of Meteorology** - concentrating on Flood Warnings which are widely disseminated to the BoM website, agencies and the media. BoM also participates in media (radio, television, newspaper) interviews to provide factual information regarding observed and forecast weather conditions, rainfalls and water levels;
- **SEQ Water Grid Manager** - concentrating on the technical aspects of release timings and duration of effects as lead technical agency on floodwater release. Seqwater operational staff are to ensure that technical information is communicated to the SEQ Water Grid Emergency Response Team (if activated) and the SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit;
- **Local Governments / Local Disaster Management Groups** - concentrating on the effects of release and safety for their local communities and residents.

If necessary these will be augmented by:

- **Queensland Police Service** - concentrating on specific community safety messaging during operations;
- **Department of Community Safety** - concentrating on general safety matters regarding flooding;
- **Department of Premier and Cabinet (extreme events only)** - concentrating on consistent messages to media and agencies concerned.

Event-specific information will be released to the public as frequently as required by the severity and scope of the event. Timings of media releases will be dependent on the event and may range from once a day to once an hour.

Questions from the Public

All questions from the public should be directed to the relevant local government in the first instance. Any questions relating to the release of water should be directed to the SEQ Water Grid Manager Communications Unit. Any queries about disaster

management should be addressed by the relevant local and district disaster management groups.

Protocol Maintenance

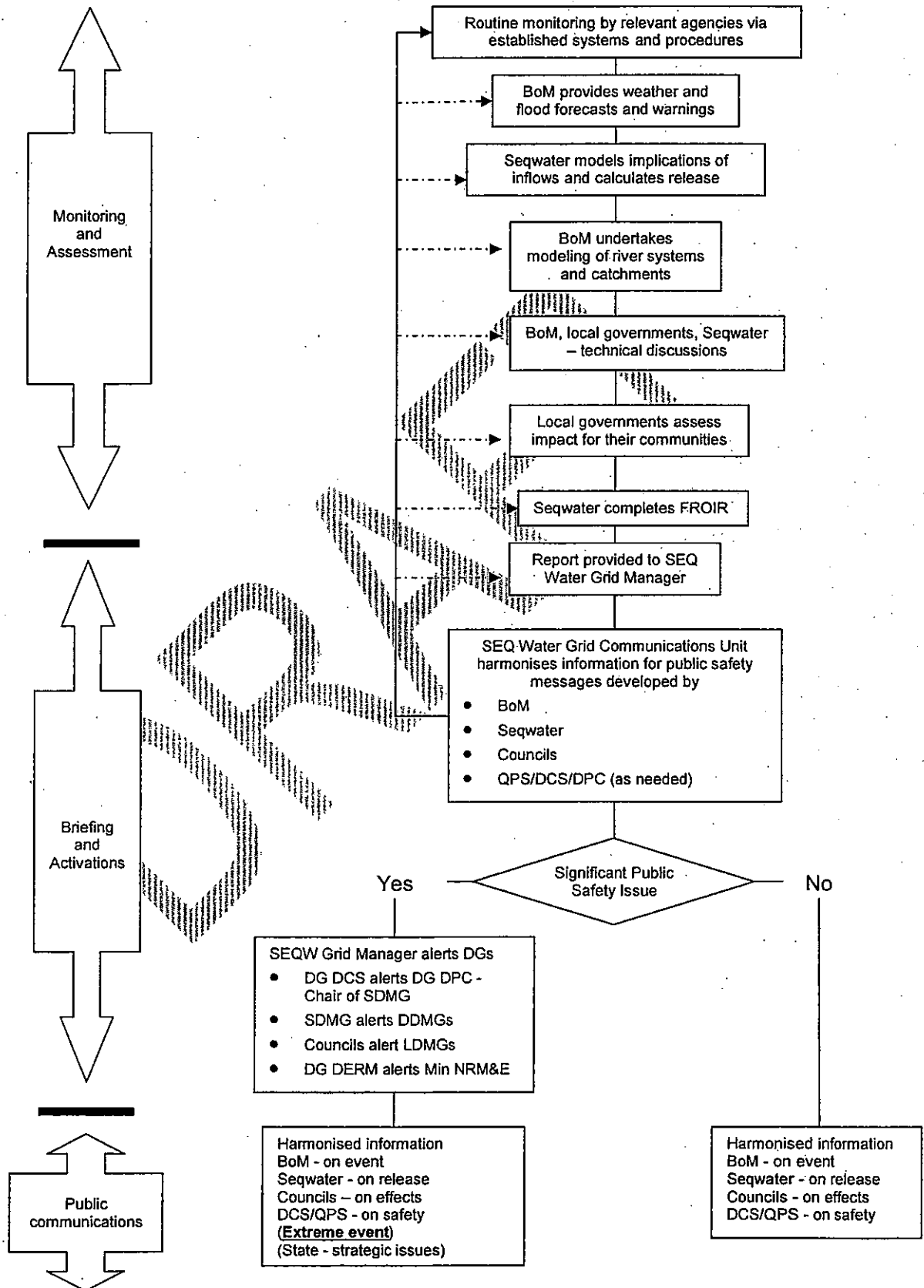
This protocol will be reviewed annually by agencies involved and exercised, during the years when operational floodwater release does not occur, under DDMG arrangements.

The protocol should provide for a review after each event of what worked and could be improved for management of future events, to be led by DCS.

DRAFT

Appendix A

Communications process for the release of floodwater from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams



ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) is the agency responsible for issuing flood warnings for the Brisbane River and its major tributaries. These, when required, include rainfall forecasts for the Brisbane catchment and predicted river heights for Brisbane City, Ipswich, Jindalee and Moggill according to established procedures.

River height predictions are agreed in consultation with South East Queensland Water (Seqwater), Brisbane City Council (BCC), Ipswich City Council (ICC) and Somerset Regional Council (SRC), as required.

- Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority (Seqwater) operates Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams in accordance with the Flood Mitigation Manual. It provides dam outflow information to BoM, to allow the development of Flood Warnings and to local authorities, to assist them in quantifying likely impacts within their areas.

It informs BoM and other agencies on the status of dams, and actual and projected releases from Wivenhoe Dam.

It consults BoM regarding inflows to Wivenhoe Dam and expected flood heights along the Brisbane River downstream of Wivenhoe Dam.

Seqwater initiates proposed changes to the Flood Mitigation Manual, undertaking consultation with Councils and other stakeholders.

Seqwater coordinates the production of the FROIRs.

- Brisbane City Council (BCC), Ipswich City Council (ICC) and Somerset Regional Council (SRC) distribute consistent, detailed local flood level information, both to their respective operational units, their senior management and their broader communities. This should include the interpretation of BoM flood warnings and river height forecasts into expected areas and depths of inundation. Councils are responsible for activating their respective Local Disaster Management Groups (LDMGs), which then undertake the disaster management responsibility for response in the community.
- DERM consults with the stakeholders prior to the approval of any updates to the Flood Mitigation Manual. DERM also approves any necessary variations to the strategies in the manual if required during the course of a flood event.
- Queensland Police Service (OPS) assumes a legislative role, as per the Disaster Management system, to provide disaster management at a district level during an event, including provision of necessary community advice for public safety.
- Emergency Management Queensland (EMQ) provides support and general community safety advice on flooding issues, during non-operational times.
- SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit coordinates the general harmonisation, but not specific detail of public messaging with BoM, SEQ Water Grid, BCC and DCS, as required. It does this by ensuring that each agency understands the extent of the release and that there is a general consensus as to the level of potential impacts.

FLOOD RELEASE OPERATIONS AND IMPACT REPORT

OPREP Number		Date of OPREP release		Time of OPREP release	
---------------------	--	------------------------------	--	------------------------------	--

Next OPREP due	Date	Time	or Event
-----------------------	-------------	-------------	-----------------

This report is as at the time of assessment, and may be out of date quickly, depending on current events. It relies on timely information provided by Seqwater, BoM and Councils. A reply will be required by a specified time and if not received by that time no information will be included. If any information is not provided, the section will remain blank. There will be no follow up requests.

Each Authority will provide an email and telephone contact for all communications. If an event escalates, there may be less time to respond or it may not be possible to respond to requests.

The initial step in the process is for Seqwater to email advices on releases to the organisations email address provided. Once a flood event is initiated, at any time a Council or agency can contact Seqwater to discuss if they have a serious concern regarding the information on releases provided, this would normally be by phone and followed by email. However the ability to respond to any queries depends on the event. The frequency of advices will depend on the severity of the event and the needs of each agency.

Seqwater will also request at that time, a situation Assessment from each agency as per details outlined in this document. Each agency will then email in return the requested information if possible or advice that it has not changed. If it is not received in the time specified, it is assumed it is not being provided.

Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

(to include information on the current and/or predicted levels of Somerset and Wivenhoe Dams and the probable or planned release strategy with assessment as governed under the Manual of Operational Procedures for Flood Mitigation at Wivenhoe Dam and Somerset Dam)

This is Seqwaters status report on the dam levels, probable inflows and planned releases.

.....

This has been supplied to

BCC on

ICC on

SRC on

Issues raised by Councils were

Actions taken were

Seqwater Technical Officer name

Seqwater Technical Officer position title

Seqwater Technical Officer contact details

BoM assessment

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

BoM is to provide either a copy of, or links to, their current information and other updates or comments if needed. This will be their current set of warnings and may be updated or changed at any time.

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)

This is an assessment as above provided by BCC. A request for this information will be sent to the email address provided by BCC.

BCC Technical Officer name	
BCC Technical Officer position title	
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)

(both ICC and SRC requirements are the same as for BCC)

Collated and distributed by Seqwater

Seqwater Contact Officer signature	
Seqwater Contact Officer name	
Seqwater Contact Officer position title	
Seqwater contact details	

Tab 45

Barry Dennien

From: Michael Shapland [Michael.Shapland [REDACTED]]
Sent: Thursday, 21 October 2010 5:49 PM
To: Michael Shapland; Irina Stankovska; Michael Lyons; mfoster [REDACTED] Barry Dennien; Reilly Bob; brad.smith [REDACTED] Scott Denner; Rob Drury; P.Baddiley [REDACTED] Barry Dennien; owens.petert [REDACTED] peter.allen [REDACTED] Bruce Grady
Cc: j.perkins [REDACTED] morganti.davidj [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Protocol on release of water from Dams
Attachments: Protocol_Weather related events 21 Oct.doc

Please find attached a draft Public Communications Protocol for Natural Events affecting the Community.

Please note this is NOT intended to replace the specific protocol circulated to Brisbane Ipswich and Somerset councils today, dealing with Wivenhoe and Somerset dams.

Mike

From: Michael Shapland
Sent: Wednesday, 20 October 2010 17:45
To: Michael Shapland; Irina Stankovska; 'michael.Lyons [REDACTED]'; 'mfoster [REDACTED]'; 'Barry.dennien [REDACTED]'; 'Reilly Bob'; 'brad.smith [REDACTED]'; 'Scott Denner'; 'Rob Drury'; 'P.Baddiley [REDACTED]'; 'Barry.dennien [REDACTED]'; 'owens.petert [REDACTED]'; 'peter.allen [REDACTED]'; Bruce Grady
Cc: 'j.perkins [REDACTED]'; 'morganti.davidj [REDACTED]';
Subject: Protocol on release of water from Dams

Attached please find the latest draft.

Mike

Mike Shapland MBE | Director, Disaster Management
Emergency Management Queensland | Department of Community Safety
Level 3, Block E, Emergency Services Complex, Kedron, Queensland
[REDACTED]

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Public Communications Protocol for Natural Hazards affecting the Community

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this protocol is to outline the processes to be followed by local governments, relevant Queensland Government agencies, the Bureau of Meteorology and other key stakeholders, which will ensure the provision of consistent and robust information to the community, concerning impacts of weather related events.

The intent is to ensure that consistent, harmonised information, based on an agreed single point of truth, is communicated to the public in a way that contributes to disaster resilient communities.

BACKGROUND

In the event of a major impact on communities, the Queensland disaster management arrangements, based on disaster management groups at local, district and state level, ensure the collaborative and effective coordination of information for all hazards.

Local, district and state disaster management and hazard-specific plans outline arrangements and structures for disaster management for the hazard, and amongst other things, identify the need for coordination of public communications.

This protocol adds to such plans by outlining specific arrangements necessary when advice to the community needs to be based on technical assessments from hazard-specific primary agencies and other complementary stakeholders across federal, state and local governments. Such specific arrangements are shown in annexes.

GENERAL DECISION MAKING - GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Protection of public safety is paramount throughout this Protocol;
- Impact on the community is a legitimate consideration of any risk assessment;
- Agreed, regular and consistent communications within government and to the public, in relation to the impact, are essential;
- Decision-making chains regarding the communications strategy and disaster management should remain flexible.

PROCESS OF COMMUNICATION

There are three stages in the process of communication:

- Monitoring and Assessment
- Briefing and Activation
- Public communications

Monitoring and Assessment

Communications with the public are based on a continuous process of technical assessment. The process is dynamic and evolves according to the event, but will normally contain the following steps:

- All relevant agencies routinely monitor weather events via established systems and procedures.

- BoM provides weather forecasts and warnings (e.g. Tropical Cyclone, Severe Weather, Severe Thunderstorm, Flood).
- In the instance of a potential natural hazard event, BoM, the hazard-specific primary agency and local governments, individually and together, will:
 - model the potential event;
 - assess the potential consequences;
 - agree on the situation;
 - continuously re-assess the situation; and
 - provide a Technical Situation Report (TSR - annex A) in order to inform the public communications process.

If, during this continuous process, it becomes apparent that the situation is likely to result in significant public safety issues, the hazard-specific primary agency will commence the public communications process and engage with the disaster management arrangements as appropriate.

Briefing and Activation

Once the TSR has been issued, consideration will be given to the activation of the disaster management arrangements, if not already activated.

- The hazard-specific primary agency will alert:
 - local governments;
 - the Director-General (DG) of the Department of Community Safety (DCS); and
 - other appropriate DGs.
- Local governments will consider activating their Local Disaster Management Groups (LDMGs);
- DG DCS will:
 - inform the DG of the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) – the Chair of the State Disaster Management Group (SDMG);
 - activate the State Disaster Coordination Centre (SDCC); and
 - inform the Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services.
- The SDCC and LDMGs will inform the relevant District Disaster Coordinators (DDCs).
- The Queensland Police Service (QPS) will consider initiating disaster management actions as provided for under the *Disaster Management Act 2003*.
- If warranted by the scale of the event, respective DGs will inform Ministers, and DG DPC will inform the Premier.
- In the case of an extreme event, the Crisis Communications Network, chaired by DPC, may be activated at the direction of the SDMG Chair to coordinate public messaging.

Public Communications

At levels below the activation of the Crisis Communications Network, the hazard-specific primary agency will arrange appropriate media-specific discussions with public communications officials from relevant agencies.

These discussions will ensure that:

- agencies share technical information;

- conflicting information is not released to the public at any time;
- the information released to the public by all agencies is consistent; and
- agencies exchange public releases.

Harmonised public communications messages will be released by:

- **Bureau of Meteorology** - concentrating on Warnings, together with factual information on observed and forecast weather conditions, disseminated to the BoM website, agencies and the media.
- **The hazard specific primary agency** - concentrating on the technical aspects of the hazard and duration of effects.
- **Local Governments /Local Disaster Management Groups** - concentrating on the effects of the hazard and safety issues for their local communities and residents.

If necessary these will be augmented by:

- **Queensland Police Service** - concentrating on specific community safety messaging during operations;
- **Department of Community Safety** - concentrating on general safety matters;
- **Department of Premier and Cabinet (extreme events only)** - concentrating on consistent messages to the media and agencies concerned.

Event-specific information will be released to the public as frequently as required by the severity and scope of the event. Timings of media releases will be dependent on the event, and may range from once a day to once an hour.

Questions from the Public

All questions from the public should be initially directed to the relevant local government.

Any hazard-specific questions should be directed to the hazard-specific primary agency.

Any queries about disaster management should be addressed by the relevant local and district disaster management groups.

Protocol Maintenance

This protocol will be reviewed annually by agencies involved and exercised, during the years when operational use does not occur, under DDMG arrangements.

The protocol should provide for a review after each event, of what worked and what could be improved, for management of future events, to be led by DCS.

Annex A – Technical Situation Report Template

Annex B – Specific arrangements for the release of floodwater from Wivenhoe and Somerset Flood Mitigation Dams

Appendix 1 – Flowchart

Appendix 2 – Roles and Responsibilities

Appendix 3 - Flood Release Operations and Impact Report

TECHNICAL SITUATION REPORT (OUTLINE)

SITREP Number		Date of SITREP release		Time of SITREP release	
Next SITREP due	Date	Time	or Event		

This report is as at the time of assessment, and may quickly become obsolete, depending on current events. It relies on timely information provided by (relevant agencies). A reply will be required by a specified time and if not received by that time, no information will be included. If any information is not provided, the section will remain blank. There will be no follow up requests.

Each authority will provide an email and telephone contact for all communications. If an event escalates, there may be less time to respond or it may not be possible to respond to requests.

The ability to respond to any queries depends on the event. The frequency of advices will depend on the severity of the event and the needs of each agency.

The primary technical agency will also request a situation assessment from each agency as per details outlined in this document. Each agency will then email the requested information, if possible, or an advice that it has not changed. If it is not received within the specified timeframe, it is assumed it is not being provided.

Part A – Hazard-specific Primary Agency assessment

(to include information on the current and/or predicted impacts, with assessment as governed under their legislation / operational procedures)

.....
 This has been supplied to

Issues raised by (other agencies) were

Actions taken were

Technical Officer name	
Technical Officer position title	
Technical Officer contact details	

Part B – BoM assessment

(Consisting of references to latest event – specific Warning, other relevant BoM forecasts and warnings and other updates/comments if needed)

BoM is to provide either a copy of, or links to, their current information and other updates or comments if needed. This will be their current set of warnings and may be updated or changed at any time.

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

Part C – Local Government assessment

Technical Officer name	
Technical Officer position title	
Technical Officer contact details	

Collated and distributed by (hazard-specific primary agency)

Contact Officer signature	
Contact Officer name	
Contact Officer position title	
Organisation contact details	

Annex B

Specific arrangements for the release of floodwater from Wivenhoe and Somerset Flood Mitigation Dams

General

Wivenhoe Dam controls approximately half of the Brisbane River catchment above Brisbane City. Other factors such as storm surges, tides, creek flooding, flooding from Brisbane River below Wivenhoe Dam, including Lockyer Creek and the Bremer River, will influence inundation levels in Brisbane.

The operational strategy for water release from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams is governed by the *Manual of Operational Procedures for Flood Mitigation at Wivenhoe Dam and Somerset Dam*, henceforth referred to as the Flood Mitigation Manual.

The Flood Mitigation Manual is approved and gazetted by the Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM), in accordance with the provisions of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*.

The Flood Mitigation Manual was developed to ensure that operational decisions at Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams are based on sound engineering principles, which ensure the structural safety of the dam, while minimising downstream impacts.

Technical Assessment

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 (human safety and property damage) from the releases.

A fundamental principle is that a floodwater should be released from the dams within seven days of the flood event peaking in Wivenhoe or Somerset Dam. This ensures the dams can cope with closely spaced major rain events.

Communications with the public on floodwater releases are based on a continuous process of technical assessment. The process is dynamic and evolves according to the event, but will normally contain the following steps:

- Routine monitoring of weather events and dam levels by relevant agencies via established systems and procedures;
- The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) provides weather forecasts and warnings (e.g. Tropical Cyclone, Severe Weather, Severe Thunderstorm, Flood). In the event of heavy rain and runoff in the Wivenhoe and/or Somerset Dam catchments, BoM and the Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority (Seqwater) discuss modelled inflows to Wivenhoe and/or Somerset Dam, and downstream flood levels;
- Seqwater discusses and models implications of the inflows on the necessary floodwater release from Wivenhoe Dam and/or Somerset Dam.
- Seqwater calculates the releases according to dam levels and predicted weather events in accordance with the Flood Mitigation Manual. Seqwater shares predicted floodwater releases with BoM and with the Councils.

- BoM undertakes modelling of the Brisbane River catchment and its river systems using Seqwater advice of actual and projected Wivenhoe Dam and/or Somerset Dam releases when these are, or are expected, to occur.
- BoM participates in technical discussions with Seqwater, Brisbane City Council, Ipswich City Council and Somerset Regional Council as necessary, to share modelling results. The discussions aim to establish an agreement on what to tell the public about predicted flood levels and timings.
- Councils identify flood inundation areas and assess impacts for their communities and regularly share this information with all relevant parties.
- Following a decision to release floodwater, or a significant change in the severity and scope of the event, Seqwater coordinates the completion of the *Flood Release Operations and Impact Report* (FROIR – Appendix 3) and provides the Report to the SEQ Water Grid Manager according to their Emergency Response Plan, in order to inform the public communications process.

If, during this continuous process, it becomes apparent to either BoM, local governments or Seqwater that the situation is likely to result in significant public safety issues, the SEQ Water Grid Manager, based on the Report, will commence the public communications process and engage with the disaster management arrangements as appropriate:

Activation of Disaster Management Arrangements

Consideration will be given to the activation of the Disaster Management arrangements, if not already activated.

SEQ Water Grid Manager will alert the Director-General (DG) of the Department of Community Safety (DCS).

DG DERM will inform the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy.

Other activations will take place according to the main protocol.

Public Communication Issues

SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit will coordinate the input and liaise with the following or their representatives over public safety messages:

- BoM;
- Seqwater;
- Councils' Media Directors.
- QPS Media Director; and
- DCS Media Director.

The BoM, Seqwater and Local Governments are to maintain continual discussions, to ensure that conflicting information is not released to the public at any time. Where differences arise, officers of the agencies concerned will liaise and consult to ensure that the information released to the public by all agencies is consistent. Agencies must exchange public releases.

Harmonised public communications messages will be released according to the main protocol.

