

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

Prepared by: Legal Services Unit

Date: 23/03/2011

Name of Witness: *Bruce Thomas Grady*

Address of Witness: Emergency Services Complex, Cnr Park and Kedron Park Road, Kedron

Occupation: Public Servant

Position: Assistant Director-General (Emergency Management Queensland)

Telephone: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

I, Bruce Thomas Grady, Assistant Director-General (Emergency Management Queensland) for the Department of Community Safety state:

1. I have undertaken a range of Senior and Executive management positions within the Queensland Government since 1994. I joined Emergency Management Queensland in March 2006 as part of the Queensland Government's Executive Mobility Program and during this time I led the lessons learned review into Tropical Cyclone Larry. I have held the roles of Deputy Executive Director and Deputy Chief Officer within Emergency Management Queensland where my focus was on policy development, planning and operational response. I acted in the role of Chief Officer, Emergency Management Queensland from December 2009 to November 2010. In November 2011 I was appointed as Assistant Director-General, Emergency Management Queensland.
2. I have been provided with a copy of an information notice from the Queensland Floods Commission ("the Commission") of Inquiry dated 18 March 2011. I note that the notice requests a written statement in response to the thirteen questions outlined in the notice in addition to further general information regarding those aspects of the DCS submission to the Commission as they relate to EMQ.

General Information Regarding EMQ

3. To facilitate a comprehensive response to the questions posed by the Commission (and matters relating EMQ generally) I provide the following introductory information regarding EMQ.
4. EMQ has a total staff establishment of 262 being:
 - 71 staff attached to EMQ Helicopter Rescue (bases at Archerfield, Cairns and Townsville)
 - 109 staff located in Regional or Area Offices (across seven regions with regional Offices based at Brisbane, Ormeau, Toowoomba, Sunshine Coast, Rockhampton, Townsville, and Cairns: additional area offices at Mt Isa, Mackay, Longreach, Maryborough and Roma)

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- 82 staff located at the Emergency Services complex at Kedron
5. EMQ has a total budget (2010/2011) of \$79.2M comprised of :
 - \$25M for EMQ Helicopter Rescue
 - \$14.3M for grants administered for State and or State/Commonwealth grants programs to assist disaster management and volunteer organisations.
 - \$6.4M for direct support to the SES (training and equipment)
 - \$33.5M for permanent staff and supplies and services to support disaster management and volunteers.
 6. The Disaster Management Review 2009 and the subsequent amendments to the *Disaster Management Act 2003* (effective 1 November 2010) has resulted in a significant shift in focus for EMQ.
 7. Previously the Executive Director EMQ undertook the role of Executive Officer to the State Disaster Management Group and EMQ had primary responsibility for delivering the State's response role in the response phase of disaster events. These roles have moved from EMQ, primarily to the QPS, with the introduction of the amendments to the *Disaster Management Act 2003*.
 8. To respond to the change EMQ reviewed its organisational structure and purpose and is now focused on:
 - i) ensuring continuous improvement of the disaster management arrangements in Queensland;
 - ii) the monitoring of performance and compliance with policy and plans by State, District and Local Disaster Management Groups;
 - iii) managing arrangements with the Commonwealth about disaster management;
 - iv) reporting to the State Disaster Management Group;
 - v) providing disaster management training and providing advice and support to State, District and Local Disaster Management Groups.

More detail of EMQ's services and support is outlined in the attachment "BG1".

9. EMQ and the Queensland Police Service (QPS) worked collaboratively to determine and document the roles, responsibilities and operational doctrine that would guide the practical response arrangements under the new legislation.
10. EMQ and QPS also undertook a comprehensive program of regional engagement with local government, EMQ and QPS staff to explain the proposed changes.

Details of the planning and preparation functions undertaken during 2010

11. I have collated the relevant data of EMQ's attendance at Local Disaster Management Group meetings and participation in the review of the disaster management plans at various shire Councils into the attached schedule "BG-2".
12. I have collated the relevant data of EMQ's attendance at District Disaster Management Group meetings and participation in the review of disaster management plans of the Brisbane, Bundaberg, Dalby, Gladstone, Gympie, Ipswich, Longreach, Mackay, Maryborough, Redcliffe, Rockhampton, Roma, Toowoomba and Warwick Disaster District and their corresponding local government areas (including, but not limited to, Exercise ORKO): into the attached schedule, "BG-3".
13. I have collated the relevant data of the conduct of disaster management training and exercises in the Brisbane, Bundaberg, Dalby, Gladstone, Gympie, Ipswich, Longreach, Mackay, Maryborough, Redcliffe, Rockhampton, Roma, Toowoomba and Warwick Disaster District and their corresponding local government areas (including, but not limited to, Exercise ORKO): into the attached schedule, "BG-3".

