

Question on Notice
No. 1780
Asked on 13 November 2008

MR FOLEY asked the Premier (MS BLIGH) -

QUESTION:

With reference to Greens leader Bob Brown's statement in the Senate yesterday, that Queensland Water Infrastructure has begun work on a geotechnical survey that will see some 20,000 cubic metres of dirt being dug from the planned dam site and as several residents have been told to leave their homes by the end of this month for blasting to begin—

Why has she allowed this work to begin without federal approval?

ANSWER:

No blasting or removal of 20,000 cubic metres of earth or rock at the Traveston Crossing Dam site has occurred, nor have any residents been asked to leave their homes for blasting to occur.

Geotechnical investigations have been ongoing since 2006 for investigatory purposes and will not leave any permanent structures.

Queensland Water Infrastructure has proactively engaged with stakeholders including the State and Federal Government, as well as placing advertisements in local newspapers to keep the community informed about such activities.

Following allegations raised by Senator Bob Brown, an officer from the Federal Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts visited the Traveston Crossing Dam site on 17 November 2008.

The department has advised QWI that it has found no evidence to support the claims of an offence under S74AA of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.