

From:
Subject: Independent Inquiry 2022 Flood
Date: 3 May 2022 at 12:02:32 pm
To:

INFORMATION FOR 2022 FLOOD INQUIRY 4 MAY 2022

1) Tumbulgum has a unique problem within the Tweed River Floodplain.

Recent large floods (2013,2017,2022) have resulted in flood levels for Tumbulgum far in excess of what would be expected, as a comparison to modelling figures for Muwillumbah upstream and Chinderah downstream.

Tumbulgum additional Flood heights in these events were

2013 .62 metres above 1:5 event

2017 1.04 metres above 1:20 event

2022 .097 metres above 1:100 event

Murwillumbah and Chinderah achieved results either on or below each event levels

Note : actual figures are available on request.

Tumbulgum believes that a Dam Wall is being built at Chinderah holding back large amounts of water on the floodplain which would have previously freely passed through more freely.

The M1 built on fill in 2002 which mainly runs across the floodplain shows on the councils flood mapping with many contour on the upstream side compared to the downstream side.

Actual event contours are even worst.

Commercial Developments at Chinderah are also inhibiting

the flow volume of water through the floodplain.

Basic Science does not seem to have been applied here and we can supply information to assist in explaining our conclusions.

We would like the State and Local Governments to take ownership of the problem and

A/ rebuild a suspended M1 as like built in Kempsey.

B/ stop Commercial Developments in Chinderah and throughout the floodplain that inhibits flood water flows

C/ make moves for land swaps to remove recent commercial buildings in Chinderah out of the floodplain. Note these have been bolted together and easily removed.

If these ideas don't come into play and today's standards are left in place, higher floods for Tumbulgum and other towns and villages upstream will happen causing an increase to the chance of loss of life and property.

2) Communications loss, (as like in 2017 flood) NBN and Mobile coverage was non-existent whilst in flood.

Our residence have been trained in using data and communications in times of flood and it leaves us out in the blue as to what is actually going on (especially when power is also turned off). Warnings and river height information becomes not available.

3) Power Outage, this is believed to have been cut without notice.

Essential Energy needs to explain why and when this happens and if new policy is in place to notify customers how it works.

4) Ideas for improvement

: lift the M1

: changes to Planning and Development rules for Floodplains

: land swap for Commercial Buildings in Chinderah

: river mouth design

: building of second dam with flood mitigation measures

: removal of road maintenance storage area at Cudgen road intersection

: use of lower style crops in high flow area around Chinderah to Stott Island

: dredging with materials to be removed immediately from the floodplain

: lift Terranora Road from Tumbulgum along the ridge line

: use SES tweed / banora as back up. (happened out of the blue 2022 flood)

More information can be obtained if required by contracting

Ph or

Email

Regards

3 May 2022.

Sent from my iPad