

Ben Christiansen

From: David Milligan [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 16 April 2011 4:54 PM
To: Info Flood Commission
Subject: submission to the inquiry dated 11/2/2011

The Commissioners this week, have received the testimonies of the engineer's who controlled the January release of flood water from Wivenhoe Dam. It is quite clear that they came perilously close to losing that control, if the Fuse Plugs had been activated, what appears to have saved them, was it **stopped raining**. My above submission concentrated on DAM SAFETY.

It has not yet been made public on your website, and I trust it will be in due course. However I wish to further submit that **THERE IS NOW NO CASE FOR NOT CARRYING OUT THE FULL UPGRADE TO WIVENHOE DAM TO ENSURE IT CAN SAFELY PASS THE PROBABLE MAXIMUM FLOOD. (PMF)** SEQ WATER should never have been allowed to carry out Stage 1 only in 2005, building those fuse plugs, thus putting so many people at risk in the recent January floods. As you can see in the mar.2007 SEQ Water report for the contingency supplies, the full upgrade was estimated at just \$248 million, but instead they elected to save money and just spend a paltry \$70 million. So much for the safety of all the residents downstream. Wivenhoe as Phil Cummins and Peter Allen can attest is a **HIGH RISK, HIGH HAZARD DAM** due to the ten's of thousands living downstream and therefore their safety is paramount.

In 2006 the former premier Peter Beattie announced that they would build the Traveston Dam at an estimated cost of \$1,700 million and yet a year earlier they bucked at spending \$248 to protect Brisbane. **WHY??**

Furthermore his Government then went on a massive spending spree to build the water grid where a total of \$7 billion was spent over the next 3 years, (it would have been 9 \$Billion if TCD was approved) all the time ignoring Wivenhoe Dam.

I first raised this in 2007 with the politicians and the Q.W.C. and was ignored to the extent that in the SEQ WATER STRATEGY released in 2010 it does not recommend the raising of the Wivenhoe Dam, which would allow it to conform with the ANCOLD requirements. Q.W.C. were **fully cognizant of these facts** during the draft strategy period, and therefore I consider that they abdicated their responsibility. Particularly as this was a future water supply as identified in the earlier January 2006 interim SEQRWSS report.

I trust that this Flood Inquiry finally reaches the decision to override the politician's and the bureaucrat's and **recommends the immediate full upgrade of Wivenhoe Dam** to protect Brisbane residents, so that it can safely pass the P.M.F. **THIS SHOULD THEN HELP IN SIMPLIFYING THE OPERATING MANUAL, AS IT APPEARS TO LEAVE FAR TOO MUCH DISCRETION TO THE OPERATOR'S.**

Your's Sincerely.... Dave Milligan tel [REDACTED]