Question on Notice

No. 617

Asked on 18 April 2007

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

QUESTION:

What Plans are there for the future of the Enoggera reservoir at The Gap?

ANSWER:

The Government is involved with Brisbane City Council in exploring opportunities to increase supply from the Enoggera Reservoir. The Reservoir is owned by Brisbane City Council, including a water treatment plant that had previously been decommissioned.

The treatment plant was decommissioned in August 2002 by Brisbane City Council, due to the facility reaching the end of its asset life and being uneconomic to upgrade or continue operation. Additional supply was provided from Mt Crosby treatment plant.

The Enoggera water treatment plant was recommissioned for full-time operation on 12 February 2007 as part of the Regional Drought Strategy. The plant now supplies approximately 3 to 3.5 Megalitres of treated water per day to the local area – The Gap.

The long term yield for the reservoir is estimated to be approximately 4.7 Megalitres per day (ML/day), though the reservoir has sustained intermittent supply in excess of 6 ML/day for shorter terms.

The current supply is limited by the existing treatment plant capacity and condition. It is also limited by the existing pipeline zoning and capacity – noting Brisbane City Council is currently maximising supply from Enoggera Reservoir within the existing The Gap water supply zone, separate to the adjacent Green Hill water supply zone.

Various options are currently under review to increase treated supply. A short term option is proposed to extend the water supply zone within the Gap, which would increase supply up to 4.7 ML/day. A medium term option is also proposed to upgrade the treatment plant to provide capacity up to 6 ML/day.

The Government is currently reviewing these options with Brisbane City Council, noting the short term option could be implemented by December 2007, and the medium term option potentially by December 2008.