

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 812

asked on Wednesday, 24 May 2006

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MS STONE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND WATER (MR PALASZCZUK)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the State Government's South East Queensland Regional Water Supply Strategy—

- (1) Will he provide details of the strategy?
- (2) Will the State Government be working in partnership with local councils?
- (3) How does it compare to the document released by the Coalition?

ANSWER:

- (1) Elements of the Strategy have already been made public in the South East Queensland Regional Water Supply Strategy – Stage 2 Interim Report released in January 2006. The Stage 2 Strategy is due for completion by the end of the year.
- (2) The State Government in partnership with the 18 Local Governments of the South East Queensland Region, SEQWater, SunWater and other stakeholders are currently developing a Regional Water Supply Strategy to meet the water needs of the region through to the middle of the century. Stage 1 of the Strategy was completed in August 2004. The Draft Stage 2 Strategy is due for completion by the end of 2006.
- (3) The finalised Strategy is likely to be substantially different from the Coalition's documents as it will provide for significantly greater supplies to be drawn from the new water storages recently announced by the Government. The Government's strategy is for the long term and will deal with drought contingency planning requirements.

The Coalition Strategy's dodgy document is full of errors, and it does not provide for the water needed for the State's south-east. Apart from its mistakes and the smaller lower-yielding dams, the Coalition broadly endorses the Strategy developed by the Queensland Government and local councils.