

Flood Warning Report – Lockyer Valley Regional Council

**Monday January 10 2011**

**Radio**

ABC Southern Queensland

**6.31am News** – Interview with Lockyer Valley Mayor Cr Steve Jones on Grantham evacs the previous night.

ABC Southern Queensland

**7.30am News** - Interview with Lockyer Valley Mayor Cr Steve Jones on Grantham evacs the previous night.

ABC 612 Brisbane

**7.45am News** – Interview with Lockyer Valley Mayor Cr Steve Jones.

ABC NewsRadio Sydney

**9.01am** – Lockyer Valley Mayor Steve Jones says his region was affected by heavy rain yesterday.

4.16pm - Bureau of Meteorology warns of "moderate to major flooding" in Lockyer Creek and surrounding waterways.

5pm - Bureau made a "top priority flash flood warning" for Helidon with very fast and dangerous rises possible downstream at Gatton over the next few hours.

4BC Brisbane

**4.32pm Drive** – Hargrave talks to Jason Cubit of Lockyer Valley Regional Council, they discuss the flash flooding in Toowoomba. He says that people in Gatton and Grantham need to be prepared for inundation and says water is likely to peak in Gatton around 8pm.

ABC 612 Brisbane

**4.36pm Drive** – Interview with Jason Cubit, Media Manager, Lockyer Valley Regional Council and member of the Lockyer Valley Regional Council Disaster Team about flooding and rainfall in the Lockyer Valley. Cubit says that a number of houses have been inundated, and notes the Lockyer Valley Council is organising emergency accommodation for areas that have been hit hard by waters.

River FM (Ipswich)

**5pm Goldie** - Jason Cubit, Lockyer Valley Regional Council, discusses road closures in the area due to the floods. He adds there are some houses under water also. Cubit explains the local Disaster Management Group is advising people with damage to their homes to congregate at the Withcott State School and the council are organising emergency accommodation and assistance for people in the Withcott and Murphys Creek areas. He adds there is a general precautionary warning for people in the Grantham area and low lying areas of Gatton such as East Street, Bevan Street near the sawmill, Lockyer Street, Spencer Street near the racecourse, the western side of Railway Street and the Amaroo Retirement Village. Cubit says people needing

**QFCI**

jm

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

28/4/11

Exhibit Number: \_\_\_\_\_

170

assistance should call 132500. Goldman notes this is the SES number and Cubit says they also have a disaster response number on 1300 005 872.

ABC Southern Queensland

**5.54pm Drive** – Jason Cubit from Lockyer Valley Regional Council provides an update on the evacuations in the area. He says the main flooding area is now in Grantham and they are doing their best to evacuate people from there.

ABC 612 Brisbane

**6.01pm News** – Heavy rain has also caused flash flooding in the Lockyer Valley. Mayor Steve Jones says there is widespread damage.

ABC 612 Brisbane

**7.01pm News** – An evacuation alert has been issued for Lockyer Creek at Gatton near Brisbane due to flash flooding in the area. Several people are reportedly missing. Police say two vehicles have been swept from the road and haven't been found. Lockyer Valley Mayor Steve Jones says there is widespread devastation.

ABC 612 Brisbane

**7.19pm Emergency Flood Coverage** - Interview with Jason Cubit, Spokesperson, Lockyer Disaster Management Group, providing an update on how the evacuations are going in the Lockyer Valley. Cubit says they have had quite a few evacuations around the Grantham area. He adds that there are still some stranded people they are trying to get to. He says the latest reports are that the waters are starting to back off slightly. He says the Lockyer Creek in Gatton is peaking as they speak. He says he does not know what the levels are there but they are following the levels by the Bureau. He talks about some of the issues faced in evacuating people there, adding that there were a couple of helicopter attempts. He talks about how people can contact their call centre for assistance, the SES and Triple 0. According to Cubit, there are around 30 people at the Gatton Shire Hall and a number are at the Grantham State School. He says he has heard that the Grantham Pub has been moved off its foundation. Levi asks if this is a historical building but Cubit confirms it is as it has been there for a long time.

