



Speech by

# Hon. Robert Swarten

MEMBER FOR ROCKHAMPTON

Hansard Thursday, 21 May 2009

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## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

### South-East Queensland Floods

**Hon. RE SCHWARTEN** (Rockhampton—ALP) (Minister for Public Works and Information and Communication Technology) (10.40 am): In the aftermath of the worst floods to hit South-East Queensland since 1974, QBuild and the Building Services Authority are on the job helping Queenslanders. QBuild staff have commenced visiting the worst affected sites in South-East Queensland to help with repairs. QBuild is allocating all necessary resources to the flood response efforts.

In response to calls for assistance, workers from QBuild are conducting assessments and rectification of the latest damage which has been predominantly caused by rainwater entry or localised flooding. For example, yesterday QBuild assisted with sandbagging work at the Deception Bay Police Station. Assistance required has generally included clearing debris and sandbagging. QBuild is doing everything it can to assist with the clean-up. With more rain predicted, QBuild will maintain a level of staff over the weekend in case more flood damage is sustained.

The Building Services Authority is the place to go for anyone who has questions regarding their homes following yesterday's floods in South-East Queensland. The BSA is ready to field any inquiries from builders, tradespeople and homeowners on a range of topics about repairs following the floods. Because of its extensive experience with natural disasters like Cyclone Larry, the Mackay floods and The Gap storm event, the BSA has a range of guides for homeowners and trade contractors who now face repair work on damaged homes. These guides include information on how to repair your home after water inundation events. The BSA has systems in place to assist consumers and contractors by streamlining the repair processes, providing assistance to consumers to help manage their situation or resolving problems in relation to repairing their homes. I urge anyone with flood damage issues to contact the BSA through its hotline, 1300BSABSA, which is 1300272272.