

Question on Notice

No. 609

Asked on 18 April 2007

MR HOPPER asked the Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Infrastructure (MS BLIGH) –

QUESTION:

With reference to the Mary River which in 1955 rose 30 feet within a day and a quarter of the township of Kenilworth was under water and if the building of the Traveston Crossing Dam goes ahead the river will back up and naturally cover a larger area –

Who will be responsible for compensation for the residents of Kenilworth if another flood occurs similar to the one in 1955?

ANSWER:

I am advised that if another flood of the same magnitude as the 1955 flood were to occur after the Traveston Crossing Dam is constructed, there would be no greater impact on Kenilworth than that experienced in 1955.

This is determined from recent hydraulic modelling comparing the “with dam” and “without dam” scenarios for a flood which has a 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (that is, a 1 in 100 year flood event).

The flooding experienced in 1955 in Kenilworth was of lower magnitude than a 1% Annual Exceedance Probability flood and Kenilworth is far enough upstream that it is not affected by the presence of the dam.

Therefore, the issue of compensation after the construction of the Traveston Crossing Dam would be unchanged from the current insurance position.