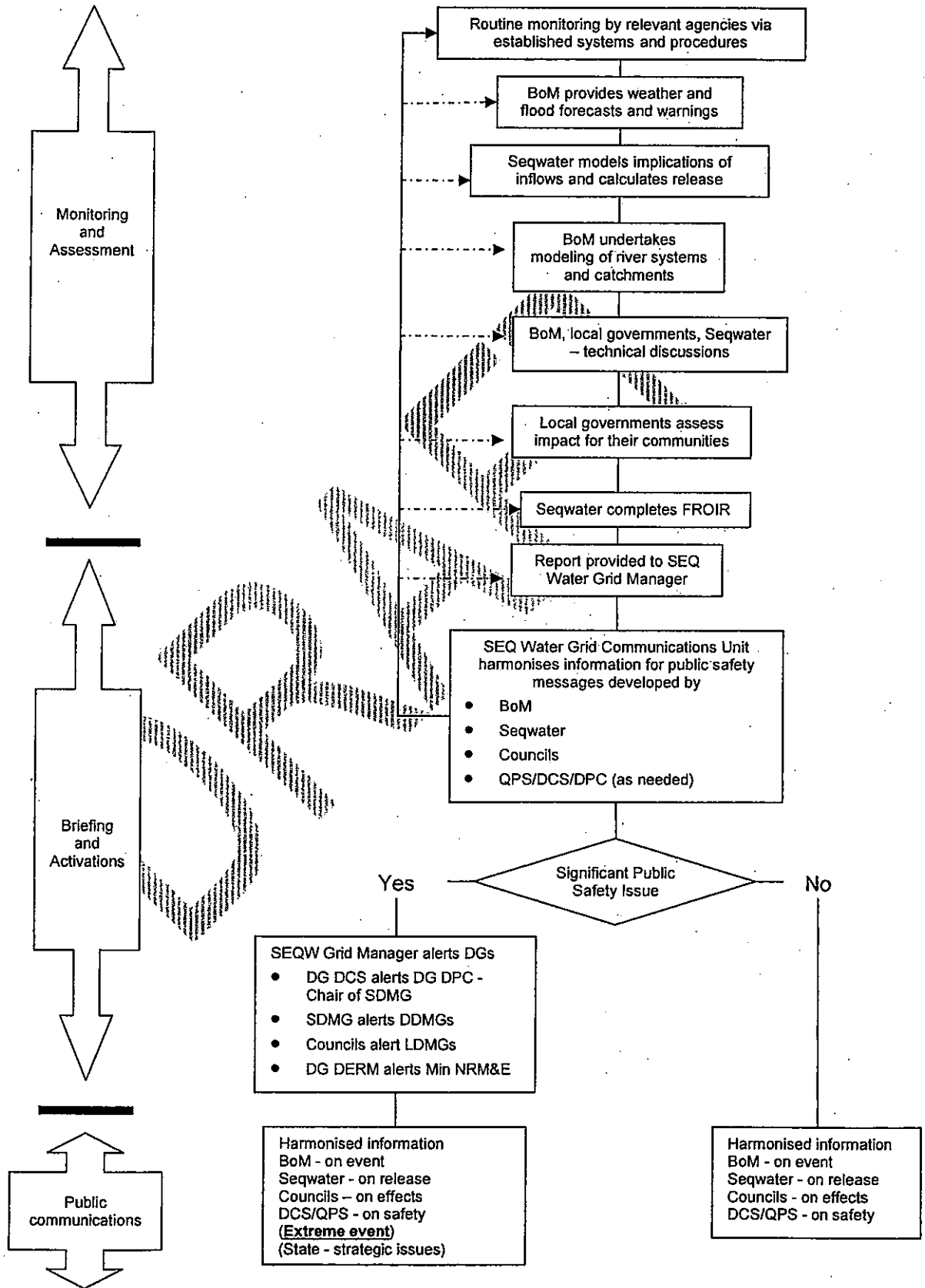
- SEQ Water Grid Manager will act as the hazard-specific primary agency and will concentrate on the technical aspects of release timings and duration of effects. Seqwater operational staff are to ensure that technical information is communicated to the SEQ Water Grid Emergency Response Team (if activated) and the SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit;

Questions from the Public

Any questions relating to the release of water should be directed to the SEQ Water Grid Manager Communications Unit.

DRAFT

Communications process for the release of floodwater from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams



Appendix 2

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) is the agency responsible for issuing flood warnings for the Brisbane River and its major tributaries. These, when required, include rainfall forecasts for the Brisbane catchment and predicted river heights for Brisbane City, Ipswich, Jindalee and Moggill according to established procedures.

River height predictions are agreed in consultation with South East Queensland Water (Seqwater), Brisbane City Council (BCC), Ipswich City Council (ICC) and Somerset Regional Council (SRC), as required.

- Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority (Seqwater) operates Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams in accordance with the Flood Mitigation Manual. It provides dam outflow information to BoM, to allow the development of Flood Warnings and to local authorities, to assist them in quantifying likely impacts within their areas.

It informs BoM and other agencies on the status of dams, and actual and projected releases from Wivenhoe Dam.

It consults BoM regarding inflows to Wivenhoe Dam and expected flood heights along the Brisbane River downstream of Wivenhoe Dam.

Seqwater initiates proposed changes to the Flood Mitigation Manual, undertaking consultation with Councils and other stakeholders.

Seqwater coordinates the production of the FROIRs.

- Brisbane City Council (BCC), Ipswich City Council (ICC) and Somerset Regional Council (SRC) distribute consistent, detailed local flood level information, both to their respective operational units, their senior management and their broader communities. This should include the interpretation of BoM flood warnings and river height forecasts into expected areas and depths of inundation. Councils are responsible for activating their respective Local Disaster Management Groups (LDMGs), which then undertake the disaster management responsibility for response in the community.
- DERM consults with the stakeholders prior to the approval of any updates to the Flood Mitigation Manual. DERM also approves any necessary variations to the strategies in the manual if required during the course of a flood event.
- Queensland Police Service (QPS) assumes a legislative role, as per the Disaster Management system, to provide disaster management at a district level during an event, including provision of necessary community advice for public safety.
- Emergency Management Queensland (EMO) provides support and general community safety advice on flooding issues, during non-operational times.
- SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit coordinates the general harmonisation, but not specific detail of public messaging with BoM, SEQ Water Grid, BCC and DCS, as required. It does this by ensuring that each agency understands the extent of the release and that there is a general consensus as to the level of potential impacts.

FLOOD RELEASE OPERATIONS AND IMPACT REPORT

OPREP Number		Date of OPREP release		Time of OPREP release	

Next OPREP due	Date	Time	or Event	

This report is as at the time of assessment, and may be out of date quickly, depending on current events. It relies on timely information provided by Seqwater, BoM and Councils. A reply will be required by a specified time and if not received by that time no information will be included. If any information is not provided, the section will remain blank. There will be no follow up requests.

Each Authority will provide an email and telephone contact for all communications. If an event escalates, there may be less time to respond or it may not be possible to respond to requests.

The initial step in the process is for Seqwater to email advices on releases to the organisations email address provided. Once a flood event is initiated, at any time a Council or agency can contact Seqwater to discuss if they have a serious concern regarding the information on releases provided, this would normally be by phone and followed by email. However the ability to respond to any queries depends on the event. The frequency of advices will depend on the severity of the event and the needs of each agency.

Seqwater will also request at that time, a situation Assessment from each agency as per details outlined in this document. Each agency will then email in return the requested information if possible or advice that it has not changed. If it is not received in the time specified, it is assumed it is not being provided.

Seqwater status of inflows and dam operations

(to include information on the current and/or predicted levels of Somerset and Wivenhoe Dams and the probable or planned release strategy with assessment as governed under the Manual of Operational Procedures for Flood Mitigation at Wivenhoe Dam and Somerset Dam)

This is Seqwaters status report on the dam levels, probable inflows and planned releases.

.....

This has been supplied to

BCC on

ICC on

SRC on

Issues raised by Councils were

Actions taken were

Seqwater Technical Officer name

Seqwater Technical Officer position title

Seqwater Technical Officer contact details

BoM assessment

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

BoM is to provide either a copy of, or links to, their current information and other updates or comments if needed. This will be their current set of warnings and may be updated or changed at any time.

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)

This is an assessment as above provided by BCC. A request for this information will be sent to the email address provided by BCC.

BCC Technical Officer name	
BCC Technical Officer position title	
BCC Technical Officer contact details	

Ipswich City Council (ICC) assessment (if required)

Somerset Regional Council (SRC) assessment (if required)

(both ICC and SRC requirements are the same as for BCC)

Collated and distributed by Seqwater

Seqwater Contact Officer signature	
Seqwater Contact Officer name	
Seqwater Contact Officer position title	
Seqwater contact details	

Tab 46

Barry Dennien

From: Tim Watts [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 21 October 2010 6:15 PM
To: Dan Spiller
Cc: Bradley John; Barry Dennien; Lance McCallum
Subject: RE: desal matter to note - cabinet in confidence

Yes please Dan and a brief outline of the work that will be undertaken into the merit of reducing full supply levels to improve flood mitigation in anticipation of significant rain events.

Tim Watts
Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Phone [REDACTED]
Mobil [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]

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

From: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 21 October 2010 6:02 PM
To: Tim Watts
Cc: Bradley John; Barry Dennien; Lance McCallum
Subject: Re: desal matter to note - cabinet in confidence

Tim,

Will do. Do you want it to provide a few points on dam levels and operations also?

Dan

On 21/10/2010, at 5:57 PM, "Tim Watts"
[REDACTED] wrote:

Dan
> I have just spoken to the Minister.
> He would not like the matter to note to propose a decision about
> mothballing or hot standby.
> The matter to note should provide the latest information on desal
> options and a brief update on the process that the Minister and
> Treasurer requested about operational strategies for the desal and WC.
> The Minister does not want to make a decision before he heads overseas
> on Wednesday and is happy to wait for the water grid manager, water
> secure and the QWC to report back to him in early November with a
> comprehensive analysis.
> The matters discussed with the Minister on Tuesday should be
> incorporated into the above analysis.
> Tim
>
>
> Tim Watts
> 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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Tab 47

Barry Dennien

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Friday, 22 October 2010 7:50 AM
To: Bradley John
Cc: Barry Dennien; Reilly Bob
Subject: Matter to note
Attachments: Matter to note_Desalination and dam levels v2.docx

John,

Proposed matter to note attached. It has gone over one page.

Bob has contributed to the dam level and protocol notes.

Please call me if you need any clarification. We are working on the releases and letters (and supporting detail with WaterSecure).

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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MATTERS FOR CABINET TO NOTE

Department	Department of Environment and Resource Management		
Responsible Minister	Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade		
Description of Matter	Head of Power (if applicable)	Public Presentation	Timing
<p>1. Operation of Tugun desalination facility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water supply for South East Queensland is now secure. • With this security, the desalination facility will immediately transition to 'hot standby' mode. • It will typically operate at about 3% of capacity, saving operating costs and energy consumption. However, it will be maintained and operated such that it is available to produce water at short notice, as a response to water quality incidents or when other assets are unavailable. • The operating mode will be reviewed after two years, prior to purchasing new membranes. • Savings in 2010/11 are estimated at \$5 million compared to continued operation at one-third of capacity, increasing to \$10 million in 2011/12. Savings will be incorporated into the review of the bulk water price path, contributing towards lower price increases than have previously been announced. • The plant is operated under contract by Veolia, with maintenance undertaken by separate contractors. Veolia staff will now be required to undertake the maintenance also, avoiding the cost of contractors. Over time, Veolia staff may also be reduced. • Separate advice will be provided to responsible Ministers in November 2010 regarding the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme and other opportunities to reduce costs. <p>2. Review of dam operating levels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In view of the summer weather outlook, the Minister will write to the Water Grid Manager requesting that it consider options to pre-emptively reduce storage volumes in order to help manage low-level downstream flooding impacts. • At a minimum, it is expected that Wivenhoe, North Pine and Leslie Harrison Dams will be reduced to about 95% of capacity in order to minimise the frequency of major gate releases. In turn, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implemented through the Water Grid Manager's Operating Strategy and Grid Instructions. • Queensland Water Commission to urgently amend its System Operating Plan to enable these instructions to be issued. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media release announcing this initiative as part of a package of measures being taken in view of summer weather forecasts. • Option to also announce that options to reduce bulk water costs are being investigated, and the review of the bulk water price path brought forward in order to pass on some of these savings to consumers. Future price increases will be less than under the current price path. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet consideration and announcement 25 October 2010 • Implementation within a week
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In view of the summer weather outlook, the Minister will write to the Water Grid Manager requesting that it consider options to pre-emptively reduce storage volumes in order to help manage low-level downstream flooding impacts. • At a minimum, it is expected that Wivenhoe, North Pine and Leslie Harrison Dams will be reduced to about 95% of capacity in order to minimise the frequency of major gate releases. In turn, 	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part of same media release announcing measures being taken in view of summer weather forecasts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announcement as above. • Technical review to commence immediately.

<p>this will reduce the frequency of flooding crossings near the dam, which isolates some residents and inconveniences others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operating arrangements may also be considered to marginally reduce downstream risks in some circumstances. The release will have little or no impact on water security. It is likely that dams will refill over the coming wet season. If not, the probability of dams falling to 40% of capacity over the next 10 years will increase from 2.1 to 2.6%. The Dam Safety Regulator (DERM) will also write to all large water supply dam owners, requesting that they ensure that their Emergency Action Plans are current. These plans are developed with Local governments so as to assist them to manage flooding impacts downstream from the dam 			
<p>3. Protocol for Wivenhoe Dam floodwater release communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A protocol is being developed between relevant Queensland Government agencies, the Bureau of Meteorology, and the Brisbane, Somerset and Ipswich Councils to ensure the provision of robust and consistent communications concerning releases. 	<p>NA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The intention to develop the protocol has already been announced by the Premier 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Already announced

Director-General
 Department of Environment and Resource Management
 Date:

Stephen Robertson
 Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
 Date:

Tab 48

Barry Dennien

From: Bradley John [John.Bradley [REDACTED]]
Sent: Friday, 22 October 2010 8:06 AM
To: Dan Spiller; Tim Watts; Reilly Bob; Barry Dennien
Subject: FW: Matter to note
Attachments: Matter to note_Desalination and dam levels v2.docx

This looks excellent to me – tim is it what you think Minister is expecting?

John Bradley
Director-General
Department of Environment and Resource Management
Teleph [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: Dan Spiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 22 October 2010 7:50 AM
To: Bradley John
Cc: Dennien Barry @ SEQWGM; Reilly Bob
Subject: Matter to note

John,

Proposed matter to note attached. It has gone over one page.

Bob has contributed to the dam level and protocol notes.

Please call me if you need any clarification. We are working on the releases and letters (and supporting detail with WaterSecure).

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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MATTERS FOR CABINET TO NOTE

<u>Department</u>	Department of Environment and Resource Management
<u>Responsible Minister</u>	Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade

<u>Description of Matter</u>	<u>Head of Power (if applicable)</u>	<u>Public Presentation</u>	<u>Timing</u>
<p>1. Operation of Tugun desalination facility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water supply for South East Queensland is now secure. With this security, the desalination facility will immediately transition to 'hot standby' mode. It will typically operate at about 3% of capacity, saving operating costs and energy consumption. However, it will be maintained and operated such that it is available to produce water at short notice, as a response to water quality incidents or when other assets are unavailable. The operating mode will be reviewed after two years, prior to purchasing new membranes. Savings in 2010/11 are estimated at \$5 million compared to continued operation at one-third of capacity, increasing to \$10 million in 2011/12. Savings will be incorporated into the review of the bulk water price path, contributing towards lower price increases than have previously been announced. The plant is operated under contract by Veolia, with maintenance undertaken by separate contractors. Veolia staff will now be required to undertake the maintenance also, avoiding the cost of contractors. Over time, Veolia staff may also be reduced. Separate advice will be provided to responsible Ministers in November 2010 regarding the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme and other opportunities to reduce costs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implemented through the Water Grid Manager's Operating Strategy and Grid Instructions. Queensland Water Commission to urgently amend its System Operating Plan to enable these instructions to be issued. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Media release announcing this initiative as part of a package of measures being taken in view of summer weather forecasts. Option to also announce that options to reduce bulk water costs are being investigated, and the review of the bulk water price path brought forward in order to pass on some of these savings to consumers. Future price increases will be less than under the current price path. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cabinet consideration and announcement 25 October 2010 Implementation within a week
<p>2. Review of dam operating levels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In view of the summer weather outlook, the Minister will write to the Water Grid Manager requesting that it consider options to pre-emptively reduce storage volumes in order to help manage low-level downstream flooding impacts. At a minimum, it is expected that Wivenhoe, North Pine and Leslie Harrison Dams will be reduced to about 95% of capacity in order to minimise the frequency of major gate releases. In turn, 	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part of same media release announcing measures being taken in view of summer weather forecasts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announcement as above. Technical review to commence immediately.

<p>this will reduce the frequency of flooding crossings near the dam, which isolates some residents and inconveniences others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operating arrangements may also be considered to marginally reduce downstream risks in some circumstances. The release will have little or no impact on water security. It is likely that dams will refill over the coming wet season. If not, the probability of dams falling to 40% of capacity over the next 10 years will increase from 2.1 to 2.6%. The Dam Safety Regulator (DERM) will also write to all large water supply dam owners, requesting that they ensure that their Emergency Action Plans are current. These plans are developed with Local governments so as to assist them to manage flooding impacts downstream from the dam 		
<p>3. Protocol for Wivenhoe Dam floodwater release communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A protocol is being developed between relevant Queensland Government agencies, the Bureau of Meteorology, and the Brisbane, Somerset and Ipswich Councils to ensure the provision of robust and consistent communications concerning releases. 	<p>NA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The intention to develop the protocol has already been announced by the Premier 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Already announced

Director-General
 Department of Environment and Resource Management
 Date:

Stephen Robertson
 Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
 Date:

Tab 49

Barry Dennien

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Friday, 22 October 2010 8:41 AM
To: Dan Spiller; Bradley John; Tim Watts; Reilly Bob; Barry Dennien
Subject: RE: Matter to note
Attachments: Matter to note_Desalination and dam levels v3.docx

Apologies – my version control failed.

Attached is the final version with note on the status of the protocol.

Dan

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Friday, 22 October 2010 8:27 AM
To: 'Bradley John'; Tim Watts; Reilly Bob; Barry Dennien
Subject: RE: Matter to note

Updated version following discussion with Tim.

Dan

From: Bradley John [mailto:John.Bradley.]
Sent: Friday, 22 October 2010 8:06 AM
To: Dan Spiller; Tim Watts; Reilly Bob; Barry Dennien
Subject: FW: Matter to note

This looks excellent to me – tim is it what you think Minister is expecting?

John Bradley
Director-General
Department of Environment and Resource Management
Teleph [redacted]
ail: [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: Dan Spiller [redacted]
Sent: Friday, 22 October 2010 7:50 AM
To: Bradley John
Cc: Dennien Barry @ SEQWGM; Reilly Bob
Subject: Matter to note

John,

Proposed matter to note attached. It has gone over one page.

Bob has contributed to the dam level and protocol notes.

Please call me if you need any clarification. We are working on the releases and letters (and supporting detail with WaterSecure).

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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MATTERS FOR CABINET TO NOTE

<u>Department</u>	Department of Environment and Resource Management
<u>Responsible Minister</u>	Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade

Description of Matter	Head of Power (if applicable)	Public Presentation	Timing
<p>1. Review of dam operating levels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In view of the summer weather outlook, the Minister will write to the Water Grid Manager requesting that it consider options to pre-emptively reduce storage volumes in order to help manage low-level downstream flooding impacts. At a minimum, it is expected that Wivenhoe, North Pine and Leslie Harrison Dams will be reduced to about 95% of capacity in order to minimise the frequency of major gate releases. In turn, this will reduce the frequency of flooding crossings near the dams, which isolates some residents and inconveniences others. Operating arrangements may also marginally reduce downstream risks in some circumstances. The release will have little or no impact on water security. It is likely that dams will refill over the coming wet season. If not, advice is that the probability of dams falling to 40% of capacity over the next 10 years will increase from 2.1 to 2.6%. The Dam Safety Regulator (DERM) will also write to all large water supply dam owners, requesting that they ensure that their Emergency Action Plans are current. These plans are developed with Local governments so as to assist them to manage flooding impacts downstream from the dam 	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Media release announcing this initiative as one of a the measures being taken in view of summer weather forecasts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cabinet consideration 25 November 2010. Technical review of options to commence immediately.
<p>2. Operation of Tugun desalination facility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water supply for South East Queensland is now secure. Within this context, responsible Ministers have requested advice regarding the optimal operation of the desalination facility and Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme. Advice is expected to be received in mid November 2010. For the desalination facility, options being considered include standby mode and mothballing. It is understood that the standby option is likely to be recommended. Under this option, the plant would typically 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreed operational changes will be implemented through the Water Grid Manager's Operating Strategy and Grid Instructions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announcement as part of the review of the bulk water price path, as one of a range of cost savings measures. With the review, future price increases will be less than under the current price path. Advice due mid November 2010

<p>operate at about 3% of capacity. However, it will be maintained and operated such that it is available to produce water at short notice, as a response to water quality incidents or when other assets are unavailable due to maintenance or failure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme, it is understood that the advice will recommend that at least one site be mothballed. Options to mothball or demolish small and aged water treatment plants are also being investigated. These operational changes will reduce costs. Assumed savings will be incorporated into the review of the bulk water price path, contributing towards lower price increases than have previously been announced. 			
<p>3. Protocol for Wivenhoe Dam floodwater release communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A protocol is being developed between relevant Queensland Government agencies, the Bureau of Meteorology, and the Brisbane, Somerset and Ipswich Councils to ensure the provision of robust and consistent communications concerning releases. A draft protocol has been distributed to the Brisbane City, Somerset and Lockyer Valley Councils for review. 	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The intention to develop the protocol has already been announced by the Premier 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Already announced

Director-General
 Department of Environment and Resource Management
 Date:

Stephen Robertson
 Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
 Date:

Table 50

Barry Dennien

From: Reilly Bob [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 22 October 2010 11:49 AM
To: Barry Dennien
Subject: Flood Protocol-role of Grid Manager

Hi Barry, Peter

In the Public Relations section of the version of the protocol circulated yesterday, the Grid Manager is referred to as "... concentrating on the technical aspects of release timings and the duration of effects as lead technical agency on floodwater release..."

