To: [Redacted] (Local Controller, Roma, Maranoa Regional),

You have been identified as a State Emergency Service Local Controller. As such, the Commission is interested in finding out from you more about the nature, role and funding of SES units in Queensland. We are particularly interested in knowing how your SES unit and its various groups operate, and how operations were undertaken during the 2010/2011 floods. This will help us to understand better the arrangements for running the SES in Queensland.

We would appreciate your taking the time to answer the following questions. This should take about 15 minutes. Upon completion, please forward the questionnaire by mail to: Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry, GPO Box 178, Brisbane QLD 4001; or by way of email to info@floodcommission.qld.gov.au by Friday, 14 October 2011. If you are legally represented, you should forward it to the Commission through your legal representative.

Alternatively, if you do not wish to provide a written response to the Commission, we can arrange to have a Commission investigator ask you these questions over the phone. If you would prefer to respond in this way, please contact [Redacted] on [Redacted] or [Redacted].

The information you provide may be used in the preparation of the Commission's final report, which will be published in February 2012.
Questionnaire for SES Local Controllers

The following questionnaire is split into six sections. Each section contains a number of questions asking you to describe the nature of your SES unit/groups, and also the nature of response operations conducted by your SES unit/groups during the 2010/2011 floods. Please complete the questionnaire and return it to the Commission by Friday, 14 October 2011.

1. Structure of SES units

1.1 Please describe the structure of your unit, including the number and location of any constituent groups and the number of members in each group.

- Roma Group: FULL
  - Executive: 10-12 Core Members
  - Member: 12-15 Members
  - Reserve

1.2 Please indicate whether any members of your unit are employed on a paid, full-time basis. If so, how many are employed on this basis and what positions do they fill?

No
1.3 Do you believe there is a need for SES members (including Local Controllers) to be employed on a paid, full-time basis? Please explain why or why not, including whether there are other ways in which SES members could be rewarded for their time. If with workload increased in the future, the answer is yes.

1.4 If there is more than one Local Controller in your local government area, what effect does this have on operations? Ease of operation for towns they represent.
2. Readiness for the 2010/2011 floods
We would like to know whether you feel that your unit was adequately prepared to cope with the demands of the 2010/2011 floods. Please provide a brief explanation in response to the following questions.

2.1 Did your unit have enough training to prepare it for the 2010/2011 floods?

YES.

2.2 Did your unit have enough volunteers to cope with demand?

YES.

2.3 Did your unit have enough equipment and resources?

YES.

2.4 Overall, do you think your unit was adequately prepared to respond to the 2010/2011 floods?

YES.
3. Operations during the 2010/2011 floods

3.1 Please describe the activities undertaken by your unit and/or its groups during the 2010/2011 floods (e.g. Requests for Assistance, rescues, evacuations).

SEE WORKING LOG.

Copy Remt 7
Regional Office
4. Command and control

4.1 Generally speaking, please describe your responsibilities as Local Controller during disaster response operations.

liaison of local government to coordinate all resources.

4.2 As a Local Controller, who do you report to during disaster response operations?

DHS / FEMA

4.3 Where does your SES unit receive Requests for Assistance from?

132500 - FEMA
DHS - local

4.4 What is the process of tasking SES members when Requests for Assistance are received by your unit?

Task
Prepare
Operate
Debrief

4.5 During the 2010/2011 floods, did your unit receive any competing Requests for Assistance? If so, how were these managed or prioritised?

No.
Command and control

4.6 During the 2010/2011 floods, did your unit receive any Requests for Assistance that it was unable to respond to? If so, how were these requests managed?

No.

4.7 Were any members of your unit deployed to any other region during the 2010/2011 floods? If so, how was this managed?

No.

4.8 During the 2010/2011 floods, what was the nature of your unit’s contact and coordination (if any) with the following:

a) Local Disaster Coordinator

RATIONAL. MEETINGS.

b) Local Disaster Coordination Centre

AS ABOVE.

c) Local Disaster Management Group

MEETINGS AS REQUIRED
(TWICE DAILY OR MORE.)
Command and control

4.9 During the 2010/2011 floods, what was the nature of your unit’s contact and coordination (if any) with the following:

a) District Disaster Coordinator

THRU. THE ADMS.

b) District Disaster Coordination Centre

AS ABOVE.

c) District Disaster Management Group

AS ABOVE.

4.10 During the 2010/2011 floods, what was the nature of your contact (if any) with Emergency Management Queensland’s Area Directors and/or Regional Directors?

EMG. PERSONAL/CONSULTATION
AREA DIRECTOR THRU ADMS.

4.11 During the 2010/2011 floods, what was the nature of your interactions (if any) with other emergency service organisations?

THRU. ADMS. MEETINGS.
ASSISTANCE AS REQUIRED.
Command and control

4.12 During the 2010/2011 floods, were the requirements or expectations of local disaster managers ever in conflict with those of Emergency Management Queensland? If so, how were these various demands resolved (if at all)?

NO.
CONTROLLED THROUGH ADM'S MEETINGS.

4.13 In your view, what is the role of Emergency Management Queensland’s Area and Regional Directors during disasters?

MAJOR & RESPONSIBLE FOR LOCAL SOUTHERN AREA DIRECTORS.
5. Communications

5.1 What type(s) of communication devices were available and/or used during the 2010/2011 floods?

- Local Media - HR
- All Services Councils - Radio, Mobile Phones
- Phone - Conference - Meetings
- HF - UHF - VHF

5.2 Did any of the communication devices your unit used fail during the 2010/2011 floods? If so, please provide details.

No - Saved by Planned Backup

5.3 Generally speaking, are any of the communication methods your unit uses integrated or inter-operable with other emergency service organisations?

All - If Required
6. Funding

6.1 Where does your unit receive funding from?
MAMMUNA REGIONAL COUNCIL AND,
NOMINAL STATE INPUT.

6.2 Has your unit applied for additional funding from the State Government in the 2009/2010 or 2010/2011 financial years? If so, what was the funding program and did you find the application process easy/difficult?

N/D.

6.3 Do you have input into how the funding received by your unit is used?
YES.

6.4 In your view, is the total amount of funding currently received by your unit adequate? If not, please describe how your unit would benefit from additional funding.

APPROXIMATE - BUT POSSIBLY NEAR.
THAT'S HOLD IF MORE EXPENDITURE PLACED ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT.
NOTE: MAMMUNA AREA IS CENTRE OF CBH PROGRAM.
6.5 Do you think that the way in which funding is allocated and distributed to your unit is adequate? If not, how could this be improved?

YES, BUT TIME WILL TELL.

6.6 Does your unit undertake any additional fundraising activities? If so: NO.

a) What types of fundraising activities does your unit undertake?

N/A.

b) Approximately what percentage of your operating budget does this account for?

N/A.

c) Does fundraising present any difficulties?

N/A.
7. Other

7.1 Do you have any suggestions as to how the SES can attract and retain members, either for your particular unit or at a state-wide level?

KEEP IT SIMPLE.

7.2 Please make any other comments you wish about SES operations generally and/or during the 2010/2011 floods.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.