

TRAVESTON CROSSING DAM

Latest news from the Community Futures Task Force

Issue 13
December 2007

The Community Futures Task Force provides an independent source of information and assistance to the people and communities affected by the proposed dam, and we look forward to continuing this service in 2008.

The Community Futures Task Force meets regularly with the heads of State Government departments and community leaders to identify and address issues of concern and to develop projects that may benefit Mary Valley communities in the longer term.

The Community Futures Task Force welcomes this opportunity to wish everyone in the Mary Valley a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

Major General Peter Arnison - Chair

THE EIS PROCESS – WHAT HAPPENS ONCE SUBMISSIONS CLOSE

The Environmental Impact Statement process for the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam is being coordinated by the Department of Infrastructure and Planning on behalf of the Coordinator-General.

The table below outlines the EIS process once the Coordinator-General receives final public submissions on January 14, 2008.

EIS REVIEW - The Coordinator-General reviews the EIS and submissions from the public and may request a Supplementary Report to address matters raised in EIS submissions. The Supplementary Report may include corrections, clarifications and further information to that provided in the EIS.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT - If a Supplementary Report is required it is standard procedure in any EIS process that the proponent of the project undertake this, therefore QWI - as the company responsible for constructing the proposed dam - will compile the material.

COORDINATOR-GENERAL'S REPORT - The Coordinator-General prepares his report in which he considers:

- all properly made submissions
- the Environmental Impact Statement
- the Supplementary Report (if one is required)
- any other related material.

The Coordinator-General in evaluating the EIS and preparing his report may:

- evaluate the project's effects on the environment* and any other related matters
- *Environment is defined in the State Development and Public Works Organisation Act as including:
- (a) ecosystems and their constituent parts, including people and communities
 - (b) all natural and physical resources
 - (c) the qualities and characteristics of locations, places and areas, however large or small, that contribute to their biological diversity and integrity, intrinsic or attributed scientific value or interest, amenity, harmony and sense of community
 - (d) the social, economic, aesthetic and cultural conditions that affect, or are affected by, things mentioned in points (a) to (c).
- state conditions that need to be attached to approvals, if the approvals are required under various State Acts, including the Integrated Planning Act, Minerals Resources Act or the Environmental Protection Act
 - recommend requirements or conditions for community infrastructure designation under the Integrated Planning Act or any approvals under other legislation that requires an EIS.

Once the Coordinator-General has finalised his report, a copy of the report (and the Supplementary Report if one is required) will be made publicly available from the Coordinator-General's website at www.coordinatorgeneral.qld.gov.au. It must also be provided to QWI, the Commonwealth Department of Environment, Heritage and the Arts and any assessment manager (State agency) for any relevant project-related legislative approval.

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Coordinator-General Colin Jensen

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT - The Coordinator-General's Report, EIS, Supplementary Report (if one is required) and other relevant material is provided to the Federal Minister for Environment, Heritage and the Arts, who will make a decision under Part 9 of the Environment Protection, Biodiversity and Conservation Act.

Subject to the Federal Minister approving the project, the Minister may impose conditions on the implementation of the project.

FEDERAL DECISION - State and Commonwealth assessments of the EIS are expected to be completed by mid-2008.

COMMUNITY FUTURES TASK FORCE 1800 133 258
www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au

Publications referred to in this newsletter are available from the Kandanga One Stop Shop or our website.

GREEN LIGHT FOR IMBIL BUSINESS PLAN

A project to completely involve the community of Imbil in their economic future has been given the go-ahead.

The Imbil Business Retention and Expansion (BR&E) project is a grass-roots plan that gets locals involved in building their businesses, generating growth and creating jobs.

The community-based concept encourages a thriving local economy by involving business and community leaders as volunteers, who will conduct a confidential survey of local businesses, to provide a snapshot of Imbil's business environment.

Across the state, a number of communities, including Innisfail and Malanda, have benefited from the initiative. This is the first time a BR&E program has run in the Mary Valley and may pave the way for it to be applied in other communities in the area.

The Imbil plan has been given the green light with the appointment of Program Manager, Margaret Darveniza.

Margaret will start work mid-December, meeting with community representatives shortly after to discuss ways in which Imbil can grow economically.

Margaret managed the BR&E program for Innisfail, helping the town to re-establish its economy after Cyclone Larry, and has been involved in community economic development for ten years.

Chosen by members of the Imbil Development Group and the Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry (DTRDI), Margaret is experienced in management training and business coaching for community organisations.

The Imbil Development Group is the local community partner for the project. They will tailor the project's survey using standard questions from the BR&E model, adapted to the local community.

