
From: Peter Russell [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 12 April 2011 8:48 PM
To: Info Flood Commission
Subject: Wivenhoe Dam Evidence

Hello Commissioners,

Today's news reports of Enquiry evidence by SunWater's senior dam engineer, Mr Rob Ayre would indicate that management's actions were curtailed by their required adherence to the manual.

This seemingly contradicts their previous practice, as reported in an interview I heard about a month ago on either Brisbane 4BC or ABC when a SunWater spokesman said they had deviated from the Manual on 5 to 6 occasions in recent years, whenever they considered it necessary. As a flood affected business owner in the CBD, I advised the then Lord Mayor, Campbell Newman, also suggesting the flood mitigation control be placed in the hands of the BCC instead of a water asset organisation, to ensure future flood protection of Brisbane.

It may also be of interest to be aware that when Somerset Dam is full then its' catchment adds approximately 35% to Wivenhoe's but is apparently not factored in to SunWater's mitigation practices.

30/06/2011

Concerned with our own exposure again to cyclone Yasi, I was unsuccessful in receiving an assurance from Seqwater that they would reduce Wivenhoe's level from 100% storage which considerably affected our capacity to function properly in following days. They quoted your Enquiry as the reason for preventing their reply.

Peter Russell
Director
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