

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 976

asked on Friday, 8 June 2007

MRS MENKENS ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND WATER AND MINISTER ASSISTING THE PREMIER IN NORTH QUEENSLAND (MR WALLACE)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the possibility of a base load clean coal power station being built in Collinsville at some time in the future and which I fully support—

Will he provide details (reported separately) for (a) current available water supplies in Collinsville including the Weir, Eungella Dam and the Gattonvale Off-stream Storage, (b) current allocations from these sources and to whom, (c) any anticipated future allocations from these sources and (d) any future works or storages that may be needed to supply a future station?

ANSWER:

- (a) and (b) In total Eungella Dam, Bowen River Weir and the Gattonvale Off-Stream Storage have 30 555 megalitres of high priority water allocated for use in town water supply, power station use, and mining; 5 786 megalitres of medium priority water allocated for irrigation purposes; 292 megalitres of Stock and Domestic water allocated with a further 408 megalitres of unallocated water reserved for future Stock and Domestic use.
- (c) There are no anticipated further allocations which could be made available from the existing sources without augmentation.
- (d) My department has recently commenced the North Queensland Regional Water Supply Strategy (the Strategy) to provide a whole-of-region approach to ensure security for the existing and future needs of urban, industrial, mining and agricultural sectors. The Strategy will anticipate the location and timing of any potential supply shortfalls and will consider all infrastructure and non-infrastructure solutions to address them.