ABC 612 Brisbane

**8.00pm News** – An Evacuation Centre has been set-up at the Withcott State School following flash flooding in the Lockyer Valley. Three pedestrians are missing following the flooding. Lockyer Mayor Steve Jones says the water was unbelievable. Gatton barmaid Helen Vaughan says many residents have sought refuge in the pub.

ABC 612 Brisbane

**9.22pm Emergency Flood Coverage** - Update on the flood crisis from Jason Cubit, Local Disaster Management Group Lockyer Valley. The comperes says callers are concerned for those in the Grantham and Gatton area and Cubit says they understand a number of people are stranded on roof tops but rescue teams are out there. Cubit advises people to call their information number and they are adding to the list of those missing. Cubit says they have about 40 people at the Grantham School evacuation centre as well as the local hall and the Withcott State School. Cubit says they think the Lockyer creek has peaked, but have reports it is subsiding in Grantham. Cubit says those at the unofficial evacuation centre in Grantham are being transferred to Grattan. Cubit says Steve Jones, Lockyer Valley Mayor was at Withcott but has managed to

make it to Gatton. Cubit says they will be by the phones all night and urges anyone needing assistance to call.

ABC 612 Brisbane

**10.01pm News** – An emergency alert has been issued for flash flooding in the Lockyer Valley near Brisbane. Mayor Steve Jones says it has been a shocking day.

ABC 612 Brisbane

**10.37pm Emergency Flood Coverage** - Councillor Steve Jones, Mayor, Lockyer Valley Regional Council, is asked to comment on the media conference held by the Police Commissioner and the Premier. Jones says he wasn't able to watch the media conference because too much was happening there on the ground. There are still many people unaccounted for, and many other emergencies happenings. The host says the Premier commented on the poor weather stopping helicopters from rescuing people from roofs. Jones says the people are resilient and work well together. He describes the situation as looking like a war zone.

ABC 702 Sydney

**11.55pm Nightlife** - Interview with Steve Jones, Mayor, Lockyer Valley Council on recent flood events. He says there are many people stuck and much damage to property. Jones says Grantham was flooded last night as well. Compere mentions Anna Bligh, Queensland Premier saying there are people believed on roofs at Grantham Primary School. Jones says they are extracting people. He says Withcott is similar to a 'war zone'. Jones says water is moving down into the Laidley Shire and they have crews there now. He says they have people at the Gatton Shire Hall, Helidon Community Hall, Withcott State School and the Grantham School.

### **Web Site Updates**

**11am** – Lockyer Valley Regional Council web site updated with latest road closures & flood information

**11.45am** – Lockyer Valley Regional Council web site updated with latest road closures & flood information (updated twice with 11.45am time stamp)

**12noon** – Lockyer Valley Regional Council web site updated with latest road closures & flood information (updated twice with 12 noon time stamp)

**1pm** – Lockyer Valley Regional Council web site updated with latest road closures & flood information

**2pm** – Lockyer Valley Regional Council web site updated with latest road closures & flood information

**5pm** – Lockyer Valley Regional Council web site updated with latest road closures & flood information

**5.30pm** – Lockyer Valley Regional Council web site updated with latest road closures & flood information

## Text Messages

8.20pm - <http://www.disaster.qld.gov.au/news/view.asp?id=4972&s=scdo>

Emergency Alert Lockyer Valley 2010hrs Jan 10

An Emergency Alert has been issued for residents in the Lockyer Valley.

This is a flash flood warning from the SES. Significant heavy rainfall is expected in the next four hours. People in low lying areas are advised to move to higher ground.

For emergencies please call Triple Zero.

If you require assistance from the State Emergency Service please call 132 500.

## Tuesday January 11 2010

### Radio

ABC 612 Brisbane

**5.30am News** - Qld authorities are launching a search and rescue operation this morning for scores of people missing in floods in South East Qld. Premier Anna Bligh says a wall of water burst through the heart of Toowoomba, sweeping away cars and people. Four people were killed. Two women and a child have died at Grantham, while in Withcott at least nine people are missing. Lockyer Valley Mayor Steve Jones says people are in shock. Bligh says helicopters have arrived to help from northern NSW. Weather Bureau Forecaster Brett Harrison says more rain is forecast for the Darling Downs and the Sunshine Coast Hinterland today.

