

**Question on Notice
No. 732
Asked on 23 May 2007**

MR GIBSON asked the Premier and Minister for Trade (MR BEATTIE) -

QUESTION:

With reference to his announcement of the Traveston Crossing Dam, which, according to the Queensland Water Infrastructure took place in April 2006—

- (1) How much time transpired between his first approach to Natural Resources about the Traveston Dam and the announcement of the dam?
- (2) When did he first approach the Department of Natural Resources about Traveston Dam?
- (3) Did the Traveston Crossing Dam decision go to Cabinet before the announcement was made, and if so, on what date?

ANSWER:

The then Minister submitted a number of Cabinet Submissions summarising work to date carried out as part of the development of Stage 2 the *South East Queensland Regional Water Supply Strategy*, along with the available reports, and the Government made a decision based on this information.

The South East Queensland Regional Water Supply Strategy is being jointly progressed by the Queensland Government and the Local Governments of South East Queensland

Consultants GHD were commissioned by the then Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Water on behalf of the *South East Queensland Regional Water Supply Strategy* (SEQRWSS) Steering Committee to conduct a study of all South East Queensland dam sites identified in previous studies

At the time of commissioning the GHD report the SEQRWSS Steering Committee had delegated authority to approve and allocate funding to consultancy work to a smaller Strategy Group that included representatives of State, Local Government and other water service providers. Seven task groups were formed that reported both to the Strategy Management Group (SMG) and the Steering Committee.

The SMG approved a formal submission from the Bulk Supply Infrastructure Task Group that GHD be awarded a consultancy that included a desk top review of identified dam and weir sites. The consultants report was released in June 2006.

The outcome of this study was that the Traveston Crossing Dam was identified as the top option on the basis of potential yield.

This work was supplemented by more detailed environmental impact studies carried out by S.Brizga and Associates Pty. Ltd. and geotechnical investigations and concept

designs carried out by SunWater prior to the Government making its decision to further investigate Traveston Dam with a view to its development..

As I advised previously, the then Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Water made a number of submissions to Cabinet and Cabinet was well informed on this matter.