The survey will identify opportunities for growth and development, and establish the concerns and ideas of the local business community.

It is expected that the survey and evaluation will run over twelve months.

Importantly, the BR&E model also examines restrictions to local business expansion and

reasons why businesses consider closing or relocating.

It will also assess current and future labour needs.

An in-depth report based on this research will outline recommendations for future action which will be developed and presented by the Project Manager to the community at the end of the project.

Local business leaders identified during the project will introduce these recommendations locally.

In late December or early January, the DTRDI will advertise to fill a paid Program Coordinator role, who will provide on-the-ground support and canvass for volunteers interested in undergoing training and participating in the project.

If you would like to be involved in the BR&E project or would like more information, contact Margaret Darveniza on 07 4061 3368 or Celena Ross at DTRDI on 07 5453 1806.

KEY MARY VALLEY CONTACTS

You may already know them, but for those who don't, here's a brief overview of the roles these government workers play in the Mary Valley.

Representing the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries; QRAA; and the Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry, they work with Kandanga One Stop Shop staff, providing information and assistance to the community.



Mal Matthew - Industry Development Officer
Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (DPIF)
Ph: 0427 600 714 or 07 5480 4428

Mal offers primary industry producers and organisations in the affected areas information and support services - covering income, employment and future business opportunities. He can provide guidance on improving the structure of a business to adapt to a changing environment.

Mal has notched up eleven years at the DPIF, nine of those as a Farm Financial Counsellor and the remainder as an Extension Officer. Part of his role involves input into the DPIF's Food and Fibre Futures Project, which looks at what agribusiness opportunities may arise from water and infrastructure developments as a result of the proposed dam. He can also point primary producers to suitable sources for their training needs.



Jim Mackson - Client Liaison Officer
QRAA
Ph: 0417 778 317 or freecall 1800 623 946

Jim has worked for QRAA for seven years as a Client Liaison Officer. Based in Kingaroy, he services the Mary Valley and Gympie area, speaking with producers and small business operators about QRAA's range of financial assistance packages. Included is the Business Adjustment Scheme for the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam, which has been in effect for the past year.

The Scheme offers eligible businesses financial assistance for Business Advice, Business Restructure or Business Exit.

Eligible businesses are those affected by the announcement of the proposed dam, that do not qualify to negotiate under the Land Purchasing Policy with Queensland Water Infrastructure.

Business Advice Assistance reimburses eligible businesses the cost of getting professional financial advice; Business Restructure Assistance is a one-off grant to assist with restructuring options, such as relocation and improvements; and Business Exit Assistance helps businesses when there is no realistic option other than to exit the business.



Celena Ross - Regional Development Officer
Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry (DTRDI)
Ph: 07 5453 1806 or 0428 159 984

Working from the Sunshine Coast Regional Development Centre, Celena supports business owners and associations in the Mary Valley area through projects and by running business skills and development workshops.

At present she is working with the Imbil Development Group to implement the Imbil Business Retention and Expansion (BR&E) program. A former president of the regional Business Women's Network, her experience includes owning and operating businesses and a business development role with the Caloundra City Council.



Bridget Edwards - State Development Officer
Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry (DTRDI)
Ph: 07 5480 4415 or 0438 732 362

Bridget is based in Gympie and works closely with the Cooloola Shire Council on projects that encourage the economic development of the region. She aids Mary Valley businesses by providing a link to the shire's larger economic community and develops programs that help them to grow and expand into new markets.

Bridget's current projects include the assessment study of a multi-purpose recreation facility at Imbil, and the investigation of industrial land opportunities in the region.

THE KANDANGA ONE STOP SHOP

The local point for information, referrals and support services, the Kandanga One Stop Shop (KOSS) assists those affected by the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam.

Located at 80 Main Street, Kandanga, and open from 8.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, the One Stop Shop is managed by the Department of Communities.

As well as guiding you to the right place for information, the KOSS has maps of the boundaries of the proposed dam, a copy of the EIS, and the Addendum to the EIS available for viewing.

Jenny Scott, Manager – Jenny manages the One Stop Shop and can help with general inquiries and direct people to the relevant agency for information on the proposed dam, government programs, financial assistance and training.

Jenny provides a link from KOSS staff, Marie and Jason - who work in the field talking with community members - to government agencies. This ensures that feedback and suggestions from the community on services and projects in the Mary Valley can be followed up.

You can contact Jenny on 07 5488 4931 or 0428 111 816, or email jennifer.scott@communities.qld.gov.au.