This is somewhat misleading as the lead agency for the technical aspects of the floodwater releases is clearly Seqwater. EMQ and I consider that the Grid Manager's role would be best described by substituting the word "communication" for "technical" in both spots in the sentence above.

Case let me know if you have any concerns about this approach. Seqwater is seeking this change.

Regards

Bob

Bob Reilly

General Manager, Office of the Water Supply Regulator

Teleph [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

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Table 51

Barry Dennien

From: Reilly Bob [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 22 October 2010 11:59 AM
To: Barry Dennien
Subject: RE: Flood Protocol-role of Grid Manager

Hi Barry

Thanks

Bob

Bob Reilly
General Manager, Office of the Water Supply Regulator
Teleph [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: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 22 October 2010 11:59 AM
To: Reilly Bob
Cc: Lyons Michael @ SEQWGM; Denner Scott @ SEQWGM
Subject: Re: Flood Protocol-role of Grid Manager

Bob

All ok by me

Regards
Barry Dennien

On 22/10/2010, at 11:48 AM, "Reilly Bob" [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi Barry, Peter

In the Public Relations section of the version of the protocol circulated yesterday, the Grid Manager is referred to as "... concentrating on the technical aspects of release timings and the duration of effects as lead technical agency on floodwater release..."

This is somewhat misleading as the lead agency for the technical aspects of the floodwater releases is clearly Seqwater. EMQ and I consider that the Grid Manager's role would be best described by substituting the word "communication" for "technical" in both spots in the sentence above.

Please let me know if you have any concerns about this approach. Seqwater is seeking this change.

Regards

Bob

Bob Reilly

General Manager, Office of the Water Supply Regulator

Teleph

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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Tab 52

Barry Dennien

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Friday, 22 October 2010 3:32 PM
To: stephenie.hogan [REDACTED]
Cc: Reilly Bob; Bradley John; tim.watts [REDACTED] Barry Dennien
Subject: Letter
Attachments: WGMletter.docx; Dam level draft release.docx

Steph,

Draft letter attached.

We have also drafted what a media release would look like, should there be any interest in an announcement (I understand Michael may have spoken to Geoff about it).

Apologies for the delay.

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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Mr Gary Humphrys
Chair
SEQ Water Grid Manager
PO Box 16205
CITY EAST QLD 4002

Dear Mr Humphrys

I write in relation to seeking advice regarding options to and benefits of releasing water from key storages in anticipation of major inflows over the coming summer.

I understand that the key Water Grid storages are at 100 per cent of storage capacity going into the traditional wet season, with forecasts of higher than median rainfall and the prospect of multiple flood events.

I am also advised that our water supply is more secure than ever before, due to storages being full, key Water Grid projects completed and ongoing water efficiency.

I seek your urgent advice about whether this water security provides an opportunity to reduce the volume stored in key dams as a means of reducing the severity, frequency and duration of flooding in downstream areas.

In doing so, I note that recent releases from Wivenhoe Dam have resulted in significant inconvenience and isolation for residents in some downstream areas. With the catchments saturated, I understand that even quite minor rainfall events will result in further water releases and further inconvenience for these residents.

By end November 2010, I would appreciate your advice as to the available options and the likely benefits. At a minimum, you should review the operation of Wivenhoe, North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams. At least for Leslie Harrison Dam, this would be a return to standard operating procedures prior to the drought, when the dam was routinely drawn down to 95 per cent of capacity to minimise the impacts of storms on downstream residents.

I also seek your confirmation that these options would not significantly impact upon our current water security, measured as the probability of needing to reintroduce Medium Level Restrictions over the next five to ten years.

I emphasise that this is only a temporary measure, reflecting that dams are full prior to the commencement of the traditional wet season. I expect that your advice will include a clear date or trigger beyond which dams will be allowed to fill to their full supply level.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Should you have any further enquiries, please feel welcome to contact Mr Jon Bradley, Director General, Department of Environment and Resource Management on

Yours sincerely

Stephen Robertson MP

DRAFT ONLY

SEQ Water Grid prepares for summer big wet

The Minister for Natural Resources Stephen Robertson MP today announced measures to configure the Grid for improved flood mitigation in preparation for a forecast bigger than usual wet season.

Our water supply is now more secure than ever before. The Grid 12 are at 100 per cent of storage capacity, going into the traditional wet season with forecasts of higher than median rainfall and the prospect of multiple flood events.

With this security, we have the opportunity to make sure we are prepared as possible for the prospect of minor and major flooding.

Recent heavy rains which saw a flood water volume the size of Sydney Harbour – or the equivalent to 122,000 Olympic sized swimming pools – added to and released safely from Wivenhoe Dam in less than 7 days.

Minister Robertson said that while Wivenhoe is designed to handle even more water, it was prudent to consider options to increase the dam's storage compartment for the coming season. This would be achieved by temporarily decreasing its drinking water storage capacity.

"Wivenhoe Dam no longer stands alone. Because the dams are full and we've hooked them up across the Grid, we can actually rely on Wivenhoe Dam less for drinking water and more for flood mitigation which gives us a powerful advantage."

"Let's remember, Wivenhoe Dam was built to hold back flood water from Brisbane and Ipswich. This temporary move may give it even more capacity to help keep us dry, just in case we really get a huge season." Mr Robertson said.

At the very least, we expect it to reduce the frequency and duration of major dam releases, which flood crossings near the dam – isolating some residents and significantly inconveniencing others.

The operation of North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams will also be reviewed. At least for Leslie Harrison Dam, this would be a return to standard operating procedures prior to the drought, when the dam was routinely drawn down to 95 per cent of capacity to minimise the impacts of storms on downstream residents.

We have analysed water security for South East Queensland over five years, taking into account differing levels of flows and demand. Our analysis indicates that lowering the combined storage level of Grid 12 storages to 95 per cent of capacity presents a low risk of adversely effecting regional or sub-regional water security.

Seqwater and the Water Grid Manager are reviewing the operations of the dams and will provide detailed advice on the changes to operations for this summer.

Mr Robertson emphasised that this is only a temporary measure, reflecting that dams are full.

Mr Robertson also announced that the \$395 million upgrade of Hinze Dam remains on track to be completed by the end of year, providing much improved flood protection for parts of the Gold Coast.

"While we have all been focussed on water security, the improved flood management capacity is every bit as important."

"South East Queensland has a water grid for all seasons not just for drought. Being able to move water means an unprecedented level of management to direct and control our water supplies. These prudent decisions simply reflect the Grid's world class ability to respond to a changing environment in the interest of all South east Queenslanders."

Ends

Table 53

Gina O'Driscoll

From: Reilly Bob [Bob.Reilly [REDACTED]]
Sent: Sunday, 24 October 2010 5:47 AM
To: Barry Dennien; Dan Spiller
Subject: Fw: Proposed temporary reduction in full supply level of Wivenhoe dam

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

From: Kathy Reilly [REDACTED]
To: Reilly Bob
Sent: Sun Oct 24 05:38:57 2010
Subject: Proposed temporary reduction in full supply level of Wivenhoe dam

Hi Barry, Dan

○ may have already thought of this, in which I case I apologise for raising it.

If we temporarily drop the full supply level e.g to 95%, for the next few months, then Toowoomba will argue that they should be able to access that water for nothing if they want it.

Separately, and perhaps more importantly, their position on this matter may also influence how fast we can drop the level to 95% i.e depending upon the release strategy, we could get it to 95% a lot faster than if we were solely relying on Toowoomba to drop the level by pumping it up to Cressbrook.

Regards

Bob

-----+
○ ink B4U Print
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Tab 54

Barry Dennien

From: Reilly Bob [Bob.Reilly [REDACTED]]
Sent: Sunday, 24 October 2010 10:46 AM
To: Robson Chris
Cc: Barry Dennien; Dan Spiller
Subject: Fw: Possibile modification to Wivenhoe/Somerset flood protocol to cover the proposed low-level releases to keep Somerset/Wivenhoe dam levels at 95% over the next few months

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

From: Kathy Reilly [REDACTED]
To: Reilly Bob
Sent: Sun Oct 24 10:25:30 2010
Subject: Possibile modification to Wivenhoe/Somerset flood protocol to cover the proposed low-level releases to keep Somerset/Wivenhoe dam levels at 95% over the next few months

Chris

Currently the protocol only covers those releases need to get the stroage levels down to 100% of full supply capacity. (Releases below this level are not covered by the Flood Mitigation manual).

So, should the protocol also cover the proposed reductions down to 95% (or whatever level is finally chosen)?

Personally, I think it should, as they are flood mitigation-related releases, but either way I will need a decision on this matter on Monday as it looks as if we will be negotiating with councils on Monday on the protocol.

Thanks

Bob

-----+
Thank B4U Print
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3 sheets of A4 paper = 1 litre of water
-----+

Table 5.5

Barry Dennien

From: Robson Chris [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, 24 October 2010 8:58 PM
To: Reilly Bob
Cc: Barry Dennien; Dan Spiller
Subject: Re: Possible modification to Wivenhoe/Somerset flood protocol to cover the proposed low-level releases to keep Somerset/Wivenhoe dam levels at 95% over the next few months

Bob

I understand these releases will affect low level crossings in Somerset and Ipswich local govt areas and so to be consistent with the spirit of the protocol I suggest they be included Chris

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

From: Reilly Bob
To: Robson Chris
Cc: Dennien Barry @ SEQWGM; 'dan.spiller' [REDACTED] <dan.spiller@[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun Oct 24 10:45:40 2010
Subject: Fw: Possible modification to Wivenhoe/Somerset flood protocol to cover the proposed low-level releases to keep Somerset/Wivenhoe dam levels at 95% over the next few months

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

From: Kathy Reilly [REDACTED]
To: Reilly Bob
Sent: Sun Oct 24 10:25:30 2010
Subject: Possible modification to Wivenhoe/Somerset flood protocol to cover the proposed low-level releases to keep Somerset/Wivenhoe dam levels at 95% over the next few months

Hi Chris

Currently the protocol only covers those releases need to get the storage levels down to 100% of full supply capacity. (Releases below this level are not covered by the Flood Mitigation manual).

So, should the protocol also cover the proposed reductions down to 95% (or whatever level is finally chosen)?

Personally, I think it should, as they are flood mitigation-related releases, but either way I will need a decision on this matter on Monday as it looks as if we will be negotiating with councils on Monday on the protocol.

Thanks

Bob

+-----+
Think B4U Print

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Table 56



1

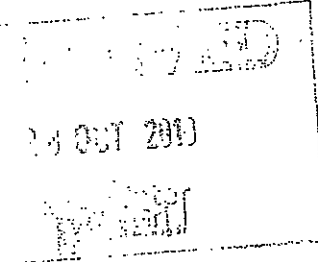


Queensland
Government

Ref CTS 19311/10

25 OCT 2010

Mr Gary Humphrys
Chair
SEQ Water Grid Manager
PO Box 16205
CITY EAST QLD 4002



Office of the
Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and
Minister for Trade

Dear Mr Humphrys

I write in relation to seeking advice regarding options to and benefits of releasing water from key storages in anticipation of major inflows over the coming summer.

I understand that the key Water Grid storages are at 100 per cent of storage capacity going into the traditional wet season, with forecasts of higher than median rainfall and the prospect of multiple flood events.

I am also advised that our water supply is more secure than ever before, due to storages being full, key Water Grid projects completed and ongoing water efficiency.

I seek your urgent advice about whether this water security provides an opportunity to reduce the volume stored in key dams as a means of reducing the severity, frequency and duration of flooding in downstream areas.

In doing so, I note that recent releases from Wivenhoe Dam have resulted in significant inconvenience and isolation for residents in some downstream areas. With the catchments saturated, I understand that even quite minor rainfall events will result in further water releases and further inconvenience for these residents.

By end November 2010, I would appreciate your advice as to the available options and the likely benefits. At a minimum, you should review the operation of Wivenhoe, North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams. At least for Leslie Harrison Dam, this would be a return to standard operating procedures prior to the drought, when the dam was routinely drawn down to 95 per cent of capacity to minimise the impacts of storms on downstream residents.

I also seek your confirmation that these options would not significantly impact upon our current water security, measured as the probability of needing to reintroduce Medium Level Restrictions over the next five to ten years.

Level 17
61 Mary Street Brisbane 4000
PO Box 15216 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3225 1861
Facsimile +61 7 3225 1828
Email nrmet@ministerial.qld.gov.au
ABN 65 959 415 158



**Queensland
Government**

Office of the
**Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and
Minister for Trade**

I emphasise that this is only a temporary measure, reflecting that dams are full prior to the commencement of the traditional wet season. I expect that your advice will include a clear date or trigger beyond which dams will be allowed to fill to their full supply level.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Should you have any further enquiries, please feel welcome to contact Mr John Bradley, Director General, Department of Environment and Resource Management on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

STEPHEN ROBERTSON MP

Level 17
61 Mary Street Brisbane 4000
PO Box 15216 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3225 1861
Facsimile +61 7 3225 1828
Email nrmet@ministerial.qld.gov.au
ABN 65 959 415 158

Table 57

Barry Dennien

From: Reilly Bob [Bob.Reilly [REDACTED]]
Sent: Monday, 25 October 2010 8:45 AM
To: Barry Dennien
Subject: FW: Possible modification to Wivenhoe/Somerset flood protocol to cover the proposed low-level releases to keep Somerset/Wivenhoe dam levels at 95% over the next few months

FYI

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

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

From: Michael Shapland [mailto:Michael.Shapland [REDACTED]]
Sent: Monday, 25 October 2010 8:34 AM
To: Reilly Bob
Cc: brad.smith [REDACTED] Irina Stankovska
Subject: FW: Possible modification to Wivenhoe/Somerset flood protocol to cover the proposed low-level releases to keep Somerset/Wivenhoe dam levels at 95% over the next few months

Bob, we would be very happy if the dam levels were dropped to 95%.

Mike

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

From: Bruce Grady
Sent: Monday, 25 October 2010 08:28
To: Michael Shapland
Subject: RE: Possible modification to Wivenhoe/Somerset flood protocol to cover the proposed low-level releases to keep Somerset/Wivenhoe dam levels at 95% over the next few months

fine

Regards

Bruce Grady
A/Chief Officer
Emergency Management Queensland

[REDACTED]
telep [REDACTED]
mobil [REDACTED]
fax: [REDACTED]

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

From: Michael Shapland
Sent: Monday, 25 October 2010 8:05 AM

To: Bruce Grady

Subject: FW: Possible modification to Wivenhoe/Somerset flood protocol to cover the proposed low-level releases to keep Somerset/Wivenhoe dam levels at 95% over the next few months

This seems a sensible mitigation measure. Any penalty will be for water supplies - not our core concern. Any views?

Mike

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

From: Reilly Bob [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, 25 October 2010 07:20

To: Brad Smith; Michael Shapland; Irina Stankovska

Subject: FW: Possible modification to Wivenhoe/Somerset flood protocol to cover the proposed low-level releases to keep Somerset/Wivenhoe dam levels at 95% over the next few months

Hi everyone

I will send you the briefing note that went up on late Friday on this matter, later this morning.

In essence, to avoid continual small releases, the Minister (Robertson) will be asking the Grid Manager if it is OK to drop the normal water storage level in SEQ dams to, say, 95% for the forthcoming wet season.

(The reason for asking the Grid Manager is that they are responsible for water supply security)

I will check today if the Minister signed the letter and also how the media around the overall strategy will be handled.

Assuming that it does proceed though, then I think we need to cover it in the Protocol--as does Chris Robson my DDG.

Any views/concerns?

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 -----Original

Message-----

From: Robson Chris

Sent: Sunday, 24 October 2010 8:58 PM

To: Reilly Bob

Cc: Dennien Barry @ SEQWGM; 'dan.spiller' [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Possible modification to Wivenhoe/Somerset flood protocol to cover the proposed low-level releases to keep Somerset/Wivenhoe dam levels at 95% over the next few months.

Bob

I understand these releases will affect low level crossings in Somerset and Ipswich local govt areas and so to be consistent with the spirit of the protocol I suggest they be included Chris

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

From: Reilly Bob

To: Robson Chris

Cc: Dennien Barry @ SEQWGM; 'dan.spiller'

<dan.spiller@seqwgm.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Sun Oct 24 10:45:40 2010

Subject: Fw: Possible modification to Wivenhoe/Somerset flood protocol to cover the proposed low-level releases to keep Somerset/Wivenhoe dam levels at 95% over the next few months

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

From: Kathy Reilly

To: Reilly Bob

Sent: Sun Oct 24 10:25:30 2010

Subject: Possible modification to Wivenhoe/Somerset flood protocol to cover the proposed low-level releases to keep Somerset/Wivenhoe dam levels at 95% over the next few months

Hi Chris

Currently the protocol only covers those releases need to get the storage levels down to 100% of full supply capacity. (Releases below this level are not covered by the Flood Mitigation manual).

So, should the protocol also cover the proposed reductions down to 95% (or whatever level is finally chosen)?

Personally, I think it should, as they are flood mitigation-related releases, but either way I will need a decision on this matter on Monday as it looks as if we will be negotiating with councils on Monday on the protocol.

Thanks

Bob

-----+-----
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
-----+-----

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Table 58

Barry Dennien

From: Reilly Bob [Bob.Reilly@derm.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 25 October 2010 11:24 AM
To: Michael Shapland; Irina Stankovska; Brad Smith; Barry Dennien
Cc: Allen Peter; Hogan Stephenie; Dan Spiller
Subject: Wivenhoe/Somerset protocol
Attachments: CTS 19311_10.DOC; 19311_10 letter.DOC; CTS 19311_10 Letter to J Bradley.DOC; CTS 19311_10 Att 3.DOC; CTS 19311_10 Media.DOC

Hi everyone

Attached is a copy of the briefing note and letter that I alluded to in my email earlier today.

The current situation (at 1120 hours on Monday) is:

- Barry Dennien advises that the Minister signed the letter to the Grid Manager on Friday. So, work will commence on the strategy.
- DERM, EMQ and DPC consider that the Protocol need to reflect the work on the additional flood mitigation strategy mentioned in the letter.
- DERM/EMQ will be negotiating with the Councils later this week on the Protocol—possibly on Tuesday/Wednesday—we would need to tell the Councils what is being proposed in terms of the additional work at that meeting.
- Barry has raised with the Minister (Robertson) office the issue of how best to handle this additional work from a media perspective

The dynamics of the situation are such that we may need to produce a “flood release strategy” to reduce the storages from 100 to 95% (say) of capacity at shorter notice than the 30 days stated in the letter. I suggest the Grid Manager keeps this in mind over the next few days.

DERM's preliminary view is that a release of 40 to 45 cubic metres per second from Wivenhoe, released through the cone valves, would be best (from a flood management perspective) as it does not adversely impact people downstream from Wivenhoe. (The first low level crossings are submerged at 55 cubic metres per second). I assume that such a discharge would also enable optimum production from the hydroelectricity plant (i.e. the “green energy” link) at Wivenhoe, although I suggest this is checked out. It would also maximise the amount of water that Woomba could take (because the releases would continue over a longer period of time), compared with higher volume releases.

Regards

Bob

Bob Reilly
General Manager, Office of the Water Supply Regulator
Teleph [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: Duncan Jan
Sent: Monday, 25 October 2010 7:53 AM
To: Reilly Bob
Subject: CTS 19311/10

Hi Bob

Briefing Note and attachments as requested.

Jan

Jan Duncan
Executive Assistant to Bob Reilly,
General Manager, Office of the Water Supply Regulator

Teleph [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

www.derm.qld.gov.au

Department of Environment and Resource Management
Level 3, 41 George Street
PO Box 2454
Brisbane Q 4001

+-----+

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

+-----+

Department of Environment and Resource Management
MINISTERIAL BRIEFING NOTE

Advisor	OK
Dated / /	
Approved Not Approved Noted Further information required	
Minister.....	
Dated / /	

**TO: Minister for Natural Resources, Mines
 and Energy and Minister for Trade**

**SUBJECT: Managing Flood Impacts Downstream of
 Large Water Supply Dams**

TIMEFRAME

- Approval of this brief is required by 29 October 2010 to enable prompt action to be taken on this matter.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Minister:

- **sign** the letter to the SEQ Grid Manager (Attachment 1) requesting him to consider options to pre-emptively reduce dam water levels to help manage low-level, downstream flood impacts. (A draft media release forms Attachment 2)
- **sign** the letter (Attachment 3) to Director-General, Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM), requesting him to initiate action to remind the owners of large water supply dams about their obligations to provide advice to communities downstream of their dams about flood flows through them.
- **note** the draft letter (Attachment 4) from the dam safety regulator in DERM to dam owners regarding the previous points.

BACKGROUND

Letter to the SEQ Grid Manager

The main SEQ water supply dams have reached their full capacity, for water supply purposes. As their catchments are saturated, even quite minor rainfall events will result in water releases. A large number of minor rainfall events are anticipated between now and the end of the 2011 wet season, in early April 2011.

As these water releases will usually co-incide with local flooding (due to the rain event generating the release) downstream of the dam. These low-level flood events inconvenience a range of people, particularly those who need to access their properties over low-level crossings that traverse these streams/rivers.

Accordingly, it is suggested you request the SEQ Grid Manager to investigate the option of making small releases from these water supply dams to reduce the number of incidents resulting in low-level flooding impacts. (Preliminary advice from the Grid Manager is that such a strategy will not adversely affect water supply security).