Mix 97.3 Brisbane

**5.59am News** - Searches continue for people missing in flash flooding west of Brisbane. 7 people have been confirmed dead from Toowoomba to Grantham. Bob Atkinson, Police Commissioner, says the death toll could rise. Anna Bligh, Queensland Premier, says the search is continuing for people in dangerous circumstances. Steve Jones, Mayor, Lockyer Valley Regional Council, says residents are in shock. Up to 30 people are missing in Grantham, with houses flattened.

ABC 612 Brisbane

**6.01am News** - Cameron Price, Reporter, Channel Nine, who is in Grantham, has told the ABC the situation is dire, with houses collapsed, cars up trees, and homes 1km away from where they were. Steve Jones, Regional Mayor, Lockyer, says everything is being done to help those in need.

ABC Southern Queensland

**6.31am News** - Residents in the Lockyer Valley are still reeling after yesterday's flood. Steve Jones, Mayor of Lockyer Valley, says people are still in shock.

River FM Ipswich

**7.13am Goldie** - Ian Flint, Spokesman, Lockyer Valley Regional Council says they have an extreme disaster situation in Lockyer Valley. He advises residents of Forest Hill and adjacent low-lying areas to evacuate immediately to the Forest Hill Hall and the residents of Laidley to evacuate to the Laidley Depot. He says Council strongly advise people to get out if they're in doubt.

River FM Ipswich

**7.14am Goldie** - Goldie says police are advising the Warrego Highway is shut west of Ipswich. Ian Flint, Spokesman, Lockyer Valley Regional Council advises residents of Forest Hill and adjacent low-lying areas to evacuate immediately to the Forest Hill Hall and the residents of Laidley to evacuate to the Laidley Depot. He says Council strongly advise people to get out if they're in doubt.

ABC 612 Brisbane

**7.23am Breakfast** - Levingston talks to Ian Flint from the Lockyer Valley Regional Council. Flint says they want all residents of Forest Hill and adjacent low lying areas to evacuate immediately to the Forest Hill Hall at the cricket ground. Flint comments that hundreds of homes will need to evacuate. Flint comments that residents from five streets in Laidley also need to evacuate to the Laidley Depot.

River FM Ipswich

**7.25am Goldie** - Goldie replays excerpt of Ian Flint, Spokesman, Lockyer Valley Regional Council advising residents of Forest Hill and adjacent low-lying areas to evacuate immediately to the Forest Hill Hall and the residents of Laidley to evacuate to the Laidley Depot. He says Council strongly advise people to get out if they're in doubt. Goldie replays the warning a second time. He says police are urging people in low-lying areas between Gatton and Ipswich to self-evacuate to higher ground. He says it looks as though Brisbane and Ipswich are being spared the worst of the weather, but a lot is heading to Toowoomba.

ABC 612 Brisbane

**7.25am Breakfast** - Levingston talks to Toowoomba Mayor Peter Taylor about the flooding. Levingston mentions that Ian Flint has just announced warnings. Taylor says there was no warning of the flooding yesterday apart from the intense rain. Levingston comments that the Premier and the Police Commissioner have warned everyone to expect 'more sad stories.' Taylor comments that the clean up has begun and that a number of streets have been blocked off. Taylor says the disaster control centre was activated yesterday. Taylor mentions that there have been two deaths in the city area. Taylor describes the flooding as unprecedented, an inland tsunami, and as a tidal wave.

River FM Ipswich

**7.39am Goldie** - Goldie replays excerpt of Ian Flint, Spokesman, Lockyer Valley Regional Council advising residents of Forest Hill and adjacent low-lying areas to evacuate immediately to the Forest Hill Hall and the residents of Laidley to evacuate to the Laidley Depot. He says Council strongly advise people to get out if they're in doubt.

River FM Ipswich

**7.55am Goldie** - Goldie replays excerpt of Ian Flint, Spokesman, Lockyer Valley Regional Council advising residents of Forest Hill and adjacent low-lying areas to evacuate immediately to the Forest Hill Hall and the residents of Laidley to evacuate to the Laidley Depot. He says Council strongly advise people to get out if they're in doubt.