Jason Keating, Project Officer – Jason joined the One Stop Shop in October and works with the community and agencies, developing and managing local projects.

Jason is out and about in the community, meeting people and seeking feedback on projects. By speaking with community members and local organisations, Jason establishes the sort of projects the Mary Valley would benefit from, now and in the future, and sets up a timeframe for their completion.

He has spent much of his life in rural communities and has a solid agribusiness background in the government and private sectors.

Jason is contactable on 07 5488 4929 or 0427 017 627, or by email jason.keating@communities.qld.gov.au.

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR OPENING TIMES

The Kandanga One Stop Shop will operate at the following hours over the Christmas and New Year period. Lifeline services will be available by contacting the 24-hour support line of 13 11 14. Signage will be placed at the One Stop Shop and there will be a recorded message on the phone for emergency contact.

For further information about services during this period, please contact the One Stop Shop on 07 5488 4931.

Monday December 24, 2007	Open from 10am to 3pm
Tuesday December 25, 2007	Closed for public holiday
Wednesday December 26, 2007	Closed for public holiday
Thursday December 27, 2007	Open from 10am to 3pm
Friday December 28, 2007	Open from 10am to 3pm
Monday December 31, 2007	Open from 10am to 3pm
Tuesday January 1, 2008	Closed for public holiday

The One Stop Shop resumes full services from Wednesday January 2, 2008 opening 8.30am to 5pm weekdays.



Jenny Scott, Marie Hensley and Jason Keating at the Kandanga One Stop Shop

Marie Hensley, Community Development and Engagement Officer – Marie is your first point of call for assistance with community development activities and funding proposals and applications, including the Community Futures Fund.

She works with local individuals and organisations to identify projects and funding opportunities that will benefit Mary Valley communities.

Marie has lived and worked in small communities all her life and has worked with distressed landholders in drought affected communities.

Among the community development projects Marie is currently working on are the Oral History Project and Mary Valley Artists' Gallery.

- **The Oral History Project**

Marie arranged for Jennifer Barrkman, an oral historian with over 20 years' experience, to teach community members how to collect and record personal stories.

A workshop and launch of the project were held in November, and over the coming months community members will interview other locals to collect historical stories from the region. The project will end mid-2008 with a community celebration.

A community working group is presently

looking at what format the project will take once all the stories have been collated.

The Oral History Project brings together young and old, and complements work done by Queensland State Archives in documenting the history of the region.

- **Mary Valley Artists' Gallery**

The Mary Valley is alive with artists and crafts people. A collaborative effort by local artists to establish a venue in the Mary Valley to display local artwork is underway. The gallery will link in with an existing art trail and is expected to bring further tourism opportunities to the region.

Planning is in progress, with a working group formed and a launch held in early December. The group, along with Marie and Celena Ross of the Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry, is working on getting the gallery operational - sorting out funding, management and design - with a view to opening for business in the first half of 2008.

For more information about these projects, contact Marie on 07 5488 4670 or 0427 017 604, or email marie.hensley@communities.qld.gov.au.

PERSONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Lifeline can help with matters such as personal and financial counselling and ways to deal with stress. They can talk with you about your needs and if necessary offer referrals to other support services.

An independent counselling service, they operate from the house at the rear of the Kandanga One Stop Shop, and also conduct home visits.

In 2007, Lifeline presented workshops covering communication skills, embracing change, group facilitation and crisis intervention.

The counsellors will look at scheduling workshops in 2008, based on community requests.