Letter to the Director-General

With the exception of Wivenhoe, North Pine and Somerset Dams that have special flood management arrangements, other large water supply dams, once full; basically "pass through" the floodwaters that flow into them.

Author Name: Bob Reilly Position: GM(OWSR) Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 22 October 2010	Cleared by Name: Bob Reilly Position: GM(OWSR) Tel No: [REDACTED]	Cleared by Name: Position: Tel No:	Recommended: Name: John Bradley Director-General, DERM Tel No: [REDACTED] Date:
	Name: Dean Ellwood Position: ADG(ENRR) Tel No:	Name: Position: Tel No:	

However, the local governments responsible for the communities downstream of the dams, can reasonably expect that dam owners will tell them about the volumes of floodwater flowing through their dams.

The dam safety regulator, DERM, requires the owners of large water supply dams to have, and keep current, Emergency Action Plans. Amongst other matters, these plans set out the notification protocols for local governments (and other emergency management agencies) in the event of significant floods (basically those that will impact on buildings).

DERM does not approve these plans, or review their content. Nor is it involved in the negotiations between dam owners and local government/emergency management organisations in the development of these plans.

CURRENT ISSUES

SEQ Grid Manager Letter

Given the water security situation, it is desirable to minimise the low-level flooding impacts typically associated with minor rainfall events, where practical.

Letter to the Director-General

Given the likelihood of above average floods during the 2011 wet season, it is important that the Emergency Action Plans are current.

RESOURCE/IMPLEMENTATION IMPLICATIONS

- The SEQ Grid manager will advise of any financial implications associated with the proposal contained in your letter to him.
- There were no resource issues for DERM.

PROPOSED ACTION

- The two letters will give effect to the commitments being given to Cabinet on 25 October 2010, by yourself, on these matters.

OTHER INFORMATION

- *Consultation:* The SEQ Grid Manager (Dan Spiller) has been consulted and supports the proposed action contained in your letter to the Grid Manager.
- *Legislation:* NA

MINISTER'S COMMENTS

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – Letter to SEQ Grid Manager
- Attachment 2 – Letter to D-G, DERM
- Attachment 3 – Letter to Dam Owners

Author Name: Bob Reilly Position: GM(OWSR) Tel No: [REDACTED] Date: 22 October 2010	Cleared by Name: Bob Reilly Position: GM(OWSR) Tel No: [REDACTED]	Cleared by Name: Position: Tel No:	Recommended: Name: John Bradley Director-General, DERM Tel No: [REDACTED] Date:
	Name: Dean Ellwood Position: ADG(ENRR) Tel No:	Name: Position: Tel No:	

Prepared by:	Bob Reilly	Approved by:	(Name of Dir/ED/GM/RSD)
Title:	General Manager	Title:	(Approving Officer's Position)
Division/Region:	Office of the Water Supply Regulator	Telephone:	(full number)
Telephone:		Date Approved:	(date)
Date Prepared:	22 October 2010		
Date Received in MO:		MO Clearance by:	
		Date Cleared:	

Ref CTS 19311/10

Mr Gary Humphrys
Chair
SEQ Water Grid Manager
PO Box 16205
CITY EAST QLD 4002

Dear Mr Humphrys

I write in relation to seeking advice regarding options to and benefits of releasing water from key storages in anticipation of major inflows over the coming summer.

I understand that the key Water Grid storages are at 100 per cent of storage capacity going into the traditional wet season, with forecasts of higher than median rainfall and the prospect of multiple flood events.

I am also advised that our water supply is more secure than ever before, due to storages being full, key Water Grid projects completed and ongoing water efficiency.

I seek your urgent advice about whether this water security provides an opportunity to reduce the volume stored in key dams as a means of reducing the severity, frequency and duration of flooding in downstream areas.

In doing so, I note that recent releases from Wivenhoe Dam have resulted in significant inconvenience and isolation for residents in some downstream areas. With the catchments saturated, I understand that even quite minor rainfall events will result in further water releases and further inconvenience for these residents.

By end November 2010, I would appreciate your advice as to the available options and the likely benefits. At a minimum, you should review the operation of Wivenhoe, North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams. At least for Leslie Harrison Dam, this would be a return to standard operating procedures prior to the drought, when the dam was routinely drawn down to 95 per cent of capacity to minimise the impacts of storms on downstream residents.

I also seek your confirmation that these options would not significantly impact upon our current water security, measured as the probability of needing to reintroduce Medium Level Restrictions over the next five to ten years.

I emphasise that this is only a temporary measure, reflecting that dams are full prior to the commencement of the traditional wet season. I expect that your advice will include a clear date or trigger beyond which dams will be allowed to fill to their full supply level.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Should you have any further enquiries, please feel welcome to contact Mr John Bradley, Director General, Department of Environment and Resource Management on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

STEPHEN ROBERTSON MP

Prepared by:	Bob Reilly	Approved by:	(Name of Dir/ED/GM/RSD)
Title:	General Manager	Title:	(Approving Officer's Position)
Division/Region:	Office of the Water Supply Regulator	Telephone:	(full number)
Telephone:		Date Approved:	(date)
Date Prepared:	22 October 2010		
Date Received in MO:	MO Clearance by:		Date Cleared:

Attachment 2

Ref CTS 19311/10

Mr J Bradley
 Director-General
 Department of Environment and Resource Management
 GPO Box 2454
 BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Mr Bradley

It is important that the local governments (and other emergency management organisations) responsible for communities located downstream of large water supply dams, are aware of significant flood events that pass through those dams.

I understand that the Department of Environment and Resource Management in its role as dam safety regulator requires the owners of these dams to have, and keep current Emergency Action Plans. Amongst other matters, these plans deal with the matters referred to in the previous paragraph.

I request that you arrange for the relevant dam owners to be contacted and provide you with an assurance that their Emergency Action Plans are current.

I note that the owner of the three flood mitigation dams, namely Wivenhoe, North Pine and Somerset will not be asked to do this, as separate flood management arrangements apply to these dams.

Yours sincerely

STEPHEN ROBERTSON MP

File/Ref CTS 19311/10

To the Dam Owner
[Reply Address]
[SUBURB STATE POSTCODE]

Dear Sir/Madam

It is important that local governments (and other emergency management organisations) responsible for communities downstream of your dam(s), are aware of significant flood events that might pass through them.

To assist in the regard, you are required under dam safety condition DS13 to have, and keep current, an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for each of the following dam(s):

INSERT LIST

I seek your written confirmation, by 30 November 2010, that the(se) EAP(s) are current.

Please contact me on [REDACTED] if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

Peter Allen
Director (Dam Safety)
Office of the Water Supply Regulator

Queensland 4 Australia

Telephone + 61 7
Facsimile + 61 7

Website www.derm.qld.gov.au

ABN 46 640 294 485

DRAFT ONLY

SEQ Water Grid prepares for summer big wet

The Minister for Natural Resources Stephen Robertson MP today announced measures to configure the Grid for improved flood mitigation in preparation for a forecast bigger than usual wet season.

Our water supply is now more secure than ever before. The Grid 12 are at 100 per cent of storage capacity, going into the traditional wet season with forecasts of higher than median rainfall and the prospect of multiple flood events.

With this security, we have the opportunity to make sure we are prepared as possible for the prospect of minor and major flooding.

Recent heavy rains which saw a flood water volume the size of Sydney Harbour – or the equivalent to 122,000 Olympic sized swimming pools – added to and released safely from Wivenhoe Dam in less than 7 days.

Minister Robertson said that while Wivenhoe is designed to handle even more water, it was prudent to consider options to increase the dam's storage compartment for the coming season. This would be achieved by temporarily decreasing its drinking water storage capacity.

"Wivenhoe Dam no longer stands alone. Because the dams are full and we've hooked them up across the Grid, we can actually rely on Wivenhoe Dam less for drinking water and more for flood mitigation which gives us a powerful advantage."

"Let's remember, Wivenhoe Dam was built to hold back flood water from Brisbane and Ipswich. This temporary move may give it even more capacity to help keep us dry, just in case we really get a huge season." Mr Robertson said.

At the very least, we expect it to reduce the frequency and duration of major dam releases, which flood crossings near the dam – isolating some residents and significantly inconveniencing others.

The operation of North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams will also be reviewed. At least for Leslie Harrison Dam, this would be a return to standard operating procedures prior to the drought, when the dam was routinely drawn down to 95 per cent of capacity to minimise the impacts of storms on downstream residents.

We have analysed water security for South East Queensland over five years, taking into account differing levels of flows and demand. Our analysis indicates that lowering the combined storage level of Grid 12 storages to 95 per cent of capacity presents a low risk of adversely effecting regional or sub-regional water security.

Seqwater and the Water Grid Manager are reviewing the operations of the dams and will provide detailed advice on the changes to operations for this summer.

Mr Robertson emphasised that this is only a temporary measure, reflecting that dams are full.

Mr Robertson also announced that the \$395 million upgrade of Hinze Dam remains on track to be completed by the end of year, providing much improved flood protection for parts of the Gold Coast.

"While we have all been focussed on water security, the improved flood management capacity is every bit as important."

"South East Queensland has a water grid for all seasons not just for drought. Being able to move water means an unprecedented level of management to direct and control our water supplies. These prudent decisions simply reflect the Grid's world class ability to respond to a changing environment in the interest of all South east Queenslanders."

Ends

Table 59

Barry Dennien

From: Reilly Bob [Bob.Reilly [REDACTED]]
Sent: Monday, 25 October 2010 1:06 PM
To: Barry Dennien; Hogan Stephenie
Subject: FW: Wivenhoe/Somerset protocol

The latest

Bob

Bob Reilly
General Manager, Office of the Water Supply Regulator
Teleph [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
www.derm.qld.gov.au

Department of Environment and Resource Management
341 George Street, Brisbane Q 4000
PO Box 2454, Brisbane Q 4001

From: Michael Shapland [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 25 October 2010 12:55 PM
To: Bruce Grady
Cc: Reilly Bob
Subject: FW: Wivenhoe/Somerset protocol

Bruce,

Spoke to Vicki Pethybridge in BCC. She was aware of Colin Jenson's discussions with Ken Smith and note to you requesting more time.

In view of Bob's proposals above, we discussed a meeting with a range of BCC senior staff, the water agencies and ourselves mid – late this week to answer some questions they have about sources of truth for water release information.

Continue to liaise with the other two councils and Bob Reilly's team about a date.

Mike

From: Reilly Bob [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 25 October 2010 11:24
To: Michael Shapland; Irina Stankovska; Brad Smith; Dennien Barry @ SEQWGM
Cc: Allen Peter; Hogan Stephenie; Spiller Daniel (SEQWGM)
Subject: Wivenhoe/Somerset protocol

Hi everyone

Attached is a copy of the briefing note and letter that I alluded to in my email earlier today.

The current situation (at 1120 hours on Monday) is:

- Barry Dennien advises that the Minister signed the letter to the Grid Manager on Friday. So, work will commence on the strategy.
- DERM, EMQ and DPC consider that the Protocol need to reflect the work on the additional flood mitigation strategy mentioned in the letter.
- DERM/EMQ will be negotiating with the Councils later this week on the Protocol—possibly on Tuesday/Wednesday—we would need to tell the Councils what is being proposed in terms of the additional work at that meeting.
- Barry has raised with the Minister (Robertson) office the issue of how best to handle this additional work from a media perspective

The dynamics of the situation are such that we may need to produce a "flood release strategy" to reduce the storages from 100 to 95% (say) of capacity at shorter notice than the 30 days stated in the letter. I suggest the Grid Manager keeps this in mind over the next few days.

DERM's preliminary view is that a release of 40 to 45 cubic metres per second from Wivenhoe, released through the cone valves, would be best (from a flood management perspective) as it does not adversely impact people downstream from Wivenhoe. (The first low level crossings are submerged at 55 cubic metres per second). I assume that such a discharge would also enable optimum production from the hydroelectricity plant (i.e. the "green energy" link) at Wivenhoe, although I suggest this is checked out. It would also maximise the amount of water that Toowoomba could take (because the releases would continue over a longer period of time), compared with higher volume releases.

Regards

Bob

Bob Reilly
General Manager, Office of the Water Supply Regulator

Teleph [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

www.derm.qld.gov.au

Department of Environment and Resource Management
3 41 George Street, Brisbane Q 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane Q 4001

From: Duncan Jan
Sent: Monday, 25 October 2010 7:53 AM
To: Reilly Bob
Subject: CTS 19311/10

Hi Bob

Briefing Note and attachments as requested.

Jan

Jan Duncan
Executive Assistant to Bob Reilly,
General Manager, Office of the Water Supply Regulator

Teleph [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

www.derm.qld.gov.au

Department of Environment and Resource Management
Level 3, 41 George Street
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

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Table 60

Barry Dennien

From: Dan Spiller
Sent: Monday, 25 October 2010 5:53 PM
To: jpruss [REDACTED]
Cc: Barry Dennien
Subject: Operating level review

Jim,

I rang but did not catch you. Further to our discussion last week, we have been advised that the Minister has written to us seeking a review of operating levels. We expect to get the letter soon.

I understand that the letter:

- seeks, by end November 2010, advice as to the available options and the likely benefits
- states that, at a minimum, a review of the operation of Wivenhoe, North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams emphasises that this is only a temporary measure, reflecting that dams are full prior to the commencement of the traditional wet season
- seeks advice about a clear date or trigger beyond which dams will be allowed to fill to their full supply level.

I will get a letter from CEO to CEO drafted as soon as possible. In the meantime, given the timeframe, it would be useful if Rob could commence a technical review.

I understand that the protocol with the Councils may also flag the option. Also, the Minister may make a statement. In either case, there is a risk that we may be called on for definitive advice sooner rather than later.

Regards,
Dan

Daniel Spiller
Director, Operations
SEQ Water Grid Manager
Phone [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane
st: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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Tea **61**

Barry Dennien

From: Barry Dennien
Sent: Tuesday, 26 October 2010 7:37 AM
To: Waldman Karen
Cc: Gina O'Driscoll; Dan Spiller
Subject: Request for a review of dam operating levels
Attachments: image001.gif

Karen

The Minister has asked if we can review the flood safety benefits of pre-emptively dropping Wivenhoe supply levels a few percentage points. I letter will arrive today asking:

- seeks, by end November 2010, advice as to the available options and the likely benefits
- states that, at a minimum, a review of the operation of Wivenhoe, North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams emphasises that this is only a temporary measure, reflecting that dams are full prior to the commencement of the traditional wet season
- seeks advice about a clear date or trigger beyond which dams will be allowed to fill to their full supply level.
- Seeks advice on the best method, slow release or fast release over a few days as rain events are confirmed

I will cc the letter when it comes in.

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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Tab 62

Barry Dennien

From: Reilly Bob [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 26 October 2010 8:03 AM
To: Barry Dennien; Peter Borrows; Allen Peter
Cc: Michael Shapland; Duncan Jan; Brad Smith; Robson Chris
Subject: Meeting with councils on Wivenhoe/Somerset flood protocol

Hi Barry, Peter (Borrows)

We are organising to meet with the Councils at 0800 (to 1000) on Thursday 28 October 2010. The venue will be the Floor 3 Conference room in Mineral House, 41 George St, Brisbane i.e. where we met last week.

In terms of the protocol, Brisbane City Council wishes to have a detailed understanding of the "flows" of various types of technical information and which agency is responsible for which actions (in some detail). (The other councils have not raised any issues, so far)

Brisbane will be sending senior staff, I would appreciate it if your senior technical staff came to the meeting—please let me know if that is impractical.

Mike Shapland will arrange for invitations to BOM and the Councils.

I will let you know if we receive further detail about the council(s)' issues.

Barry

As previously discussed, could you please resolve what we can tell Councils about the proposal to reduce storages to, say, 95% of full supply level for the duration of the wet season.

Peter (Allen)

Could you please attend the meeting.

Thanks

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

+-----+

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3 sheets of A4 paper = 1 litre of water

+-----+

Tea **63**

Barry Dennien

From: Reilly Bob [Bob.Reilly [REDACTED]]
Sent: Tuesday, 26 October 2010 8:05 AM
To: Peter Borrows; Barry Dennien
Cc: Michael Shapland; Allen Peter
Subject: FW: Draft Protocol for the release of flood waters from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams
Attachments: img-X22180352-0001.pdf

Hi Peter, Barry

All we have so far from Brisbane City Council

Regards

Bob

Bob Reilly
General Manager, Office of the Water Supply Regulator
Teleph [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
www.derm.qld.gov.au

Department of Environment and Resource Management
Lvl 3 41 George Street, Brisbane Q 4000
PO Box 2454, Brisbane Q 4001

From: Michael Shapland [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 26 October 2010 7:58 AM
To: Reilly Bob
Subject: FW: Draft Protocol for the release of flood waters from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams

Not much here...

Mike

From: Bruce Grady
Sent: Monday, 25 October 2010 13:00
To: Michael Shapland
Subject: FW: Draft Protocol for the release of flood waters from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams

Regards

Bruce Grady
A/Chief Officer
Emergency Management Queensland

From: CEO Office [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 22 October 2010 6:05 PM
To: Bruce Grady
Cc: Director General [REDACTED] Tammy Anderson; Vicki Pethybridge
Subject: Draft Protocol for the release of flood waters from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams

Dear Mr Grady

Please find attached a letter addressed to you from the CEO of Brisbane City Council.

Thanks

Office of the Chief Executive
Brisbane City Council
Ph: [REDACTED]
www.brisbane.qld.gov.au

This message has passed through an insecure network.
Please direct all enquiries to the message author.

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Dedicated to a better Brisbane

22 October 2010

Mr Bruce Grady
Acting Chief Officer
Emergency Management Queensland
GPO Box 1425
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Mr Grady

Thank you for email of Thursday 21 October 2010 to Vicki Pethybridge, Divisional Manager, Families and Community Services Division regarding the draft protocol for the release of flood waters from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams.

Information received on Friday 15 October 2010 by the Lord Mayor from the Premier indicated that a meeting would be held to discuss this topic. You have requested Council's response to the draft protocol be returned to you on Friday 22 October 2010. However, we have not been made aware of the meeting referred to by the Premier, and would have preferred to participate in a broader conversation regarding capabilities in monitoring flood impacts.

I do not have the response to send to you today. I will be in a position to provide that information to you early in the week commencing Monday 25 October 2010.

Please feel free to contact Vicki Pethybridge on [REDACTED] if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours sincerely

Colin Jensen
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Tab 64

Barry Dennien

From: Barry Dennien
Sent: Tuesday, 26 October 2010 8:13 AM
To: 'Tim Watts'
Subject: Wivenhoe levels
Attachments: image001.gif

Hi Tim

1. Did the Minister's letter get sent?
2. Does he wish to announce it?

Barry Dennien
Chief Executive Officer
SEQ Water Grid Manager

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Address: Level 15, 53 Albert Street, Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East Qld 4002

ABN: 14783 317 630

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Tea
65

Barry Dennien

From: Tim Watts [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 26 October 2010 2:11 PM
To: Barry Dennien
Subject: RE: Wivenhoe levels
Attachments: image002.gif

The Minister has signed the letter, so it is now working its way through the corro system – is was not announced today and is not likely to be announced for tomorrow.

So the other approach discussed would seem best. Let me know if you need more info.

Tim

Tim Watts
Policy Advisor
Office of the Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade
Pho [REDACTED]
Mob [REDACTED]
C: [REDACTED]

From: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 26 October 2010 8:13 AM
To: Tim Watts
Subject: Wivenhoe levels

Hi Tim

1. Did the Minister's letter get sent?
2. Does he wish to announce it?

Barry Dennien
Chief Executive Officer
SEQ Water Grid Manager
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Address: Level 15, 53 Albert Street, Brisbane
Post: PO Box 16205, City East Qld 4002
ABN: 14783 317 630

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Tea 96

Barry Dennien


From: Lee Hutchison
Sent: Wednesday, 27 October 2010 3:54 PM
To: Jade Simmons
Cc: Barry Dennien; Elaina Smouha; Dan Spiller; Scott Denner; Michael Lyons
Subject: Summer Risks (D/10/6972)
Attachments: Summer Risks for Treasury.DOC

Jade,

As discussed, attached is the summary of summer risks as requested by Treasury (in their template). We have had input from the EMG as well as LinkWater, WaterSecure and SEQwater.

Kind Regards,

Lee

 Hutchison
Risk and Emergency Manager
SEQ Water Grid Manager

Phone: 
Email: 

Post: PO Box 16205, BRISBANE CITY EAST, QLD 4002

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert St, BRISBANE

ABN: 14 783 317 630

1. Summer Issues

The following table should list the key operational risks that could arise over the period. The list should concentrate on those issues that are either (i) highly likely to occur over the period or (ii) potentially of significant impact to the Government's business or community safety.

