

Question on Notice

No. 103

Asked on 17 February 2011

MRS MILLER asked the Minister for Main Roads (MR WALLACE) -

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide information on progress of the upgrade of the Ipswich Motorway between Dinmore and Goodna and advise whether the project can be finished as scheduled given the recent flood event?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Bundamba for the question and the long term interest she has taken in upgrading the Ipswich Motorway. The Honourable Member has been a very keen proponent of improving this major road for the benefits of her local community.

The upgrade of the Ipswich Motorway between Dinmore and Goodna is one of the largest and most complex road projects ever undertaken in Queensland. This federally funded project is being delivered by the Origin Alliance on behalf of the state and federal governments.

Work began in May 2009 and progress to date has been significant, with 95 per cent of the design and 40 per cent of construction now complete. Mine remediation works, to ensure the long-term stability of the new motorway, were completed in September 2010 and work is underway on 22 of the project's 24 bridges.

The new pedestrian bridge at Redbank was officially opened on 8 December 2010 and the Smiths Road extension was opened to traffic on 16 December 2010.

The January 2011 floods inundated large sections of the project and damaged a number of site buildings and compounds and some sections of the road infrastructure under construction.

Current works are heavily focused on re-establishing operations, bridge construction and major drainage, earthworks and pavement works.

Prior to the recent floods, the project was expected to be completed by the end of 2012. Origin Alliance believes they will make up the lost time caused by these floods to enable the project to meet the original completion date.