Mix 97.3 Brisbane

**7.59am News** - The death toll from flash flooding in Toowoomba now stands at eight while eleven people are confirmed as missing. Anna Bligh, Queensland Premier, says 43 were rescued from rooftops overnight and the operation is ongoing. Peter Baddiley, Hydrologist, Bureau of Meteorology, says the wall of water that hit the Lockyer Valley has slowed as it moves downstream. An evacuation set up in Gatton is almost full with

Lockyer Regional Mayor Steve Jones saying people are being sheltered at the community hall and the state school.

River FM Ipswich

**8.11am Goldie** - Goldie replays excerpt of Ian Flint, Spokesman, Lockyer Valley Regional Council advising residents of Forest Hill and adjacent low-lying areas to evacuate immediately to the Forest Hill Hall and the residents of Laidley to evacuate to the Laidley Depot. He says Council strongly advise people to get out if they're in doubt.

ABC Southern Queensland

**9.18am Mornings** - Bedford talks to Steve Jones, Mayor of Lockyer Valley, about the flooding in the area. Jones says the whole area is a disaster zone. He says the Laidley Creek is rising and urges people to get to high ground in the area. Jones says Emergency Services are stretched to the limit but they are coping well. He says for people in Forest Hill to move to the emergency centre. Jones says the peak is some hours off yet. He says their main priority is to look after the people.

ABC 612 Brisbane

**9.19am Mornings** - Qld Emergency Services Minister Neil Roberts has announced that more than 70 people are unaccounted for in the Lockyer Valley following yesterday's flash flooding. Ian Flint, Spokesperson, Lockyer Valley Regional Council, says that it is an extreme situation and that all Forest Hill residents are to evacuate immediately. ABC Reporter Paul Lockyer says that the flooding in Toowoomba reminds him of the damage caused by Cyclone Tracy. He says that it is the greatest flood to hit Queensland and the disaster is 'far from over'. Laidley resident Clint says that the river has burst its banks at Laidley and is running through the main street. He says that the residents have had minimal time to prepare for the flood. He says that police officers are facilitating the evacuation, which is beginning to panic people.

4KQ Brisbane

**9.59am News** - Eight people have been confirmed dead in the wake of flash flooding that hit Toowoomba yesterday. Anna Bligh, Qld Premier, says that there are serious concerns for the safety of residents in Grantham and Murphy Creek with 72 people still missing. Bligh says that she hopes that are all found safely, however she acknowledges there are grave concerns for their safety. Dave Kirwan, Spokesman, Weather Channel, says that there will be more thunderstorms in south east Qld and heavy rains. Steve Jones, Mayor, Lockyer, says that everything is being done to help those in need.

ABC 720 Perth

**10am News** - Conditions are worsening in South East Qld and inland as storms continue to hit the State. At least 70 people are believed missing and Steve Jones, Mayor, Lockyer Valley Regional Council, says they have been told to move to higher ground. Ian Stewart, Deputy Police Commissioner, says that the death toll is expected to rise.

4BC Brisbane

**10.09am Greg Cary** - Cary reports a landslide on Mount Nebo Road has seen the road cut. He says Toowoomba Mayor Steve Jones has reported the situation is worsening in Toowoomba. Cary says Ipswich Mayor Paul Pisasale has reported his weather watchers are also readjusting their flood modelling.

ABC 612 Brisbane

**11am News** - Anna Bligh, Qld Premier, says that the search for 72 people missing in the Lockyer Valley is being hindered by the bad weather. Eight have been confirmed dead as a wall of water swamped the region yesterday. Bligh says that families are missing and she hopes they may be found safe and well. Authorities in the Lockyer Valley say that residents in Laidley and Forest Hill are in grave danger and must move to high ground. Rain is swelling the Lockyer Catchment, with some peaks being higher than the 1974 floods. Steve Jones, Mayor, Lockyer Valley, urges people to immediately evacuate. Laidley locals say that water began rising at 7am this morning. Liz McCormack, Publican, Laidley, says that the main street is knee deep water.