Issue	Likelihood	Impact	Nature of Impact	Mitigation and Response	Contact
Storm damage / power outage and water supply quality	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Storm activity including damaging winds and lightning strikes causes a significant power outage to Water Grid Infrastructure. This may also be compounded by recent rainfall compromising raw (untreated) water quality. Operationally, a power outage may impact on the ability to pump or treat water. There may be a need to issue a boil water alert. - Adverse media coverage and resultant lack of public confidence in government (State and local) and Water Grid Participants. Lack of confidence by other stakeholders and shareholders (for example Distribution Retail Entities) - Businesses and households may also lose power and be unable to practically and/or immediately respond to a boil water alert. Normal communications may also be unavailable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water Grid Quality Management Plan - Water Grid Emergency Response Plan - Water Grid Participants' Incident Management Plans and business continuity plans including for Isolated Supply Schemes - Water Grid Communications Plan - Operational risk management by Grid Participants - Energy provider response - Water stored in reservoirs (mostly gravity fed) - Boil water alerts - Utilise alternative source of Grid Supply - Inherently resilient infrastructure , review of Critical Spares holdings 	

Issue	Likelihood	Impact	Nature of Impact	Mitigation and Response	Contact
Cyclone / Flooding and Water Grid asset inundation	Medium	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A cyclone causing monsoonal conditions across the South East corner –widespread / flash flooding. Dams in flood operation (full and spilling), Wivenhoe flood mitigation capability is exceeded, some localised flooding to water infrastructure such as pumps and water treatment plants - Flooding is largely a community based issue, however asset inundation could result in a reduced ability to treat or transfer quality water. - A large flood event may also impact on the ability of Grid Participants to use or access workplaces - Adverse media coverage about water releases contributing to community impacts is expected. Public comment and media opinion about the adequacy of emergency response and recovery is also likely. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water Grid Quality Management Plan - Bureau of Meteorology forecasting, modelling and warnings - Water Grid Emergency Response Plan - Protocol for the communication of flooding information during floodwater incidents – Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams - Water Grid Participants' Incident Management Plans and business continuity arrangements including for Isolated Supply Schemes - Boil water alerts - Utilise alternative source of Grid Supply - Water Grid Communications Plan and FAQs - Operational risk management by Grid Participants - Inherently resilient infrastructure - Water Grid Manager communication with other government agencies and departments as well as local councils to ensure consistent key messages 	

Issue	Likelihood	Impact	Nature of Impact	Mitigation and Response	Contact
Water quality and public health	Low	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A health related water quality parameter is breached in treated water resulting in serious community health issues. While a water quality issue in the drinking water is possible, a serious widespread health impact is unlikely with mitigation measures in place. Aesthetic water quality issues could also have similar impacts to those listed below. - Hospitals and doctors would experience an increased volume of patients and enquiries - SSQ and other government call centres may reach or exceed call capacity - Adverse media coverage about water releases contributing to community impacts. Public comment and media opinion about the adequacy of emergency response and recovery is also likely. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water Grid Quality Management Plan - The Water Grid provides flexibility in sourcing water. Water quality monitoring allows early response. - Water Grid Emergency Response Plan and Water Grid Participants' Incident Management Plans and business continuity arrangements including for Isolated Supply Schemes - Boil water alerts - Water Grid Communications Plan and FAQs - Operational risk management including reference to Drinking Water Management Plan by Grid Participants - Communication with other government agencies and departments as well as local councils to ensure consistent key messages 	

Issue	Likelihood	Impact	Nature of Impact	Mitigation and Response	Contact
Water quality and customer complaints	High	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An aesthetics related water quality parameter is breached in treated water resulting in widespread community and industry complaints. - Hospitals and doctors could experience an increased volume of patients and enquiries - SSQ and other government call centres may reach or exceed call capacity - Adverse media coverage about water releases contributing to community impacts. Public comment and media opinion about the adequacy of emergency response and recovery is also likely. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water Grid Quality Management Plan - The Water Grid provides flexibility in sourcing and blending water. Water quality monitoring allows early response. - Water Grid Emergency Response Plan and Water Grid Participants' Incident Management Plans and business continuity arrangements including for Isolated Supply Schemes - Industrial controls - Water Grid Communications Plan and FAQs - Operational risk management including reference to Drinking Water Management Plan by Grid Participants - Communication with other government agencies and departments as well as local councils to ensure consistent key messages 	

Issue	Likelihood	Impact	Nature of Impact	Mitigation and Response	Contact
Dam failure	Low	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High volume inflows and dam wall overflows well above full storage level as well as debris impacts such as a gate failure/jamming may result in a dam safety issue and although highly unlikely, dam failure. While unlikely, this could be more of an issue with full storages and high rainfall where dewatering for repairs is not practical - In the unlikely event of catastrophic failure of a dam wall, downstream impacts would include community flooding and environmental damage - Loss of confidence in government, The Water Grid and Grid Participants - Loss of water supply and storage capability or capacity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operational asset management including dam safety maintenance, inspections and monitoring. - Inherently resilient infrastructure designed to withstand major flood events - Dam safety response arrangements including - SES response (evacuation of downstream communities) - Water Grid Emergency Response Plan and Water Grid Participants' Incident Management Plans and business continuity arrangements 	
Environmental incident	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High volume releases from our dams causes downstream environment damage. - Releasing water from our dams causes fish kill events (i.e. lung fish) - Adverse media coverage about water releases contributing to community impacts. Public comment and media opinion about the adequacy of emergency response and recovery is also likely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Federal and State endorsed management plans including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Fish Management Plans o Fish Response Kits - Water Grid Emergency Response Plan and Water Grid Participants' Incident Management Plans and business continuity arrangements 	

Tab 1967

Barry Dennien

From: Gina O'Driscoll on behalf of Barry Dennien
Sent: Thursday, 28 October 2010 9:52 AM
To: karen.waldman [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Request for a review of dam operating levels
Attachments: Letter from Stephen Robertson MP RE Release of Water from Key Storages.tif

Karen – copy of letter as promised in my previous email.

Regards

Barry Dennien
Chief Executive Officer
SEQ Water Grid Manager

Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Address: 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
Sent: Tuesday, 26 October 2010 7:37 AM
To: Waldman Karen
Cc: Gina O'Driscoll; Dan Spiller
Subject: Request for a review of dam operating levels

Karen

The Minister has asked if we can review the flood safety benefits of pre-emptively dropping Wivenhoe supply levels a few percentage points. I letter will arrive today asking:

- seeks, by end November 2010, advice as to the available options and the likely benefits
- states that, at a minimum, a review of the operation of Wivenhoe, North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams emphasises that this is only a temporary measure, reflecting that dams are full prior to the commencement of the traditional wet season
- seeks advice about a clear date or trigger beyond which dams will be allowed to fill to their full supply level.
- Seels advice on the best method, slow release or fast release over a few days as rain events are confirmed

I will cc the letter when it comes in.

Barry Dennien
Chief Executive Officer
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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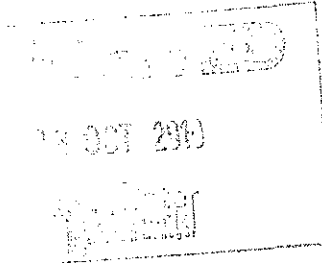


Queensland
Government

Ref CTS 19311/10

25 OCT 2010

Mr Gary Humphrys
Chair
SEQ Water Grid Manager
PO Box 16205
CITY EAST QLD 4002



Office of the
Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and
Minister for Trade

Dear Mr Humphrys

I write in relation to seeking advice regarding options to and benefits of releasing water from key storages in anticipation of major inflows over the coming summer.

I understand that the key Water Grid storages are at 100 per cent of storage capacity going into the traditional wet season, with forecasts of higher than median rainfall and the prospect of multiple flood events.

I am also advised that our water supply is more secure than ever before, due to storages being full, key Water Grid projects completed and ongoing water efficiency.

I seek your urgent advice about whether this water security provides an opportunity to reduce the volume stored in key dams as a means of reducing the severity, frequency and duration of flooding in downstream areas.

In doing so, I note that recent releases from Wivenhoe Dam have resulted in significant inconvenience and isolation for residents in some downstream areas. With the catchments saturated, I understand that even quite minor rainfall events will result in further water releases and further inconvenience for these residents.

By end November 2010, I would appreciate your advice as to the available options and the likely benefits. At a minimum, you should review the operation of Wivenhoe, North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams. At least for Leslie Harrison Dam, this would be a return to standard operating procedures prior to the drought, when the dam was routinely drawn down to 95 per cent of capacity to minimise the impacts of storms on downstream residents.

I also seek your confirmation that these options would not significantly impact upon our current water security, measured as the probability of needing to reintroduce Medium Level Restrictions over the next five to ten years.

Level 17
61 Mary Street Brisbane 4000
PO Box 15216 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3225 1861
Facsimile +61 7 3225 1828
Email nrmet@ministerial.qld.gov.au
ABN 65 959 415 158



**Queensland
Government**

Office of the
**Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and
Minister for Trade**

I emphasise that this is only a temporary measure, reflecting that dams are full prior to the commencement of the traditional wet season. I expect that your advice will include a clear date or trigger beyond which dams will be allowed to fill to their full supply level.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Should you have any further enquiries, please feel welcome to contact Mr John Bradley, Director General, Department of Environment and Resource Management on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

STEPHEN ROBERTSON MP

Level 17
61 Mary Street Brisbane 4000
PO Box 15216 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3225 1861
Facsimile +61 7 3225 1828
Email nrmet@ministerial.qld.gov.au
ABN 65 959 415 158

Ta da 86

Barry Dennien

From: Jade Simmons
Sent: Thursday, 28 October 2010 9:58 AM
To: Graham.Archer [REDACTED]
Cc: Barry Dennien; Dan Spiller
Subject: PPQ - Wivenhoe Dam Spilling - Colleges Crossing
Attachments: PPQ - Wivenhoe Dam Spilling - Colleges Crossing.doc

Hi Graham,

Please find attached the PPQ Wivenhoe Dam Spilling - Colleges Crossing.

Please call for any further queries,

Kindest regards

Jade Simmons

Senior Correspondence Officer
Water Grid Communications Unit
EQ Water Grid Manager

Phone [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane

Post: PO Box 16205, City East QLD 4002

WIVENHOE DAM SPILLING – Colleges Crossing

KEY POINTS

- On Saturday 9 October, Seqwater began releasing water from Wivenhoe Dam's flood storage compartment.
- This action is in accordance with the Manual of Operational Procedures for Flood Mitigation at Wivenhoe Dam and Somerset Dam, which is approved by the State's Dam Safety Regulator in accordance with the Water Supply Act 2008.
- 640,000 megalitres were released through highly controlled measures.
- Management of crossings or roads are the responsibility of local councils.
- There is a *Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangement*, which local councils can apply for financial relief from natural disasters such as flood.
- Discussions with Ipswich City Council in relation to financial relief from flooding would occur through the Department of Infrastructure and Planning, as they are administrating authority of the *Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangement*.

- Emergency Management Queensland is the custodian for the *Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangement*, which is a joint State and Commonwealth set of financial relief measures.
- Unfortunately because this controlled water release was not the result of a natural disaster, it would be deemed consequential to the issues rather than direct result, therefore ineligible for restoration funding.
- Seqwater's current flood release manual was reviewed during 2009 and finalised in January 2010. Seqwater is required to provide relevant catchment councils with a copy of the flood manual and this occurred.
- Councils provided with copies include Somerset Regional Council, Ipswich City Council and Brisbane City Council.

RESPONSE

- On Saturday 9 October, Seqwater began releasing water from Wivenhoe Dam's flood storage compartment.
- This action is in accordance with the Manual of Operational Procedures for Flood Mitigation at Wivenhoe Dam and Somerset Dam, which is approved by the State's Dam Safety Regulator in accordance with the Water Supply Act 2008.
- In accordance with the requirements of the Water Supply Act 2008, Seqwater maintains a comprehensive Dam Safety Management Program covering its 25 referable dams.

- The program includes making arrangements with local councils and emergency management agencies for appropriate response to dam safety emergencies including flood events.
- 640,000 megalitres were held back and released through controlled measures.
- The current flood release manual was reviewed during 2009 and finalised in January 2010. Seqwater is required to provide relevant catchment councils with a copy of the flood manual and this occurred. Councils provided with copies include Somerset Regional Council, Ipswich City Council and Brisbane City Council.
- Management of local crossings or roads are the responsibility of local councils.
- There is a *Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangement*, which local councils can apply for financial relief from natural disasters such as flood.
- Discussions with Ipswich City Council in relation to financial relief from flooding would occur through the Department of Infrastructure and Planning, as they are administrating authority of the *Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangement*.
- Emergency Management Queensland is the custodian for the *Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangement*, which is a joint State and Commonwealth set of financial relief measures.

- Unfortunately because this controlled water release was not the result of a natural disaster, it would be deemed consequential to the issues rather than direct result, therefore ineligible for restoration funding.
- Flood water releases through the dam's spillway gates continued until the morning of 19 October 2010, including a 48 hour phased shutdown.
- The phased shutdown allows Seqwater to control the water through a systematic closure of the gates to discharge stored floodwater to provide for further flood events and to allow Councils to reopen river crossings.
- The phased shutdown also aims to minimise adverse environmental impacts on the river system by copying the natural regression of the flood event.
- In accordance with the requirements of the Water Supply Act 2008, Seqwater maintains a comprehensive Dam Safety Management Program covering its 25 referable dams.
- The program ensures that each of its dams are operated and maintained in a manner that is both safe from a structural perspective and minimises the dam failure risks associated with flood events.

- This includes making arrangements with local councils and emergency management agencies for appropriate response to dam safety emergencies including flood events.
- The program has been endorsed and approved by the Dam Safety Regulator.

Contact: Dan Spiller
Telephone: [REDACTED]
Date: 18 October 2010

CTS No. 18687/10

Approved: Barry Dennien, CEO Water Grid Manager
Approved: Chris Robson, A/Deputy Director-General
Approved:

Tea **69**

Barry Dennien

From: Allen Peter [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 29 October 2010 9:20 AM
To: Scott Denner; Reilly Bob; Michael Shapland; Irina Stankovska; Michael Lyons; mfooster [REDACTED] brad.smith [REDACTED] Rob Drury; P.Baddiley [REDACTED] Bruce Grady
Cc: j.perkins [REDACTED] Barry Dennien
Subject: RE: Protocol on release of water from Dams

I agree with Bob Reilly that it seems that the BoM and the BCC don't want any interference in what warnings they produce and that is probably the way it should be. They don't want any delays in the issuance of their warnings because they have statutory responsibility for such warnings ... especially if there potentially are lives at risk. I know there is interaction between the parties at a technical level to discuss what warning is issued e.g. BCC and BoM and this occurs 24/7.

The issue seems to be 'when does the SEQ Water Grid Manager get involved?' There is probably no such thing as a 'normal' flood. All floods are different in terms of the way they evolve and the people they impact and there will be different lead agencies for each flood. For rapidly developing local flooding it is most likely to be the Councils. For longer term events not involving dam releases, it is most likely the BoM with BCC being interested in the type of impact e.g. debris in the river or backwater impacts on creeks. When dam releases are involved, Seqwater will be involved with the councils progressively being affected as the event moves downstream ... i.e Somerset followed by Ipswich followed by Brisbane. This impact will also be dependent on the timing and the magnitude of coincident flows in the Lockyer and the Bremer. When there are tidal impacts, the reverse is likely with greater impacts at the downstream end.

I suspect the Grid Manager may only need to become involved (or be advised) when there are impacts on people resulting from dam releases?

The protocol becomes important to ensure consistency of the messages so that everyone receives the messages everyone else is issuing. That way, if someone is concerned about the message someone else is issuing, they know who to talk to.

Peter Allen

Director Dam Safety (Water Supply)
Office of the Water Supply Regulator

Telep [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

www.derm.qld.gov.au

From: Scott Denner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 29 October 2010 8:36 AM
To: Reilly Bob; Michael Shapland; Irina Stankovska; Lyons Michael @ SEQWGM; mfooster [REDACTED] brad.smith [REDACTED] Rob Drury; P.Baddiley [REDACTED] Allen Peter; Bruce Grady
Cc: j.perkins [REDACTED] Dennien Barry @ SEQWGM
Subject: RE: Protocol on release of water from Dams

Mike/Irina

In addition to Bob's comments below, our feedback is:

1. Page 4, under public communications should read "The BoM, Seqwater, SEQ Water Grid Manager and Local Governments are to maintain continual discussions, to ensure..."
2. In appendix A, the SEQ Water Grid Communications Unit should be returned to the box "Harmonised information for Public Safety Developed"
3. Appendix A is very much the process for Communications during Dam Floodwater release from Wivenhoe. During a 'normal' flood, the SEQ Water Grid Manager would not be the agency alerting the DG's of the various agencies, and would not be the agency harmonizing communications. The solution is probably two process flow diagrams in the appendix – one for Dam Flood Release, where the State water entities have a leadership role, and another for general flooding, where (per page 3

in the doc) whichever agency or body initiates the TSR assumes responsibility for those higher level notifications and message harmonisation.

Regards

Scott

Scott Denner

Director Risk and Technology

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: Reilly Bob [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, 29 October 2010 8:01 AM

To: Michael Shapland; Irina Stankovska; Michael Lyons; mfooster [REDACTED]
brad.smith [REDACTED] Scott Denner; Rob Drury; P.Baddiley [REDACTED] Allen Peter; Bruce Grady

Cc: j.perkins [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Protocol on release of water from Dams

Hi Mike, Irina

My comments are:

1. Reword the last paragraph as follows:

"... The protocol also covers the possibility that, during an above-average wet season, the water supply level of the dams may be marginally reduced, on a temporary basis, by small water releases. The water supply level would be returned to its normal level prior to the conclusion of the wet season..."

2. I think we need to be clear on whether or not the various parties to the Protocol can decide their own communication messages without the approval of other parties (accepting, of course, that there will be "best efforts" to harmonise messages etc). **This is, I think, a key point.**

I do not think, then that the Grid Manager can ensure "consistency of messages" during flood releases. It may be worth checking this point with BCC today, but I thought that they were quite clear on this point in the meeting yesterday.

Peter Allen may have some additional comments.

Regards

Bob

Bob Reilly

General Manager, Office of the Water Supply Regulator

Teleph [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: Michael Shapland [mailto:Michael.Shapland@seqwgm.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 28 October 2010 7:43 PM
To: Michael Shapland; Irina Stankovska; michael.Lyons@seqwgm.qld.gov.au; mfooster@seqwgm.qld.gov.au; Reilly Bob; brad.smith@seqwgm.qld.gov.au; Denner Scott @ SEQWGM; Rob Drury; P.Baddiley@seqwgm.qld.gov.au; Allen Peter; Bruce Grady
Cc: j.perkins@seqwgm.qld.gov.au
Subject: Protocol on release of water from Dams

Attached please find the latest draft following today's meeting

Although it may look different, many changes are just reordered paragraphs to allow a more general approach.

Comments would be appreciated by 1200 Friday 29 October in order to allow circulation to councils by COB Friday.

Mike

Mike Shapland MBE | Director, Disaster Management
Emergency Management Queensland | Department of Community Safety
Level 3, Block E, Emergency Services Complex, Kedron, Queensland

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

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Table 70



Secure and efficient water
through partnership and innovation

TRIM ref: D/10/7049

2 November 2010

Mr Peter Borrows
Chief Executive Officer
Seqwater
PO Box 16146
City East QLD 4002

Dear Peter

I write to seek your advice about options to, and benefits of, releasing water from key storages in anticipation of major inflows over the coming summer.

The Minister has sought our urgent advice about whether current water security provides an opportunity to reduce the volume stored in key dams as a means of reducing the severity, frequency and duration of flooding in downstream areas. I have attached a copy of his request for your information. You will note that he has highlighted that this is a temporary measure only.

To meet this deadline, I would appreciate your advice about options by 19 November 2010. We can then undertake an assessment of the impact of these options on water security, before jointly preparing advice to the Minister with you.

I understand that Mr Daniel Spiller, Director Operations, has already advised your officers of this request and that investigations have commenced. However, please advise if you have concerns about your ability to meet the above timeframes.

Please do not hesitate to call Dan on [REDACTED] if you have any queries or require any further information.

Yours sincerely |

[REDACTED]
Barry Dennien
Chief Executive Officer

Enclosed: Letter from Stephen Robertson MP regarding release of water from key storages

Table 71

Barry Dennien

From: Bradley John [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 9 November 2010 4:21 PM
To: ken.smith [REDACTED]
Cc: Barry Dennien; Reilly Bob
Subject: Fw: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

Ken

Fyi - note the BCC invitation

Barry/Bob - do you know anything about this process, has it been discussed in context of the current protocol

Thanks

John B

-- Original Message -----

From: Williams Lynette
To: Bradley John
Sent: Tue Nov 09 16:16:52 2010
Subject: FW: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

This is also on your chair

Ta
Lynette

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

From: Ana.Leigh Tucker [mailto:Ana.Leigh.Tucker@brisbane.qld.gov.au] [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 3 November 2010 12:51 PM
To: Williams Lynette
Subject: Fwd: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

Hi Lynette,

given Rebecca is away.

Warm regards,

Ana Leigh.

Working together to make Brisbane Australia's most sustainable city.

Ana Leigh Tucker
Program Officer, Community Engagement
Water Resources
Brisbane City Council
BSQ Lvl 8

Tel: [REDACTED]

>>> Ana.Leigh Tucker 3/11/2010 12:22:13 pm >>>
Hi Rebecca,

Last week I advised Lynette in your office about the opportunity for John Bradley, Director General of Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM), to be a participant in the, Lord Mayor's Taskforce on Suburban Flooding Review and Update.

The 2005 Taskforce report was devised over a period of seven months resulting in strategies to reduce the effect of significant rain events on areas of Brisbane prone to flooding.

The full report is available from the following link.

<http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/community-support/emergency-management/flooding/flooding-taskforce-report/index.htm>

The role of the 2011 Taskforce will be to review the work completed by the 2005 Taskforce, advise where further action is required, and develop a new direction for flood risk management in Brisbane.

The outcome of the Taskforce will be to produce a Water Smart City Flood Management Plan of principles and actions for Council to adapt and respond to flooding.

The Taskforce of 12 people will consist of key government, community, peak body, academic and technical expert representatives.

John's contribution to the taskforce would be as a State Government representative from DERM.

A formal letter and Terms of Reference will be forwarded before the first meeting.

The meeting schedule is as follows.

Wed 1 Dec 2010, 12.30 - 3pm
Wed 2 Feb 2011, 12.30 - 3pm
Wed 23 Feb 2011, 12.30 - 3pm
Wed 16 March 2011, 12.30 - 3pm
Wed 6 April 2011, 12.30 - 3pm

Venue - Level 16 Brisbane Square, 266 George Street, Brisbane.

A light lunch will be provided on all occasions.

Look forward to hearing back from you regarding John's interest in participating.