The Lifeline counsellors welcome your visit or call; contact Gary Cowan on 07 5484 3299 or Katrina Steel on 07 5485 3255.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Time and Location	Events	Contact
December			
Wed 5	5.30pm - 8.30pm, Gunabul Homestead Restaurant, Gympie	Tendering for Government Project Business - cost \$33 includes workbook, light snack, tea and coffee	For bookings contact Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry Centre, Sunshine Coast ph 07 5453 1800
Thu 20	10.30am - 12.30pm, Department of Communities, Maroochydhore	Regional Services Forum attended by Qld Government Agencies	Department of Communities ph 07 5488 4931
Jan-2008			
Mon 14		Proposed Traveston Crossing Dam Project, Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), formal public submission period closes	Department of Infrastructure and Planning ph 1800 996 829
February			
Mon 4	1.00pm - 2.00pm, Executive Building, 100 George Street, Brisbane	Community Futures Task Force Meeting attended by Mayors from Cooloolo, Maroochy, Noosa, Boonah and Beaudesert Shires and relevant Directors-General	Community Futures Task Force ph 1800 133 258
Wed 6	venue to be confirmed, Gympie	Workplace Health and Safety workshop	Tourism, Regional Development and Industry Centre, Sunshine Coast ph 07 5453 1800
Thu 7	10.30am - 12.30pm, Department of Communities, Maroochydhore	Regional Services Forum attended by Qld Government Agencies	Department of Communities ph 07 5488 4931
Wed 13	venue to be confirmed, Gympie	Tendering for Government Business workshop	Tourism, Regional Development and Industry Centre, Sunshine Coast ph 07 5453 1800
Tue 19	venue to be confirmed, Gympie	Accommodation Industry Business Development workshop (B&B's/farmstay/modular)	Tourism, Regional Development and Industry Centre, Sunshine Coast ph 07 5453 1800
Thu 28	venue to be confirmed, Gympie	Quality Assurance workshop	Tourism, Regional Development and Industry Centre, Sunshine Coast ph 07 5453 1800
March			
Mon 3	1.00pm - 2.00pm, Executive Building, 100 George Street, Brisbane	Community Futures Task Force Meeting attended by Mayors from Cooloolo, Maroochy, Noosa, Boonah and Beaudesert Shires and relevant Directors-General	Community Futures Task Force ph 1800 133 258
Thu 6	10.30am - 12.30pm, Department of Communities, Maroochydhore	Regional Services Forum attended by Qld Government Agencies	Department of Communities ph 07 5488 4931
April			
Mon 7	1.00pm - 2.00pm, Executive Building, 100 George Street, Brisbane	Community Futures Task Force Meeting attended by Mayors from Cooloolo, Maroochy, Noosa, Boonah and Beaudesert Shires and relevant Directors-General	Community Futures Task Force ph 1800 133 258
Thu 10	10.30am - 12.30pm, Department of Communities, Maroochydhore	Regional Services Forum attended by Qld Government Agencies	Department of Communities ph 07 5488 4931
Thu 24	9.00am - 9.30am telelink	Regional Services Forum attended by Qld Government Agencies	Department of Communities ph 07 5488 4931
May			
Mon 12	1.00pm - 2.00pm, Executive Building, 100 George Street, Brisbane	Community Futures Task Force Meeting attended by Mayors from Cooloolo, Maroochy, Noosa, Boonah and Beaudesert Shires and relevant Directors-General	Community Futures Task Force ph 1800 133 258
Thu 15	10.30am - 12.30pm, Department of Communities, Maroochydhore	Regional Services Forum attended by Qld Government Agencies	Department of Communities ph 07 5488 4931
June			
Mon 2	1.00pm - 2.00pm, Executive Building, 100 George Street, Brisbane	Community Futures Task Force Meeting attended by Mayors from Cooloolo, Maroochy, Noosa, Boonah and Beaudesert Shires and relevant Directors-General	Community Futures Task Force ph 1800 133 258
Thu 5	10.30am - 12.30pm, Department of Communities, Maroochydhore	Regional Services Forum attended by Qld Government Agencies	Department of Communities ph 07 5488 4931
Thu 19	9.00am - 9.30am telelink	Regional Services Forum attended by Qld Government Agencies	Department of Communities ph 07 5488 4931
Unconfirmed Dates			
by early 2008		Draft Land Use and Infrastructure Planning Study for the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam released for public comment	Office Of Urban Management ph 1800 021 818
by mid 2008		Environmental Impact Statement - State and Commonwealth assessment	Office of the Coordinator-General ph 1800 996 829

TRAVESTON CROSSING CONTACT NUMBERS

Kandanga One Stop Shop	07 5488 4929
Counselling Services	
1. Crisis counselling (Lifeline) 24/7	13 11 14
2. Lifeline at Kandanga	07 5484 3299
Community Futures Task Force	1800 133 258
QLD Water Infrastructure Pty Ltd	1800 225 384
Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry	1300 363 711

Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries	13 25 23
QRAA	1800 623 946
Department of Main Roads	1800 180 566
Department of Natural Resources and Water	1800 243 585
Office of Urban Management	1800 021 818
Department of Local Government, Sport and Recreation	07 3234 1870

CONTACT THE TASK FORCE

Phone: 1800 133 258
 Fax: 3224 5310
 Email: info@communityfutures.qld.gov.au
 Website: www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au
 Post: PO Box 15637
 City East QLD 4002

KEY WEBSITES

Links to additional departmental websites can be found at:

- www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au
- Queensland Water Infrastructure**
 - www.qldwi.com.au
- Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority**
 - www.qraa.qld.gov.au
- Office of Urban Management**
 - www.oum.qld.gov.au
- Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts**
 - www.environment.gov.au