

## Question on Notice

No. 1613

Asked on Thursday, 30 October 2008

**MR COPELAND** asked the Deputy Premier and Minister for Infrastructure and Planning (MR LUCAS) –

QUESTION:

With reference to the water pipeline proposed to be built to link Toowoomba water supplies to the South East Queensland Water Grid—

- (1) How much is the pipeline projected to cost to complete?
- (2) What is the projected cost to the Toowoomba Regional Council for completed construction and projected maintenance?
- (3) Will the water pipeline be owned by the Toowoomba Regional Council?
- (4) Does the Government intend to sell the pipeline and associated water infrastructure to a private company?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Cunningham for his question.

1. The projected cost is \$187 million.
2. It is expected that the Toowoomba Regional Council will contribute a total of \$112 million towards the construction of the pipeline. This figure will be supplemented by the State Government via a subsidy of up to \$75 million (40% of the maximum cost of \$187 million) under the Water and Sewerage Program (WASP) guidelines to which they will be eligible. Projected maintenance costs are expected to be around \$2.9 million per annum (\$2008).
3. I am advised that following construction and commissioning, the Toowoomba Pipeline will become part of the Toowoomba Regional Council's water asset portfolio. This has always been the preference of Toowoomba Regional Council.
4. No. Refer to response to question 3 above.