I would also like you to provide me with the best postal address for your office.

Please email or call me with any questions.

Warm regards,

Ana Leigh

Working together to make Brisbane Australia's most sustainable city.

Ana Leigh Tucker
Program Officer, Community Engagement
Water Resources
Brisbane City Council
BSQ Lvl 8

Tel: [REDACTED]

Tab 72

Barry Dennien

From: Reilly Bob [Bob.Reilly [REDACTED]]
Sent: Tuesday, 9 November 2010 5:04 PM
To: Barry Dennien; Bradley John
Cc: Robson Chris
Subject: RE: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

Hi John

Hi John

It has not been raised by BCC in the current discussions on the draft protocol. Those discussions have focused on the sharing of information/media responses to imminent flooding events--the Lord Mayor's Taskforce looks to have a much wider aim.

Is there anything that you would like me to follow up?

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

From: Barry Dennien [mailto:Barry.Dennien [REDACTED]]
Sent: Tuesday, 9 November 2010 4:43 PM
To: Bradley John
Cc: ken.smith [REDACTED] Reilly Bob
Subject: Re: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

John

I have not heard of it recently.

It did have a big profile in 2005 after it was formed in response to public outcry over localised flooding in the Oxley Creek area.

Regards
Barry Dennien

On 09/11/2010, at 4:21 PM, "Bradley John"
[REDACTED] wrote:

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>
> Fyi - note the BCC invitation
>
> Barry/Bob - do you know anything about this process, has it been
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> Thanks

>
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> To: Bradley John
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>
> Ta
> Lynette

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> From: Ana Leigh Tucker [REDACTED]
> Sent: Wednesday, 3 November 2010 12:51 PM
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> Ana Leigh.

> Working together to make Brisbane Australia's most sustainable city.

> Ana Leigh Tucker
> Program Officer, Community Engagement
> Water Resources
> Brisbane City Council
> BSQ Lvl 8
> Tel: 34070807

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- > I would also like you to provide me with the best postal address for
- > your office.
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- > Please email or call me with any questions.
- >
- > Warm regards,
- >
- >
- > Ana Leigh
- >
- > Working together to make Brisbane Australia's most sustainable city.

Ana Leigh Tucker
 > Program Officer, Community Engagement
 > Water Resources
 > Brisbane City Council
 > BSQ Lvl 8
 >
 > Tel: [REDACTED]

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 > *****

+-----+
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> +-----+
>

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Tab 73

Suzie Emery

Subject: FW: Meeting to discuss: Dam full supply level (FSL) investigations
Location: CEO's office (Level 15, 53 Albert Street)

Start: Tue 23/11/2010 4:00 PM
End: Tue 23/11/2010 5:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Organizer: Barry Dennien

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Barry Dennien
Sent: Friday, 1 April 2011 9:47 AM
To: Barry Dennien; Elaina Smouha; [jpruss](#); [r.drury](#); Dan Spiller
Cc: Rob Drury
Subject: FW: Meeting to discuss: Dam full supply level (FSL) investigations
When: Tuesday, 23 November 2010 4:00 PM-5:00 PM (UTC+10:00) Brisbane.
Where: CEO's office (Level 15, 53 Albert Street)

When: Tuesday, 23 November 2010 4:00 PM-5:00 PM (UTC+10:00) Brisbane.
Where: CEO's office (Level 15, 53 Albert Street)

Note: The GMT offset above does not reflect daylight saving time adjustments.

~~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Petula Martinz **On Behalf Of** Barry Dennien
Sent: Thursday, 18 November 2010 9:55 AM
To: [jpruss](#); [r.drury](#); Dan Spiller
Cc: Rob Drury
Subject: Meeting to discuss: Dam full supply level (FSL) investigations
When: Tuesday, 23 November 2010 4:00 PM-5:00 PM (UTC+10:00) Brisbane.
Where: CEO's office (Level 15, 53 Albert Street)

From: Brooke Foxover [<mailto:bfoxover>] **On Behalf Of** Jim Pruss
Sent: Wednesday, 10 November 2010 3:57 PM
To: Dan Spiller
Cc: Jim Pruss
Subject: Dam full supply level (FSL) investigations (Draft document)

Hi Dan,

This is the draft advice received from Dam safety guys to date.

Suggest we discuss expectations/ other required details over the phone when convenient.

Once discussed, Seqwater can provide a formal response to meet Grid Manager expectations and Minister deadlines.

Jim

Jim Pruss

Executive General Manager, Water Delivery
QLD Bulk Water Supply Authority *trading as Seqwater*



WIVENHOE DAM
Storage Lowerin..

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ATT24309 1.jpg

DAM FULL SUPPLY LEVEL (FSL) INVESTIGATIONS

SEQWATER GATED STORAGES

INTRODUCTION

The following short paper examines the issues associated with temporary lowering the full supply levels of Seqwater's gated dams to improve short term flood mitigation benefits. The paper considers Wivenhoe Dam, Somerset Dam, North Pine Dam and Leslie Harrison Dam.

WIVENHOE DAM AND SOMERSET DAM

Wivenhoe Dam and Somerset dam control only 50% of the Brisbane River catchment (Bremer River and Lockyer Creek catchments are not controlled), therefore the Flood Mitigation benefits provided by the dam will depend on the rainfall distribution experienced during a flood event. This makes it difficult to quantify exactly the benefits of lowering the storage in anticipation of possible flood rains.

There are primarily two types of flood events that may occur in the Brisbane River Catchment. There are the smaller events that impact primarily on the rural bridges upstream of Moggill and the larger events that impact on urban areas in Brisbane. The threshold that separates these two events is a river flow of around 3500 cubic metres per second at Moggill. To understand the possible benefits of lowering the storage to reduce flooding impacts, it makes sense to discuss these two types of events separately.

Events Impacting on Bridges (Moggill Flow < 3500m³/s) – Limited Urban Impacts

In recent history, flood events of this nature occurred in April 1989, February 1999 and October 2010. The flow characteristics of events of this type are shown in the following table.

Event	Wivenhoe Dam					
	Starting Level		Volume Of Inflow	Volume Of Outflow	Peak Outflow	Peak Water Level
	m AHD	%	ML	ML	m ³ /s	m AHD
Early April 1989	67.06	>100	690,000	690,000	1,620	69.78
Late April 1989	67.00	100	870,000	820,000	1,490	71.45
February 1999	63.92	<100	1,220,000	900,600	1,800	70.45
October 2010	67.03	>100	640,000	640,000	1,300	69.65

The October 2010 event was examined to determine the benefits of lowering the storage level. This event commenced with the dam at FSL. The event was examined with the dam at 95% capacity, 90% capacity, 80% capacity, 50% capacity and empty at the commencement of the event. The results are shown in the following table. When reading the table it is important to understand that the bridges are impacted not just by outflows from Wivenhoe, but also by flows from the uncontrolled areas of the river catchment. Accordingly, the location of a bridge within the system will dictate the size of catchment area that will impact on the bridge. All inundation times shown in the table are approximations only, made for the purposes of this investigation.

Dam Percentage Full at Event Commencement	Approximate Duration of Wivenhoe Radial Gate Releases/ Twin Bridges Inundation (hours)	Approximate Duration of Savages Crossing and Colleges Crossing Inundation (hours)	Approximate Duration of Burtons Bridge and Kholo Bridge Inundation (hours)	Peak Flow at Moggill (m ³ /s)
100%	230	247	183	1848
95%	187	214	183	1848
90%	185	214	183	1841
80%	172	214	183	1786
50%	130	214	153	1722
0%	0	189	38	940

The table shows that the reduction in FSL won't have a large impact on Bridge inundation times. A reduction in the order of 36 hours or 15% of the total inundation time may be possible for the low level bridges only. The reductions are generally caused by the delay in release commencement associated with the lower starting FSL. However, the bridges can often already be inundated at this time anyway due to flood inflows into the Brisbane River from the 50% of the catchment not controlled by Wivenhoe Dam. Lowering the FSL of the dam has no impact on such inundations as shown in the table.

For events smaller than those considered above, it should be noted that the Manual of Flood Mitigation allows a trigger level buffer of 27500 megalitres above FSL and this has the effect of protecting Twin Bridges and the lower level bridges from inundation as a result of minor events. Twin Bridges is essentially a low level causeway that is inundated following any radial gate release. This inundation could possibly be prevented by raising the bridge deck level. Regardless, the areas accessed using this bridge can also be accessed using the Fernvale Bridge. It is acknowledged however that the closing of Twin Bridges causes inconvenience to local residents, as it adds approximately another five kilometres to the journeys to and from their residences. Approximately 40 residences and several businesses (primarily turf farms) are impacted.

Events Impacting on Urban Areas (Moggill Flow > 3500m³/s) – All rural bridges inundated

Events of this nature have not been experienced since the construction of Wivenhoe Dam was completed in 1984, with the last event of this nature being experienced in 1974. The inflow volume into Wivenhoe Dam associated with the 1974 event has been estimated to be in the order of 1.5 million megalitres. However during the 1974 event, an additional 1.5 million megalitres of flood flow impacting of the urban areas of Brisbane originated from catchment areas that are not controlled by Wivenhoe Dam.

For events of this nature, it is unlikely that peak water levels in Brisbane would be significantly impacted by minor reductions in the level of Wivenhoe Dam. Certainly reductions in dam volume in the order of at least 250000 megalitres would be needed to provide any significant reduction in water level peaks experienced in urban areas. Additionally, reductions in the FSL of this order would not necessarily guarantee reductions in urban flood levels, as the effectiveness of Wivenhoe Dam in reducing urban flood levels is

directly dependant on the distribution of rainfall in the Brisbane River catchment during a flood event (Wivenhoe Dam controls only 50% of the total Brisbane River catchment) and the spacing between individual flood events.

NORTH PINE DAM

North Pine Dam has no flood mitigation potential. Unlike Wivenhoe Dam, once the dam has reached FSL, all water flows into the dam must be released to protect the structural safety of the dam.

Any radial gate operation at North Pine Dam to release flood water, results in inundation of Youngs Crossing Road, so lowering the FSL is problematic and may best be achieved by increasing the daily water diversion to the North Pine Dam Water Treatment Plant. There are river release valves that allow some water to be drained from North Pine Dam without inundating Youngs Crossing. These valves have been operated continuously since the recent gate releases to manage residual inflows into the dam. However outflows from these valves are restricted to flows in the order of several hundred megalitres per day as larger flows will adversely impact on Youngs Crossing. Certainly a small reduction in the level of North Pine Dam is potentially beneficial in preventing closures of Youngs Crossing Road associated with small storm events.

It should be noted however that Youngs Crossing Road is also impacted by uncontrolled flood flows from Lake Kurwongbah and local storm run-off. In recent times Youngs Crossing Road has been closed by flood water during times when no water releases were being made from North Pine Dam, but when storm rains resulted in flood flows from uncontrolled areas of the catchment.

The table below gives an indication of the rainfall required to operate for NPD:

Level	Capacity			Rainfall Required to Operate	
				Wet Conditions	Dry Conditions
	m AHD	%	ML	mm	mm
FSL	39.60	100.0%	214,302	5	60
Reduced FSL	39.10	95.0%	203,618	35	100

Recent changes to the Manual of Flood Mitigation for North Pine Dam allows for some ability to retain up to 2500 megalitres of water to reduce impacts on Youngs Crossing Road, provided favourable weather forecasts are experienced. However the preferred option to reduce public inconvenience associated with storm events would be to raise the flood immunity of the river crossing on Youngs Crossing Road. This crossing is primarily a low level causeway that is potentially unsuitable given the volume of traffic that now uses this crossing on a daily basis.

LESLIE HARRISON DAM

Similar to North Pine Dam, Leslie Harrison Dam has no flood mitigation potential. Once the dam has reached FSL, all water flows into the dam must be released to protect the structural safety of the dam.

The dam is relatively small with a total full supply storage volume of only 24800 megalitres, against an inflow volume during a 72 hour 1 in 50 year storm event of over 30000 megalitres. Flood gate operations at Leslie Harrison Dam do not impact on public roads and generally only inconvenience the general public during large flood events. Reductions in this inconvenience cannot be achieved by small reductions in dam storage level.

Tab 74

Barry Dennien

From: Bradley John [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 10 November 2010 6:57 AM
To: Barry Dennien
Cc: Reilly Bob
Subject: RE: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

Bob, Barry

Our options are

- * Me
- * Bob (representing water supply regulatory interests) or
- * SEQ operational perspective (Barry D or Peter Borrows)

Do you have a view on best fit for State's interests... given previous focus of the Taskforce

Ken 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

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

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Regards
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> Ana Leigh Tucker
> Program Officer, Community Engagement
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> BSQ Lvl 8

> Tel: 34070807

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> Program Officer, Community Engagement

> Water Resources
> Brisbane City Council
> BSQ Lvl 8

> Tel: [REDACTED]

> *****
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> Please direct all enquiries to the message author.
> *****

> +-----+
> Think B4U Print
> 1 ream of paper = 6% of a tree and 5.4kg CO2 in the atmosphere
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> +-----+

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Table 5

Barry Dennien

From: Reilly Bob [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 10 November 2010 8:15 AM
To: Bradley John
Cc: Barry Dennien
Subject: RE: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

Hi John.

Barry and I have discussed the matter and agree with the conclusion below.

The 2005 Taskforce made recommendations (on which the 2011 Taskforce is expected to build, apparently) in the following areas:

- Identify flood-prone areas that were developed before current development standards were applied
- Criteria and priorities for voluntary residential property buy back in flood prone areas. (There have been media reports of significant funding short falls for this Council-funded program)
- Reviewing/Strengthening the City Plan's land use planning/development approval/building standards system (This would probably result in some people not being able to build on land with current building rights, and more expensive building costs for others)
- Improved flood information, flood forecasting and flood warnings

The invitation that came to you from BCC did not say which other (if any) Qld Govt agencies were being invited to attend, but it would be desirable that DIP goes to deal with the first three items above. (There are some potential challenges for the Qld Govt, in terms of possible {likely?} funding requests for Qld Govt. financial assistance, and Qld. Govt. "sharing" of responsibility for potential changes to Council planning/building standards).

In terms of the last item, either Barry or I could attend for you, but on balance, it is best that I go. (Although you could argue that it is best dealt with through Emergency Management Queensland).

One approach could be to ask the Council for the full terms of reference for the Taskforce plus the list of Qld Govt. agency representatives, before you make a decision on this matter. That way, we could be in a better position to ensure the right Qld Govt agencies are represented.

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

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

From: Bradley John
Sent: Wednesday, 10 November 2010 6:57 AM
To: Dennien Barry @ SEQWGM
Cc: Reilly Bob
Subject: RE: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

Bob, Barry

Our options are

- * Me
- * Bob (representing water supply regulatory interests) or
SEQ operational perspective (Barry D or Peter Borrows)

Do you have a view on best fit for State's interests... given previous focus of the Taskforce

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

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

From: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 9 November 2010 4:43 PM
To: Bradley John
Cc: ken.smith [REDACTED] Reilly Bob
Subject: Re: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

John

I have not heard of it recently

It did have a big profile in 2005 after it was formed in response to public outcry over localised flooding in the oxley creek area

Regards
Barry Dennien

On 09/11/2010, at 4:21 PM, "Bradley John"
<John.Bradley [REDACTED]> wrote:

> Ken

>
> Fyi - note the BCC invitation
>
> Barry/Bob - do you know anything about this process, has it been
> discussed in context of the current protocol

>
> Thanks

>
> John B

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Williams Lynette

> To: Bradley John

> Sent: Tue Nov 09 16:16:52 2010

> Subject: FW: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

>
> This is also on your chair

>
> Ta
> Lynette

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Ana Leigh Tucker [REDACTED]

> Sent: Wednesday, 3 November 2010 12:51 PM

> To: Williams Lynette

> Subject: Fwd: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

>
> Hi Lynette,

>
> FYI given Rebecca is away.

>
> Warm regards,

>
> Ana Leigh.

>
> Working together to make Brisbane Australia's most sustainable city.

> Ana Leigh Tucker

> Program Officer, Community Engagement

> Water Resources

> Brisbane City Council

> BSQ Lvl 8

>
> Tel: [REDACTED]

>>>> Ana Leigh Tucker 3/11/2010 12:22:13 pm >>>

> Hi Rebecca,

>
> Last week I advised Lynette in your office about the opportunity for
> John Bradley, Director General of Department of Environment and
> Resource Management (DERM), to be a participant in the, Lord Mayor's
> Taskforce on Suburban Flooding Review and Update.

> The 2005 Taskforce report was devised over a period of seven months
> resulting in strategies to reduce the effect of significant rain
> events on areas of Brisbane prone to flooding.

> The full report is available from the following link.
> [http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/community-support/emergency-
management/flooding/flooding-taskforce-report/index.htm](http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/community-support/emergency-management/flooding/flooding-taskforce-report/index.htm)

> The role of the 2011 Taskforce will be to review the work completed
> by the 2005 Taskforce, advise where further action is required, and
> develop a new direction for flood risk management in Brisbane.

> The outcome of the Taskforce will be to produce a Water Smart City
> Flood Management Plan of principles and actions for Council to adapt
> and respond to flooding.

> The Taskforce of 12 people will consist of key government,
> community, peak body, academic and technical expert representatives.

John's contribution to the taskforce would be as a State Government
> representative from DERM.

> A formal letter and Terms of Reference will be forwarded before the
> first meeting.

> The meeting schedule is as follows.

> Wed 1 Dec 2010, 12.30 - 3pm
> Wed 2 Feb 2011, 12.30 - 3pm
> Wed 23 Feb 2011, 12.30 - 3pm
> Wed 16 March 2011, 12.30 - 3pm
> Wed 6 April 2011, 12.30 - 3pm

> Venue - Level 16 Brisbane Square, 266 George Street, Brisbane.

A light lunch will be provided on all occasions.

> I look forward to hearing back from you regarding John's interest in
> participating.

> I would also like you to provide me with the best postal address for
> your office.

> Please email or call me with any questions.

> Warm regards,

> Ana Leigh

> Working together to make Brisbane Australia's most sustainable city.

> Ana Leigh Tucker
> Program Officer, Community Engagement
> Water Resources

> Brisbane City Council
> BSQ Lvl 8
>
> Tel: [REDACTED]

> *****
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> +-----+
> Think B4U Print
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Tab 76

> <http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/community-support/emergency-management/flooding/flooding-taskforce-report/index.htm>

>

> The role of the 2011 Taskforce will be to review the work completed

> by the 2005 Taskforce, advise where further action is required, and

> develop a new direction for flood risk management in Brisbane.

>

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> Ana Leigh

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> Working together to make Brisbane Australia's most sustainable city.

>
> Ana Leigh Tucker
> Program Officer, Community Engagement
> Water Resources
> Brisbane City Council
> BSQ Lvl 8

> Tel: [REDACTED]

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Tab 77

Barry Dennien

From: Hogan Stephenie [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 10 November 2010 9:08 AM
To: Bradley John
Cc: Barry Dennien; Williams Lynette; Reilly Bob
Subject: RE: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

Hi John

I spoke with the BCC contact (Ana Leigh Tucker) and requested the full terms of reference and some more specific info around the intended make-up of the panel including any other State Government agencies. I was a little concerned when she mentioned DERM was the only Qld Gov't agency.

The ToR are in final approvals within BCC but should be available to us by the end of the week, at which point any comments/advice regarding the taskforce representation could be formally provided.

Let me know if you need anything else from me at this point.

Thanks
Steph

STEPH HOGAN

A/Executive Officer
Office of the Director-General
Teleph [REDACTED]
Mobile [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: Wednesday, 10 November 2010 8:16 AM
To: Reilly Bob
Cc: Dennien Barry @ SEQWGM; Hogan Stephenie; Williams Lynette
Subject: RE: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

I agree Bob with all of that –

Steph – can you please liaise with the contact officer at BCC Water to get the info raised in Bob's last para?

Thanks

John Bradley
Director-General
Department of Environment and Resource Management
Teleph [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: Reilly Bob
Sent: Wednesday, 10 November 2010 8:15 AM
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Cc: Dennien Barry @ SEQWGM
Subject: RE: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

Hi John

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- Identify flood-prone areas that were developed before current development standards were applied
- Criteria and priorities for voluntary residential property buy back in flood prone areas. (There have been media reports of significant funding short falls for this Council-funded program)
- Reviewing/Strengthening the City Plan's land use planning/development approval/building standards system (This would probably result in some people not being able to build on land with current building rights, and more expensive building costs for others)
- Improved flood information, flood forecasting and flood warnings

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In terms of the last item, either Barry or I could attend for you, but on balance, it is best that I go. (Although you could argue that it is best dealt with through Emergency Management Queensland).

One approach could be to ask the Council for the full terms of reference for the Taskforce plus the list of Qld Govt. agency representatives, before you make a decision on this matter. That way, we could be in a better position to ensure the right Qld Govt agencies are represented.

