

MEDIA STATEMENT

In light of recent comments about the Traveston Crossing Dam....(I) provide an updated statement to you in relation to this matter. The previous statement was provided ... on 20 August.

By way of background, I also refer to the following quotes made in the last two days:

Senator Bob Brown during Senate Question Time:

"... It regards the Traveston Dam. I ask: is it true that earthworks are underway at the dam site to remove 200,000 cubic metres of overburden and 20,000 cubic metres of rock preparatory to building the dam ..."

Chris Foley MP in Queensland state parliament:

"The Greens leader Bob Brown said in the Senate yesterday that Queensland Water Infrastructure has begun work on a geotech survey that will see some 20,000 cubic metres of dirt being dug from the planned Traveston Dam site."

Ronan Lee MP on 4BC radio:

"There is 20,000 cubic metres of dirt being dug on the site; 20,000 cubic metres. This is not small earthworks. This is significant preparatory work for the construction of the dam. I mean, what's going on here is that work on the Traveston dam has already begun."

The following statement can be attributed to the Chief Executive Officer of QWI, Graeme Newton.

Any claim that QWI is conducting blasting or removing 20,000 cubic metres of earth or rock is incorrect.

Activities of this nature will not commence until the Project has received all relevant approvals.

The geotechnical activities are for investigatory purposes and will not leave any permanent structures. These activities have been ongoing since early 2006.

QWI has proactively engaged with stakeholders including the State and Federal Government, as well as placing advertisements in the Gympie Times to keep the local community informed about such activities.

The access track is not on the alignment of the future Traveston Crossing Dam Access Road and is not to the same design specifications of any such road.

An access track has been established to ensure safe access for drill rigs of up to 20 tonnes to conduct these investigations.