ABC Darwin

**11am News** - Conditions are worsening in southeastern inland Qld, with a severe storm lashing the region and hampering rescue efforts after flash flooding yesterday. Lockyer Valley mayor Steve Jones says that they're being told to move to higher ground. Eight are dead, and deputy police commissioner Ian Stewart says that that's expected to grow.

Triple J Sydney

**12noon News** - Qld's Sth East is being lashed by a severe storm with rescue efforts being hindered by yesterdays flash flooding in the Lockyer Valley, where over 70 people are still unaccounted for. Steve Jones, Lockyer Valley Mayor says residents are preparing for evacuation while Ian Stewart, Deputy Qld Police Commissioner, says the rescue attempts are continuing.

Radio National Canberra

**3.05pm PM** - Special edition of PM with Stephen Long. At least eight people have died in the Queensland floods, with dozens missing and more feared dead. Flood waters are heading towards Brisbane City, with outer residents urged to evacuate. Northern NSW is also flooding, with Tenterfield isolated. The Lockyer Valley is threatened, with warnings of flash floods for Laidley and Forest Hill, where Mayor Steve Jones says damage is worse than Cyclone Tracey and 300 people are waiting to be rescued. Evacuations are being conducted for Forest Hill, Laidley, West End, Strathpine, Cabulcha (\*), Toogoolawah and Esk. The Ipswich City Council is opening evacuation centres. Bribie Island is also isolated. Michelle Berry, Bureau of Meteorology, says thunderstorms are extending from the Sunshine Coast to south of Brisbane. Evacuations are taking place north and south of Brisbane. Esk and Kilcooley (\*) residents are being rescued. Cabulcha is isolated. The Bureau says some of the worst floods will arrive in Brisbane, with the Brisbane River set to flood in two days. West End residents are urged to move to higher ground.

Radio National Canberra

**5.10pm PM** - Qld Premier Anna Bligh says Ipswich and Brisbane are facing their toughest test, and Long describes the flooding in Qld. Brisbane Lord Mayor [Campbell Newman] says 6500 homes are threatened, and emergency workers are trying to free a group of people stuck in a Grantham school near Toowoomba. The waters have now hit NSW, with Tenterfield being completely isolated. The Clarence Valley and the NSW Northern Tablelands are also facing heavy rain. Homes are being threatened in the Lockyer Valley, and Mayor Steve Jones says the damage is worse than that of Cyclone Tracy. Crocodiles have been sighted in the floodwaters at Rockhampton, and Bligh says waters are predicted to rise. An evacuation centre has been set up at the Brisbane Showgrounds, and Deputy Police Commissioner Ian Stewart says river levels may rise depending on rainfall over the Wivenhoe Dam. Michelle Berry from the Weather Bureau

says it is an exceptional event. Stewart says some Lockyer Valley residents may still be stranded, and Forest Hill residents are being evacuated on Black Hawk helicopters. Scenic Rim Mayor John Brent says the dams are full and released water will move towards Logan City.

ABC 702 Sydney

**5.11pm Drive** - The Queensland town of Laidley is being evacuated due to the flood threat. Interview with Steve Jones, Mayor, Lockyer Valley Regional Council. He talks about the current flood situation. He says that damage sustained so far is unbelievable and extends from the western to the eastern end of the shire. He says he has never seen floods like this. Evacuations have been very difficult given the conditions, and some residents have had to be evacuated by air. Even very solid buildings have been completely destroyed.

ABC 612 Brisbane

**6.56pm Evenings** - Jason Cubit, Spokesman, Lockyer Valley Regional Council joins the show to update flooding conditions in the area. He says Forest Hill has been evacuated. Smith suggests he hasn't seen a Blackhawk airlift like that since East Timor. Cubit says they have evacuation centres at the Gatton Shire Hall, Gatton Indoor Sports Centre at the Showgrounds and at Laidley Hospital and High School.

### **Web Site Updates**

**8.45am** – Lockyer Valley Regional Council web site updated with latest road closures & flood information

### **Text Messages**

**10.15am** – Forest Hill (EMQ getting permission to release info)

**10.23am** – Laidley (EMQ getting permission to release info)