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

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

From: Bradley John
Sent: Wednesday, 10 November 2010 6:57 AM
To: Dennien Barry @ SEQWGM
Cc: Reilly Bob
Subject: RE: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

Bob, Barry

Our options are

- * Me
- * Bob (representing water supply regulatory interests) or
- * SEQ operational perspective (Barry D or Peter Borrows)

Do you have a view on best fit for State's interests... given previous focus of the Taskforce

John Bradley
Director-General
Department of Environment and Resource Management
Telephone: 07 3330 6298
Email: John.Bradley [REDACTED]
www.derm.qld.gov.au

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

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

From: Barry Dennien [mailto:Barry.Dennien [REDACTED]]
Sent: Tuesday, 9 November 2010 4:43 PM
To: Bradley John
Cc: ken.smith [REDACTED] Reilly Bob
Subject: Re: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

John

I have not heard of it recently

It did have a big profile in 2005 after it was formed in response to public outcry over localised flooding in the oxley creek area

Regards
Barry Dennien

On 09/11/2010, at 4:21 PM, "Bradley John"

[REDACTED] wrote:

> Ken
>
> Fyi - note the BCC invitation
>
> Barry/Bob - do you know anything about this process, has it
been
> discussed in context of the current protocol
>
> Thanks
>
> John B
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Williams Lynette
> To: Bradley John
> Sent: Tue Nov 09 16:16:52 2010
> Subject: FW: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding
>
> This is also on your chair
>
> Ta
> Lynette
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Ana.Leigh Tucker
[REDACTED]
> Sent: Wednesday, 3 November 2010 12:51 PM
> To: Williams Lynette
> Subject: Fwd: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban
Flooding.
>
> Hi Lynette,
>
> FYI given Rebecca is away.
>
> Warm regards,
>
> Ana Leigh.
>
> Working together to make Brisbane Australia's most
sustainable city.
>
> Ana Leigh Tucker
> Program Officer, Community Engagement
> Water Resources
> Brisbane City Council
> BSQ Lvl 8
>
> Tel: [REDACTED]
>
>
>

>>>> Ana.Leigh Tucker 3/11/2010 12:22:13 pm >>>
> Hi Rebecca,
>
> Last week I advised Lynette in your office about the opportunity for
> John Bradley, Director General of Department of Environment and
> Resource Management (DERM), to be a participant in the, Lord Mayor's
> Taskforce on Suburban Flooding Review and Update.
>
> The 2005 Taskforce report was devised over a period of seven months
> resulting in strategies to reduce the effect of significant rain
> events on areas of Brisbane prone to flooding.
>
> The full report is available from the following link.
> <http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/community-support/emergency-management/flooding/flooding-taskforce-report/index.htm>
>
> The role of the 2011 Taskforce will be to review the work completed
> by the 2005 Taskforce, advise where further action is required, and
> develop a new direction for flood risk management in Brisbane.
>
> The outcome of the Taskforce will be to produce a Water Smart City
> Flood Management Plan of principles and actions for Council to adapt
> and respond to flooding.
>
> The Taskforce of 12 people will consist of key government,
> community, peak body, academic and technical expert representatives.
>
> John's contribution to the taskforce would be as a State Government
> representative from DERM.
>
> A formal letter and Terms of Reference will be forwarded before the
> first meeting.
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> The meeting schedule is as follows.
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> Wed 2 Feb 2011, 12.30 - 3pm
> Wed 23 Feb 2011, 12.30 - 3pm
> Wed 16 March 2011, 12.30 - 3pm
> Wed 6 April 2011, 12.30 - 3pm
>

> Venue - Level 16 Brisbane Square, 266 George Street,
Brisbane.

>

> A light lunch will be provided on all occasions.

>

> I look forward to hearing back from you regarding John's
interest in

> participating.

>

> I would also like you to provide me with the best postal
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> your office.

>

> Please email or call me with any questions.

>

> Warm regards,

>

>

> Ana Leigh

>

> Working together to make Brisbane Australia's most
sustainable city.

>

> Ana Leigh Tucker

> Program Officer, Community Engagement

> Water Resources

> Brisbane City Council

> BSQ Lvl 8

>

> Tel: [REDACTED]

>

>

>

>

>

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>

>

> +-----+
-----+

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Tab 78

Barry Dennien

From: Robson Chris [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 10 November 2010 11:42 AM
To: Wall Terry
Cc: Reilly Bob; Williams Christine; Ellwood Dean; Withers Greg; Milligan Graeme; Brown Damien
Subject: FW: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

Terry

I am seeing quite a bit of activity come through this office on flood management issues, such as this one, and also recently re the protocol arising from the Wivenhoe Dam flood releases. I am also aware of the OCC project that Greg has advised re western local governments and also a project that Community Safety (EMQ) is seeking involvement of WEO re flood gauging stations.

Whilst at EMQ recently we agreed that the DERM role in this is largely re information provision and advice and that you would be our lead person, and that it seems that DIP has agreed in principle to take the lead at national level discussions on flood risk management, as we proposed and as per the basis of a letter from Min Robertson to Min Minchcliffe, it still seems that when it gets into particular cases DIP does not play a lead role at all and Community Safety (EMQ) take the lead and often look to DERM to be actively involved in not only technical advice but also facilitating stakeholder discussions etc. The traffic into DERM is often directed to the Water part of DERM. This has lead to the current situation with Bob taking the lead for DERM input re the current SEQ protocol etc and given this has also involved the SEQ Water Grid Manager Bob has been working to me on these matters - he has kept Dean in the loop and Dean and I have agreed that this is OK as long as it does not become a significant drain on Bob's time, I can see given the predictions for this summer that there is likely to be further such input sought from DERM.

I suggest that you convene a meeting with those on this email to discuss best way to bed down the EMQ decision.

Chris Robson
Deputy Director-General
Water and Ecosystem Outcomes

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

www.derm.qld.gov.au

Department of Environment and Resource Management
Level 13, 400 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

Please note I have recently moved offices to 400 George Street.

From: Reilly Bob
Sent: Wednesday, 10 November 2010 11:10 AM
To: Robson Chris
Cc: Watson Doug
Subject: FW: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

Hi Chris

While Steph Hogan is looking after this matter, this BCC request is relevant to the definition of DERM, versus other Qld Govt agencies, roles in the areas of flood planning and response.

Regards

>
>>>> Ana.Leigh Tucker 3/11/2010 12:22:13 pm >>>
> Hi Rebecca,
>
> Last week I advised Lynette in your office about the opportunity
for
> John Bradley, Director General of Department of Environment and
> Resource Management (DERM), to be a participant in the, Lord
Mayor's
> Taskforce on Suburban Flooding Review and Update.
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> The 2005 Taskforce report was devised over a period of seven
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> resulting in strategies to reduce the effect of significant rain
> events on areas of Brisbane prone to flooding.
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>
> The role of the 2011 Taskforce will be to review the work
completed
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> develop a new direction for flood risk management in Brisbane.
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> The outcome of the Taskforce will be to produce a Water Smart
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> Ana Leigh
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> Working together to make Brisbane Australia's most sustainable
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>
> Ana Leigh Tucker
> Program Officer, Community Engagement
> Water Resources
> Brisbane City Council
> BSQ Lvl 8
>
> Tel: [REDACTED]
>
>
>
>
>
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Table 79

Barry Dennien

From: Hogan Stephenie [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 12 November 2010 5:03 PM
To: Bradley John
Cc: Barry Dennien; Williams Lynette; Reilly Bob; Armstrong Steve
Subject: RE: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.
Attachments: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.; FW Lord Mayor's Taskforce on Flooding-U&R

Hello

We have received a draft ToR and a spreadsheet with a draft composition of the Lord Mayor's taskforce from BCC as requested. Also attached is my request to Ana Leigh Tucker (the BCC contact).

I'm not sure why, but DG DERM is listed under the political category in the spreadsheet, and as I mentioned in my email below, DERM is the only State Government agency invited to participate..

Thanks

eph

STEPH HOGAN
A/Executive Officer
Office of the Director-General
Teleph [REDACTED]
Mobile [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: Hogan Stephenie
Sent: Wednesday, 10 November 2010 9:08 AM
To: Bradley John
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The ToR are in final approvals within BCC but should be available to us by the end of the week, at which point any comments/advice regarding the taskforce representation could be formally provided.

Let me know if you need anything else from me at this point.

Thanks

Steph

STEPH HOGAN
A/Executive Officer
Office of the Director-General
Teleph [REDACTED]
Mobile: [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: Wednesday, 10 November 2010 8:16 AM
To: Reilly Bob
Cc: Dennien Barry @ SEQWGM; Hogan Stephenie; Williams Lynette
Subject: RE: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

I agree Bob with all of that --

Steph -- can you please liaise with the contact officer at BCC Water to get the info raised in Bob's last para?

Thanks

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

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General Manager, Office of the Water Supply Regulator

Facsimile:

Email:

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> From: Ana Leigh Tucker

[mailto: [REDACTED]]

> Sent: Wednesday, 3 November 2010 12:51 PM

> To: Williams Lynette

> Subject: Fwd: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban
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> Hi Lynette,

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> FYI given Rebecca is away.

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> Warm regards,

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>
> Working together to make Brisbane Australia's most
sustainable city.

>
> Ana Leigh Tucker
> Program Officer, Community Engagement
> Water Resources
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> BSQ Lvl 8

>
> Tel: [REDACTED]

>

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>>>> Ana Leigh Tucker 3/11/2010 12:22:13 pm >>>

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> I look forward to hearing back from you regarding John's interest in

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> I would also like you to provide me with the best postal address for

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> Please email or call me with any questions.

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> Tel: [REDACTED]

> This message has passed through an insecure network.
> Please direct all enquiries to the message author.

> +-----+
-----+
> 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
> +-----+
-----+

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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.

Tea 80

Barry Dennien

From: Reilly Bob [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 12 November 2010 5:27 PM
To: Hogan Stephenie
Cc: Barry Dennien; Williams Lynette; Armstrong Steve
Subject: Re: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

Hi steph

A few points:

If there was to be only one qld govt rep, then I think it needs to be dip (given the emphasis on planning) rather than derm.

Like you, I am unclear as to why derm is in the "political" category.

Also I suspect some of the taskforce's recommendations could have ramifications for the qld govt e g funding requests, changes to state planning policies/building codes.

If this was the case, the qld govt rep could not agree to be bound by confidentiality clauses, as is proposed.

I suggest a senior derm officer discusses these issues with the council to get some more clarity around these points.

I am happy to do it if john would like me to, but chris robson or terry wall maybe more appropriate.

Regards

Bob

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

From: Hogan Stephenie
To: Bradley John
Cc: Dennien Barry @ SEQWGM; Williams Lynette; Reilly Bob; Armstrong Steve
Sent: Fri Nov 12 17:02:34 2010
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Thanks

STeph

STEPH HOGAN

A/Executive Officer

Office of the Director-General

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

www.derm.qld.gov.au <outbind:///378/www.derm.qld.gov.au>

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Let me know if you need anything else from me at this point.

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A/Executive Officer

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Tea
81

Barry Dennien

From: Barry Dennien
Sent: Saturday, 13 November 2010 11:37 AM
To: Bradley John
Subject: Re: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

John

I am comfortable with this

Regards
Barry Dennien

On 13/11/2010, at 11:22 AM, "Bradley John" [REDACTED] wrote:

Steve

I spoke to Ken Friday and he thinks we should nominate Barry Dennien for this.

Can you please send an email to the BCC water person that contacted us and indicate that

I have recommended Barry Dennien, CEO, SEQ Water Grid Manager will be better placed to assist in this important capacity.

Mr Dennien is (summarise skills)....

The Department and I look forward to continuing to assist BCC in every way in this project.

regards

John Bradley
Director-General
Department of Environment and Resource Management
Teleph [REDACTED]
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> The full report is available from the following link.

>
<http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/community-support/emergency-management/flooding/flooding-taskforce-report/index.htm>

>
> The role of the 2011 Taskforce will be to review the work completed by the 2005 Taskforce, advise where further action is required, and develop a new direction for flood risk management in Brisbane.

>
> The outcome of the Taskforce will be to produce a Water Smart City Flood Management Plan of principles and actions for Council to adapt and respond to flooding.

>
> The Taskforce of 12 people will consist of key government, community, peak body, academic and technical expert representatives.

>
> John's contribution to the taskforce would be as a State Government representative from DERM.

>
> A formal letter and Terms of Reference will be forwarded before the first meeting.

>
> The meeting schedule is as follows.

>
> Wed 1 Dec 2010, 12.30 - 3pm
> Wed 2 Feb 2011, 12.30 - 3pm
> Wed 23 Feb 2011, 12.30 - 3pm
> Wed 16 March 2011, 12.30 - 3pm
> Wed 6 April 2011, 12.30 - 3pm

>

> Venue - Level 16 Brisbane Square, 266
George Street, Brisbane.
>
> A light lunch will be provided on all
occasions.
>
> I look forward to hearing back from you
regarding John's interest in
> participating.
>
> I would also like you to provide me with
the best postal address for
> your office.
>
> Please email or call me with any
questions.
>
> Warm regards,
>
>
> Ana Leigh
>
> Working together to make Brisbane
Australia's most sustainable city.
>
> Ana Leigh Tucker
> Program Officer, Community Engagement
> Water Resources
> Brisbane City Council
> BSQ Lvl 8
>
> Tel: [REDACTED]
>
>
>
>
>
>

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>

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>
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-----+
> 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

> +-----+
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>

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Tab 82

Barry Dennien

From: Armstrong Steve [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 18 November 2010 4:06 PM
To: ana.leigh.tucker [REDACTED]
Subject: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding

Good afternoon Ana

Thank you for your recent emails to John Bradley regarding the Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding and please accept my apologies for the delay in getting back to you.

John has recommended that Barry Dennien, CEO of the SEQ Water Grid Manager will be better placed to assist in this important capacity. Mr Dennien has 25 years' experience in water industry operations and planning. Barry has extensive experience in Local Government and was also formerly Executive Director of Regional Planning and Policy at the Qld Water Commission.

The Department and the Director-General look forward to assisting the BCC in every way in this project.

Contact numbers for Barry are [REDACTED]

Regards

Steve Armstrong
Executive Officer
Office Director-General
Telep: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
www.derm.qld.gov.au

Department of Environment and Resource Management
Level 13, 400 George Street, Brisbane Q 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane Q 4001

Teabag

Barry Dennien

From: Rob Drury [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 18 November 2010 5:07 PM
To: Barry Dennien
Subject: Accepted: FW: Meeting to discuss: Dam full supply level (FSL) investigations

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Tab 84

Gina O'Driscoll

Subject: Meeting to discuss: Dam full supply level (FSL) investigations
Location: CEO's office (Level 15, 53 Albert Street)

Start: Tue 23/11/2010 4:00 PM
End: Tue 23/11/2010 5:00 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Meeting organizer

Organizer: Barry Dennien
Required Attendees: jpruss [redacted] r.drury [redacted] Dan Spiller



WIVENHOE DAM
Storage Lowerin..

From: Brooke Foxover [mailto:bfoxover [redacted]] **On Behalf Of** Jim Pruss
Sent: Wednesday, 10 November 2010 3:57 PM
To: Dan Spiller
Cc: Jim Pruss
Subject: Dam full supply level (FSL) investigations (Draft document)

Hi Dan,

This is the draft advice received from Dam safety guys to date.

Suggest we discuss expectations/ other required details over the phone when convenient.

Once discussed, Seqwater can provide a formal response to meet Grid Manager expectations and Minister deadlines.

Jim Pruss
Executive General Manager, Water Delivery
QLD Bulk Water Supply Authority *trading as* Seqwater



DAM FULL SUPPLY LEVEL (FSL) INVESTIGATIONS

SEQWATER GATED STORAGES

INTRODUCTION

The following short paper examines the issues associated with temporary lowering the full supply levels of Seqwater's gated dams to improve short term flood mitigation benefits. The paper considers Wivenhoe Dam, Somerset Dam, North Pine Dam and Leslie Harrison Dam.

WIVENHOE DAM AND SOMERSET DAM

Wivenhoe Dam and Somerset dam control only 50% of the Brisbane River catchment (Bremer River and Lockyer Creek catchments are not controlled), therefore the Flood Mitigation benefits provided by the dam will depend on the rainfall distribution experienced during a flood event. This makes it difficult to quantify exactly the benefits of lowering the storage in anticipation of possible flood rains.

There are primarily two types of flood events that may occur in the Brisbane River Catchment. There are the smaller events that impact primarily on the rural bridges upstream of Moggill and the larger events that impact on urban areas in Brisbane. The threshold that separates these two events is a river flow of around 3500 cubic metres per second at Moggill. To understand the possible benefits of lowering the storage to reduce flooding impacts, it makes sense to discuss these two types of events separately.

Events Impacting on Bridges (Moggill Flow < 3500m³/s) – Limited Urban Impacts

In recent history, flood events of this nature occurred in April 1989, February 1999 and October 2010. The flow characteristics of events of this type are shown in the following table.

Event	Wivenhoe Dam					
	Starting Level		Volume Of Inflow	Volume Of Outflow	Peak Outflow	Peak Water Level
	m AHD	%	ML	ML	m3/s	m AHD
Early April 1989	67.06	>100	690,000	690,000	1,620	69.78
Late April 1989	67.00	100	870,000	820,000	1,490	71.45
February 1999	63.92	<100	1,220,000	900,600	1,800	70.45
October 2010	67.03	>100	640,000	640,000	1,300	69.65

The October 2010 event was examined to determine the benefits of lowering the storage level. This event commenced with the dam at FSL. The event was examined with the dam at 95% capacity, 90% capacity, 80% capacity, 50% capacity and empty at the commencement of the event. The results are shown in the following table. When reading the table it is important to understand that the bridges are impacted not just by outflows from Wivenhoe, but also by flows from the uncontrolled areas of the river catchment. Accordingly, the location of a bridge within the system will dictate the size of catchment area that will impact on the bridge. All inundation times shown in the table are approximations only, made for the purposes of this investigation.

Dam Percentage Full at Event Commencement	Approximate Duration of Wivenhoe Radial Gate Releases/ Twin Bridges Inundation (hours)	Approximate Duration of Savages Crossing and Colleges Crossing Inundation (hours)	Approximate Duration of Burtons Bridge and Kholo Bridge Inundation (hours)	Peak Flow at Moggill (m ³ /s)
100%	230	247	183	1848
95%	187	214	183	1848
90%	185	214	183	1841
80%	172	214	183	1786
50%	130	214	153	1722
0%	0	189	38	940

The table shows that the reduction in FSL won't have a large impact on Bridge inundation times. A reduction in the order of 36 hours or 15% of the total inundation time may be possible for the low level bridges only. The reductions are generally caused by the delay in release commencement associated with the lower starting FSL. However, the bridges can often already be inundated at this time anyway due to flood inflows into the Brisbane River from the 50% of the catchment not controlled by Wivenhoe Dam. Lowering the FSL of the dam has no impact on such inundations as shown in the table.

For events smaller than those considered above, it should be noted that the Manual of Flood Mitigation allows a trigger level buffer of 27500 megalitres above FSL and this has the effect of protecting Twin Bridges and the lower level bridges from inundation as a result of minor events. Twin Bridges is essentially a low level causeway that is inundated following any radial gate release. This inundation could possibly be prevented by raising the bridge deck level. Regardless, the areas accessed using this bridge can also be accessed using the Fernvale Bridge. It is acknowledged however that the closing of Twin Bridges causes inconvenience to local residents, as it adds approximately another five kilometres to the journeys to and from their residences. Approximately 40 residences and several businesses (primarily turf farms) are impacted.

Events Impacting on Urban Areas (Moggill Flow > 3500m³/s) – All rural bridges inundated

Events of this nature have not been experienced since the construction of Wivenhoe Dam was completed in 1984, with the last event of this nature being experienced in 1974. The inflow volume into Wivenhoe Dam associated with the 1974 event has been estimated to be in the order of 1.5 million megalitres. However during the 1974 event, an additional 1.5 million megalitres of flood flow impacting of the urban areas of Brisbane originated from catchment areas that are not controlled by Wivenhoe Dam.

For events of this nature, it is unlikely that peak water levels in Brisbane would be significantly impacted by minor reductions in the level of Wivenhoe Dam. Certainly reductions in dam volume in the order of at least 250000 megalitres would be needed to provide any significant reduction in water level peaks experienced in urban areas. Additionally, reductions in the FSL of this order would not necessarily guarantee reductions in urban flood levels, as the effectiveness of Wivenhoe Dam in reducing urban flood levels is

directly dependant on the distribution of rainfall in the Brisbane River catchment during a flood event (Wivenhoe Dam controls only 50% of the total Brisbane River catchment) and the spacing between individual flood events.

NORTH PINE DAM

North Pine Dam has no flood mitigation potential. Unlike Wivenhoe Dam, once the dam has reached FSL, all water flows into the dam must be released to protect the structural safety of the dam.

Any radial gate operation at North Pine Dam to release flood water, results in inundation of Youngs Crossing Road, so lowering the FSL is problematic and may best be achieved by increasing the daily water diversion to the North Pine Dam Water Treatment Plant. There are river release valves that allow some water to be drained from North Pine Dam without inundating Youngs Crossing. These valves have been operated continuously since the recent gate releases to manage residual inflows into the dam. However outflows from these valves are restricted to flows in the order of several hundred megalitres per day as larger flows will adversely impact on Youngs Crossing. Certainly a small reduction in the level of North Pine Dam is potentially beneficial in preventing closures of Youngs Crossing Road associated with small storm events.

It should be noted however that Youngs Crossing Road is also impacted by uncontrolled flood flows from Lake Kurwongbah and local storm run-off. In recent times Youngs Crossing Road has been closed by flood water during times when no water releases were being made from North Pine Dam, but when storm rains resulted in flood flows from uncontrolled areas of the catchment.

The table below gives an indication of the rainfall required to operate for NPD:

Level	Capacity			Rainfall Required to Operate	
				Wet Conditions	Dry Conditions
	m AHD	%	ML	mm	mm
FSL	39.60	100.0%	214,302	5	60
Reduced FSL	39.10	95.0%	203,618	35	100

Recent changes to the Manual of Flood Mitigation for North Pine Dam allows for some ability to retain up to 2500 megalitres of water to reduce impacts on Youngs Crossing Road, provided favourable weather forecasts are experienced. However the preferred option to reduce public inconvenience associated with storm events would be to raise the flood immunity of the river crossing on Youngs Crossing Road. This crossing is primarily a low level causeway that is potentially unsuitable given the volume of traffic that now uses this crossing on a daily basis.

LESLIE HARRISON DAM

Similar to North Pine Dam, Leslie Harrison Dam has no flood mitigation potential. Once the dam has reached FSL, all water flows into the dam must be released to protect the structural safety of the dam.

