

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 2025

asked on Thursday, 7 October 2010

MR HORAN ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND ENERGY AND MINISTER FOR TRADE (MR ROBERTSON)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the opening of floodgates at Wivenhoe Dam allowing water to run free to the ocean and as Toowoomba Regional Council is restricted to pumping water from Wivenhoe during the hours of 9pm to 7am to fill the Toowoomba dams which are at 20 per cent only—

Why has the Minister refused the Toowoomba Regional Council any access to this free water being released?

ANSWER:

I have written to the Toowoomba Mayor and agreed that for this wet season an unlimited supply of water can be pumped from Wivenhoe Dam while it is spilling. This water will be at no cost as the State Government has waived the variable bulk water charge. The Toowoomba Regional Council is responsible for deciding how much water is pumped through the pipeline.

The Queensland Government is committed to Toowoomba's water security. This is why we have provided \$112 million out of the \$187 million cost of constructing the Wivenhoe to Cressbrook pipeline.