

QUESTION ON NOTICE

NO. 541

Asked on Wednesday 19 May 2004

MR WELLS asked the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (Mr Lucas) -

QUESTION:

What are the current timelines for completion of the Federally funded upgrades now underway on the Bruce Highway between Anzac Avenue and Deception Bay Road?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Murrumba for the question.

The construction contract on the Bruce Highway between Dohles Rocks Road and Boundary Road was awarded in May 2003, with a construction period of 450 calendar days.

In accordance with the contract, this period has been extended to account for wet weather experienced in recent months.

The current date for Practical Completion is 29 October 2004. The contractor is expected to meet this completion date unless it is extended again as a result of further wet weather.

Queensland has continually called for the Commonwealth government to provide funding to continue the six-laning further north to Caboolture. While the Commonwealth has finally responded to this with their announcement under AusLink to provide the necessary funds over the next four years, this commitment is 12 months too late. AusLink has provided \$195m over four years, but Queensland needs it over three years to coincide with the 2006-07 completion of the state-funded Caboolture northern bypass.

In anticipation of this announcement, the Department of Main Roads has been progressing the design for the next section of the upgrade between Boundary Road and Uhlmann Road. This design is nearing completion.