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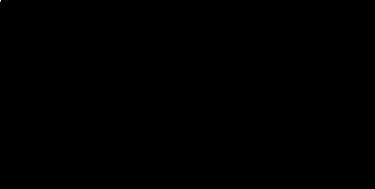
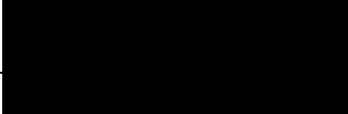
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14. I have collated the relevant data of measures taken to ensure continuing preparedness and capability through the provision of training and equipment in various local government areas into the attached schedule "BG-4".
15. I have collated the relevant data in relation to the 2010 series Pre-Season Flood and Cyclone Workshops held in Charleville, St George, Mackay, Beenleigh, Gladstone, Rockhampton and Gympie including dates on which each workshop was conducted; a summary of the information disclosed on each occasion; and an institutional breakdown of the attendees at each workshop into the attached schedule "BG-5".
16. I have collated the relevant data in relation to the second round of consultation sessions regarding the proposed changes to the *Disaster Management Act 2003* conducted during July – August 2010 in Mackay, Brisbane, Maryborough, Emerald, Rockhampton, Charleville, Roma, Toowoomba and Beenleigh, including the dates on which each session was conducted; an overview of the matter addressed at the sessions; and an institutional breakdown of the attendees at each session into the attached schedule "BG-6".
17. I have collated the relevant data in relation to Exercise ORKO including an institutional breakdown of the participants in the Exercise; a summary of any review conducted in the Exercise; a summary of any identified outcomes or areas for improvement as a result of the Exercise into the attached schedule "BG-7".
18. I have collated the relevant data in relation to the Commonwealth's Pre-Season Operational Briefing for disaster managers held on 12 November 2010 including the location of the briefing and whether remote conferencing formed part of its format; an overview of the information presented at the Briefing; an institutional breakdown of the attendees at the Briefing; any steps taken to disseminate the information to relevant stakeholders (including those local government areas which were ultimately flood affected) not in attendance at the Briefing into the attached schedule "BG-8".
19. I have collated the relevant data in relation to the community test of Emergency Alert Version 2 conducted in the Esk area including the date/s on which the test was/were conducted; the method/s for determining the success rates for the test; and the details of any community feedback concerning the test and/or the operation of the Emergency Alert system into the attached schedule "BG-9".
20. I have collated the relevant data in relation to Exercise BONSAI including the date on which the Exercise was conducted including an overview of the form which the Exercise took and the participants involved; and any identified outcomes or areas for improvement as a result of the conduct of the Exercise into the attached schedule "BG-10".

Details relating to 2010/2011 Flood events

21. I have collated the relevant data of both the utilisation and adequacy of disaster store caches placed at Beenleigh, Rockhampton and Maryborough, and the appropriateness of their various locations during the 2010/2011 flood events into the attached schedule "BG-11".
22. The role of State Recovery Coordinator (SRC) was approved to deal with the long-term recovery from disaster events that had occurred up to 29 December 2011. The early focus of the role was in establishing the structure, governance and priorities for the longer term recovery effort.
23. The SRC secured premises for the recovery effort at 200 Mary Street, Brisbane from 7 January 2011. A small team was established to commence the following tasks:
 - i) engagement with local government and the establishment of local recovery committees;
 - ii) the collection and management of data around damage to property and business;
 - iii) the development of reporting tools;

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- iv) the management of offers of assistance from the public and business sector;
 - v) the development of an ICT environment to support recovery operations;
 - vi) the identification of liaison officers from those agencies with a direct role in recovery efforts (including DEEDI, DoC, DPW, Transport and Main Roads, DERM).
24. Additional areas of regional Queensland were affected by flooding with additional property and infrastructure damage after 29 December 2010. As a result, on 5 January 2011 the Queensland Government appointed Major General Mick Slater to lead the Queensland Flood Recovery Task Force.
 25. Following the flooding events in the Lockyer Valley, Ipswich and Brisbane from 10 January to 13 January 2011 the Queensland Reconstruction Authority was established. The responsibilities of the SRC were then transitioned to the QRA during the period to 21 January 2011.
 26. I have collated the relevant details of the particular challenges presented by the resupply of the cities of Mackay and Rockhampton and the manner in which these challenges were managed within the disaster management framework, and an assessment of both the adequacy of the resources for these operations and any possible areas for improvement into the attached schedule "BG-12".
 27. Operational details of the evacuation centres established during the floods are not available to EMQ. The establishment of evacuation centres is managed by each local government as an element of their disaster management planning.
 28. EMQ usually undertakes a post event review of the performance of each local and district group activated during a disaster however because of the ongoing operational requirements following TC Yasi (including further heavy rainfall and flooding events), the efforts required to prepare data for the Commission of Inquiry, and the continuing workloads on local governments it has not been practical or reasonable to commence these tasks.
 29. I have collated the relevant details of the current progress in the acquisition of Digital Elevation Model data for both 'coastal communities' and 'inland flood towns' and the availability and utilisation of this data by relevant stakeholders, including local government areas into the attached schedule "BG-13".
 30. I have collated the relevant details of the operational deployment and tasking of EMQ personnel and equipment in connection with the Toowoomba and Lockyer Valley flash flooding events of January 2011 into the attached schedule "BG-14".
 31. I make this statement of my own free will believing its contents to be true and correct.

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Justices Act 1886

I acknowledge by virtue of Section 110A (6) (c) (ii) of the Justices Act 1886 that:

- (1) This written statement by me dated 18/10/2010 and contained in the pages numbered 1 to 8 is true to the best of my knowledge and belief; and
- (2) I make it knowing that, if it were admitted as evidence, I may be liable to prosecution for stating anything that I know is false.

 Signature

Signed at Brisbane this 14 day of MARCH 2011

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