The dam is relatively small with a total full supply storage volume of only 24800 megalitres, against an inflow volume during a 72 hour 1 in 50 year storm event of over 30000 megalitres. Flood gate operations at Leslie Harrison Dam do not impact on public roads and generally only inconvenience the general public during large flood events. Reductions in this inconvenience cannot be achieved by small reductions in dam storage level.

589aT

Suzie Emery

From: Marine Gallois [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 24 November 2010 1:01 PM
To: Dan Spiller
Cc: Owen Droop
Subject: The drought response in context
Attachments: Brisbane system drawdown without drought response.pptx; ATT00001.htm

Hi Dan,

As discussed yesterday, we have prepared some information to show the context of risk in which the decision was made to trigger the drought regulation in Aug 2006. The results provide an illustration of the risks that would have been estimated if an assessment had been undertaken at that time.

The attached figure shows the storage drawdown recorded from Apr-04 to Jul-06 for the Brisbane system (Wivenhoe and Somerset), and estimated storage drawdown at various probability levels from Aug-06 onwards. Assessment assumes no contingency measures had been implemented (e.g. no additional sources and no grid transfers) as would have been the case at the time.

Assessment outcomes

Results indicate a 0.1% chance of Brisbane storages reaching dead storage within about 2 years of Aug 2006.

Within the context of the proposed drought response measures, the results indicate there was approximately a 1% chance of drawing down towards 5% of capacity prior to the scheduled completion date [end 2008] of the majority of these measures (SRWP, Tugun, Western Corridor and NPI).

Note: this assessment is assuming that demands decrease from levels of about 300 L/p/d in 2006 to about 180 L/p/d by 2009. This is an approximate assumption based on available data within the Wathnet model. By recollection this data was developed for early work undertaken for the Strategy.

In order to estimate storage levels from 2004 under different demand conditions, we will need additional information regarding consumption during this period. We will give you a call this afternoon to clarify this next piece of assessment.

Hope this makes sense and any questions let us know,

Cheers
Marine

Teardrop

Barry Dennien

From: Scott Denner
Sent: Friday, 26 November 2010 8:04 AM
To: Michael Shapland; Irina Stankovska
Cc: Michael Lyons; Barry Dennien
Subject: RE: Draft Protocol for the Communication of Flooding Information

Michael/Irina

The SEQ Water Grid Manager have no further updates – the Plan as disseminated is suitable.

Regards

Scott

Scott Denner
Director Risk and Technology
Water Grid Manager

Post: PO Box 16205, BRISBANE CITY EAST, QLD 4002
Visit: Level 15, 53 Albert St, BRISBANE
ABN: 14783 317 630

From: Michael Shapland [mailto:Michael.Shapland@watergrid.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 23 November 2010 6:10 PM
To: ttrace@watergrid.qld.gov.au; vicki.pethybridge@watergrid.qld.gov.au; Tony Jacobs; Tammy Anderson for Vicki Pethybridge
Cc: bob.reilly@watergrid.qld.gov.au; peter.allen@watergrid.qld.gov.au; rdrury@watergrid.qld.gov.au; jpruss@watergrid.qld.gov.au; Scott Denner; mfoster@watergrid.qld.gov.au; Michael Lyons; chris.lavin@watergrid.qld.gov.au; qunderwood@watergrid.qld.gov.au; p.baddiley@watergrid.qld.gov.au; Brad Smith; Bruce Grady; Irina Stankovska
Subject: Draft Protocol for the Communication of Flooding Information

Following councils feedback on the draft protocol, I attach a revised version for your final approval.

Revisions, shown as tracked changes - try to reflect the various views received. The additional comments below give some of the reasons.

- The protocol does not attempt to repeat existing arrangements or responsibilities; just those that require clarification under these circumstances.
- The flow chart has been amended to reflect the stages set out in the main document. It is intended that the paragraphs in that document remain the authoritative version of the two.
- The technical situation report has been amended to remove any trigger information – reflecting the views that judgement of individuals concerned play a more significant role in triggering the protocol.
- Similarly no definition of a public safety issue is attempted; the judgement of those involved in the protocol is again relied on to define this.
- Finally, the protocol reflects DERM's view that the TSR will be initiated at every release of flood water from dams, on the basis that this will be an occasional event.

I'd be grateful for any final changes to Irina Stankovska by COB Friday 26 November.

Regards

Mike

Mike Shapland MBE | Director, Disaster Management
Emergency Management Queensland | Department of Community Safety
Level 2, Block E, Emergency Services Complex, Kedron, Queensland



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Tea 87

Barry Dennien

Subject: Updated: Flood risk management issues
Location: DG's Boardroom, Level 13, 400 George
Start: Fri 26/11/2010 3:30 PM
End: Fri 26/11/2010 4:30 PM
Recurrence: (none)
Meeting Status: Not yet responded
Organizer: Williams Christine

Meeting to discuss the different roles or delegates with reference to the attached email.

<<FW: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.>>

Thanks annie
Executive Assistant to Dr Christine Williams
Environment and Resource Sciences
Tel: [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
-----+



FW BCC Lord
Mayors Taskforce o

Suzie Emery

From: Robson Chris [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 10 November 2010 11:42 AM
To: Wall Terry
Cc: Reilly Bob; Williams Christine; Ellwood Dean; Withers Greg; Milligan Graeme; Brown Damien
Subject: FW: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

Terry

I am seeing quite a bit of activity come through this office on flood management issues, such as this one, and also recently re the protocol arising from the Wivenhoe Dam flood releases. I am also aware of the OCC project that Greg has advised re western local governments and also a project that Community Safety (EMQ) is seeking involvement of WEO re flood gauging stations.

Whilst at EMG recently we agreed that the DERM role in this is largely re information provision and advice and that you would be our lead person, and that it seems that DIP has agreed in principle to take the lead at national level discussions on flood risk management, as we proposed and as per the basis of a letter from Min Robertson to Min Hinchcliffe, it still seems that when it gets into particular cases DIP does not play a lead role at all and Community Safety (EMQ) take the lead and often look to DERM to be actively involved in not only technical advice but also facilitating stakeholder discussions etc. The traffic into DERM is often directed to the Water part of DERM. This has lead to the current situation with Bob taking the lead for DERM input re the current SEQ protocol etc and given this has also involved the SEQ Water Grid Manager Bob has been working to me on these matters - he has kept Dean in the loop and Dean and I have agreed that this is OK as long as it does not become a significant drain on Bob's time, I can see given the predictions for this summer that there is likely to be further such input sought from DERM.

I suggest that you convene a meeting with those on this email to discuss best way to bed down the EMG decision.

Chris Robson
Deputy Director-General
Water and Ecosystem Outcomes
Telephone: [REDACTED]
Mobile: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
www.derm.qld.gov.au

Department of Environment and Resource Management
Level 13, 400 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

Please note I have recently moved offices to 400 George Street.

From: Reilly Bob
Sent: Wednesday, 10 November 2010 11:10 AM
To: Robson Chris
Cc: Watson Doug
Subject: FW: BCC Lord Mayors Taskforce on Suburban Flooding.

Hi Chris

While Steph Hogan is looking after this matter, this BCC request is relevant to the definition of DERM, versus other Qld Govt agencies, roles in the areas of flood planning and response.

Regards

>
>>>> Ana.Leigh Tucker 3/11/2010 12:22:13 pm >>>
> Hi Rebecca,
>
> Last week I advised Lynette in your office about the opportunity
for
> John Bradley, Director General of Department of Environment and
> Resource Management (DERM), to be a participant in the, Lord
Mayor's
> Taskforce on Suburban Flooding Review and Update.
>
> The 2005 Taskforce report was devised over a period of seven
months
> resulting in strategies to reduce the effect of significant rain
> events on areas of Brisbane prone to flooding.
>
> The full report is available from the following link.
> [http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/community-support/emergency-
management/flooding/flooding-taskforce-report/index.htm](http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/community-support/emergency-management/flooding/flooding-taskforce-report/index.htm)
>
> The role of the 2011 Taskforce will be to review the work
completed
> by the 2005 Taskforce, advise where further action is required,
and
> develop a new direction for flood risk management in Brisbane.
>
> The outcome of the Taskforce will be to produce a Water Smart
City
> Flood Management Plan of principles and actions for Council to
adapt
> and respond to flooding.
>
> The Taskforce of 12 people will consist of key government,
> community, peak body, academic and technical expert
representatives.
>
> John's contribution to the taskforce would be as a State
Government
> representative from DERM.
>
> A formal letter and Terms of Reference will be forwarded before
the
> first meeting.
>
> The meeting schedule is as follows.
>
> Wed 1 Dec 2010,12.30 - 3pm
> Wed 2 Feb 2011,12.30 - 3pm
> Wed 23 Feb 2011,12.30 - 3pm
> Wed 16 March 2011,12.30 - 3pm
> Wed 6 April 2011,12.30 - 3pm
>
> Venue - Level 16 Brisbane Square, 266 George Street, Brisbane.
>
> A light lunch will be provided on all occasions.

>
> I look forward to hearing back from you regarding John's interest
in
> participating.
>
> I would also like you to provide me with the best postal address
for
> your office.
>
> Please email or call me with any questions.
>
> Warm regards,
>
>
> Ana Leigh
>
> Working together to make Brisbane Australia's most sustainable
city.
>
> Ana Leigh Tucker
> Program Officer, Community Engagement
> Water Resources
> Brisbane City Council
> BSQ Lvl 8
>
> Tel: [REDACTED]
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Tea 88

Barry Dennien

From: Barry Dennien
Sent: Wednesday, 1 December 2010 11:56 AM
To: Jim Pruss [REDACTED]; Rob Drury [REDACTED]
Subject: Dam levels - Investigation
Attachments: image001.gif


Jim Rob

Hope all is well.

Just following up on our discussions with regards dam levels and flood impacts. Anything I can do to help?

We are due to get back to the Minister by the end of November.

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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Tea 80

Gina O'Driscoll

From: Rob Drury [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 2 December 2010 3:11 PM
To: Barry Dennien; Jim Pruss
Cc: Peter Borrows
Subject: RE: Dam levels - Investigation
Attachments: WIVENHOE DAM - Storage Lowering Investigation.docx

Barry,
Attached is our DRAFT reply on possibility and impact of lowering dam levels on floods for your review and any comments.

Rob

Robert Drury
Dam Operations Manager
Water Delivery
Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority trading as Seqwater



Swimming in weirs and
flowing water is **FA**

rethink



Ph [REDACTED]
Wivenhoe Dam, Brisbane Valley Highway, via Fernvale Q4306 Australia
PO Box 37, Fernvale QLD 4306
Website | www.seqwater.com.au

From: Barry Dennien [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 1 December 2010 11:56 AM
To: Jim Pruss; Rob Drury
Subject: Dam levels - Investigation

Jim Rob

Hope all is well.

Just following up on our discussions with regards dam levels and flood impacts. Anything I can do to help?

We are due to get back to the Minister by the end of November.

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

Summary of comments

The attached paper summarises an analysis that changing the initial storage level of dams has on downstream flood impacts.

Wivenhoe/Somerset System

The analysis shows that for some minor floods similar to October 2010, reducing the starting volume of Wivenhoe Dam by 5% or 10% has minimal impacts on impacts downstream. The main benefit being that inundation times for downstream bridges will be reduced but only by around 15%. However peak water levels are not affected. There are minimal potential benefits to downstream bridge until dam levels are reduced down to about 50% of capacity.

These results are not unexpected as Wivenhoe has such a large flood storage. Adding say 100,000ML to the flood storage (equates to reducing the storage volume by 10%) does not appreciably increase this available flood storage.

It should also be noted that in many cases, Wivenhoe flood releases will be made following the peaks of inflows into the Brisbane River from the Lockyer and Bremer Catchments. Certainly during many events, Lockyer Creek could already have inundated most or all of the road crossings downstream of Wivenhoe Dam. In these instances, a small amount of additional flood storage in the dam provides minimal benefit.

Another option considered was pre-releasing Wivenhoe water in anticipation of a flood event. This is not considered a viable option for the following reasons:

- Regardless of forecast, there is never any certainty on the amount of rain that will fall within a dam catchment. For example, on 29 November 2010, the quantitative forecast from BOM for the Wivenhoe Catchment was 25 to 50 millimetres. Actual rainfall received was in the order of 10 millimetres. On a saturated catchment this could equate to a runoff discrepancy of hundreds of thousands of megalitres. A pre-release of anticipated flood water based on forecast could result in major embarrassment.
- Any significant pre-release of water would result in bridge inundation below Wivenhoe Dam.
- Any pre-release of water from Wivenhoe Dam will take at least 24 hours to reach the lower end of the Brisbane River system. Rains occurring in the catchments below the dam over this period could potentially worsen downstream flood impacts.

The Bureau of Meteorology has been contacted and they have confirmed the above forecast reliability assessment. They advised that, whilst weather prediction models are steadily improving, the forecast of rainfall amounts over catchment time/space scales is recognised as one of the most challenging/difficult tasks. Detailed rainfall forecasting is not deterministic - the uncertainties involved are often expressed in probabilistic forecasts and whilst there is often the ability to forecast the potential for a significant rain event to occur in the southeast Qld-northern NSW region, it is difficult (if not impossible) to predict the actual location of the heaviest rain, even with only a few hours notice.

The Queensland Director of Dam Safety (Mr Peter Allen) was contacted and he confirmed the assessment that minor reductions in the stored volume of Wivenhoe Dam would have

minimal impacts on floods downstream and concurred with the risks involved in any pre release of significant volumes of water from dams prior to an event.

North Pine and Leslie Harrison Dams

Lowering the normal FSL for North Pine and Leslie Harrison Dams will have minimal impact on major floods and may not decrease releases depending on the size of even minor events. However lowering the level of North Pine Dam after a flood release to between 95% and 100% may reduce the frequency of operations in some rain events although the main benefit is in operational efficiency as it provides more time for response and may reduce making releases in a minor storm event.

Similarly reducing Leslie Harrison level to around 95% after or before an event could assist in reducing call out of staff and manning the storage for minor releases and even the timing of releases.

Normally both dams are returned to just under 100% after an event based on base inflows still occurring and possible further rain. Allowing the dams to reduce to around 95% improves the operational leeway. However this could best be provided by an operational arrangement where the WGM simply agrees Seqwater has the operational latitude to reduce both storages to between 95% and 100% after an event or when there is some inflow and Seqwater can decide the exact level based on ongoing inflows and possible predicted rainfall, but not going below 95%.

DAM FULL SUPPLY LEVEL (FSL) INVESTIGATIONS

SEQWATER GATED STORAGES

INTRODUCTION

The following short paper examines the issues associated with temporary lowering the full supply levels of Seqwater's gated dams to improve short term flood mitigation benefits. The paper considers Wivenhoe Dam, Somerset Dam, North Pine Dam and Leslie Harrison Dam.

WIVENHOE DAM AND SOMERSET DAM

Wivenhoe Dam and Somerset dam control only 50% of the Brisbane River catchment (Bremer River and Lockyer Creek catchments are not controlled), therefore the Flood Mitigation benefits provided by the dam will depend on the rainfall distribution experienced during a flood event. This makes it difficult to quantify exactly the benefits of lowering the storage in anticipation of possible flood rains.

There are primarily two types of flood events that may occur in the Brisbane River Catchment. There are the smaller events that impact primarily on the rural bridges upstream of Moggill and the larger events that impact on urban areas in Brisbane. The threshold that separates these two events is a river flow of around 3500 cubic metres per second at Moggill. To understand the possible benefits of lowering the storage to reduce flooding impacts, it makes sense to discuss these two types of events separately.

Events Impacting on Bridges (Moggill Flow < 3500m³/s) – Limited Urban Impacts

In recent history, flood events of this nature occurred in April 1989, February 1999 and October 2010. The flow characteristics of events of this type are shown in the following table.

Event	Wivenhoe Dam					
	Starting Level		Volume Of Inflow	Volume Of Outflow	Peak Outflow	Peak Water Level
	m AHD	%	ML	ML	m ³ /s	m AHD
Early April 1989	67.06	>100	690,000	690,000	1,620	69.78
Late April 1989	67.00	100	870,000	820,000	1,490	71.45
February 1999	63.92	<100	1,220,000	900,600	1,800	70.45
October 2010	67.03	>100	640,000	640,000	1,300	69.65

The October 2010 event was examined to determine the benefits of lowering the storage level. This event commenced with the dam at FSL. The event was examined with the dam at 95% capacity, 90% capacity, 80% capacity, 50% capacity and empty at the commencement of the event. The results are shown in the following table. When reading the table it is important to understand that the bridges are impacted not just by outflows from Wivenhoe, but also by flows from the uncontrolled areas of the river catchment. Accordingly, the location of a bridge within the system will dictate the size of catchment area that will impact on the bridge. All inundation times shown in the table are approximations only, made for the purposes of this investigation.

Dam Percentage Full at Event Commencement	Approximate Duration of Wivenhoe Radial Gate Releases/ Twin Bridges Inundation (hours)	Approximate Duration of Savages Crossing and Colleges Crossing Inundation (hours)	Approximate Duration of Burtons Bridge and Kholo Bridge Inundation (hours)	Peak Flow at Moggill (m ³ /s)
100%	230	247	183	1848
95%	187	214	183	1848
90%	185	214	183	1841
80%	172	214	183	1786
50%	130	214	153	1722
0%	0	189	38	940

The table shows that the reduction in FSL won't have a large impact on Bridge inundation times. A reduction in the order of 36 hours or 15% of the total inundation time may be possible for the low level bridges only. The reductions are generally caused by the delay in release commencement associated with the lower starting FSL. However, the bridges can often already be inundated at this time anyway due to flood inflows into the Brisbane River from the 50% of the catchment not controlled by Wivenhoe Dam. Lowering the FSL of the dam has no impact on such inundations as shown in the table.

For events smaller than those considered above, it should be noted that the Manual of Flood Mitigation allows a trigger level buffer of 27500 megalitres above FSL and this has the effect of protecting Twin Bridges and the lower level bridges from inundation as a result of minor events. Twin Bridges is essentially a low level causeway that is inundated following any radial gate release. This inundation could possibly be prevented by raising the bridge deck level. Regardless, the areas accessed using this bridge can also be accessed using the Fernvale Bridge. It is acknowledged however that the closing of Twin Bridges causes inconvenience to local residents, as it adds approximately another five kilometres to the journeys to and from their residences. Approximately 40 residences and several businesses (primarily turf farms) are impacted.

Events Impacting on Urban Areas (Moggill Flow > 3500m³/s) – All rural bridges inundated

Events of this nature have not been experienced since the construction of Wivenhoe Dam was completed in 1984, with the last event of this nature being experienced in 1974. The inflow volume into Wivenhoe Dam associated with the 1974 event has been estimated to be in the order of 1.5 million megalitres. However during the 1974 event, an additional 1.5 million megalitres of flood flow impacting of the urban areas of Brisbane originated from catchment areas that are not controlled by Wivenhoe Dam.

For events of this nature, it is unlikely that peak water levels in Brisbane would be significantly impacted by minor reductions in the level of Wivenhoe Dam. Certainly reductions in dam volume in the order of at least 250000 megalitres would be needed to provide any significant reduction in water level peaks experienced in urban areas. Additionally, reductions in the FSL of this order would not necessarily guarantee reductions in urban flood levels, as the effectiveness of Wivenhoe Dam in reducing urban flood levels is

directly dependant on the distribution of rainfall in the Brisbane River catchment during a flood event (Wivenhoe Dam controls only 50% of the total Brisbane River catchment) and the spacing between individual flood events.

NORTH PINE DAM

North Pine Dam has no flood mitigation potential. Unlike Wivenhoe Dam, once the dam has reached FSL, all water flows into the dam must be released to protect the structural safety of the dam.

Any radial gate operation at North Pine Dam to release flood water, results in inundation of Youngs Crossing Road, so lowering the FSL is problematic and may best be achieved by increasing the daily water diversion to the North Pine Dam Water Treatment Plant. There are river release valves that allow some water to be drained from North Pine Dam without inundating Youngs Crossing. These valves have been operated continuously since the recent gate releases to manage residual inflows into the dam. However outflows from these valves are restricted to flows in the order of several hundred megalitres per day as larger flows will adversely impact on Youngs Crossing. Certainly a small reduction in the level of North Pine Dam is potentially beneficial in preventing closures of Youngs Crossing Road associated with small storm events.

It should be noted however that Youngs Crossing Road is also impacted by uncontrolled flood flows from Lake Kurwongbah and local storm run-off. In recent times Youngs Crossing Road has been closed by flood water during times when no water releases were being made from North Pine Dam, but when storm rains resulted in flood flows from uncontrolled areas of the catchment.

The table below gives an indication of the rainfall required to operate for NPD:

Level	Capacity			Rainfall Required to Operate	
				Wet Conditions	Dry Conditions
	m AHD	%	ML	mm	mm
FSL	39.60	100.0%	214,302	5	60
Reduced FSL	39.10	95.0%	203,618	35	100

Recent changes to the Manual of Flood Mitigation for North Pine Dam allows for some ability to retain up to 2500 megalitres of water to reduce impacts on Youngs Crossing Road, provided favourable weather forecasts are experienced. However the preferred option to reduce public inconvenience associated with storm events would be to raise the flood immunity of the river crossing on Youngs Crossing Road. This crossing is primarily a low level causeway that is potentially unsuitable given the volume of traffic that now uses this crossing on a daily basis.

LESLIE HARRISON DAM

Similar to North Pine Dam, Leslie Harrison Dam has no flood mitigation potential. Once the dam has reached FSL, all water flows into the dam must be released to protect the structural safety of the dam.

The dam is relatively small with a total full supply storage volume of only 24800 megalitres, against an inflow volume during a 72 hour 1 in 50 year storm event of over 30000 megalitres. Flood gate operations at Leslie Harrison Dam do not impact on public roads and generally only inconvenience the general public during large flood events. Reductions in this inconvenience cannot be achieved by small reductions in dam storage level.