

From:
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Lismore Flood Review
Date: Sunday, 8 May 2022 9:27:41 AM

This is a supplementary submission to one I lodged, dated the 10th April 2022 and raises additional issues

Electricity Outages

My 90 year old mother, lives in _____ Street and suffered an electricity outage from Monday 28th until Wednesday 2nd March. I understand the need to cut electricity off from flooded areas but this is the first time in more than 50 years she and the rest of non flooded east lismore have lost power during a flood.

Why?

Surely flood boundaries and electricity zones could be aligned.

It was lucky that she could move in with us and we were able to fit the contents of her fridge and freezer into ours. I shudder to think how everyone else coped with this unnecessary man made disaster.

As a side issue, the Essential Energy web site is still showing her place as still being without power some 24hrs after it was back on

Lismore Flood Pumps

Seemingly every flood, we have one or more of the Council flood pumps fail. Apparently this time, three pumps have failed and were not available for the second flood.

There is also the question of whether the pump types and capacity are fit for purpose.

Given that this is essential infrastructure, critical to our flood defences, that continually fails, I feel it needs an external review.

Flood Proofing East Lismore

For the first time ever many houses in East Lismore had flood water enter premises and did untold damage.

This is despite the river being more than 3 kilometres away.

There are two issues, storm water backing up because it is blocked by rising flood water and the flood water which comes from the Wilson River backing up a small tributary, Monaltrie Creek.

A possible solution would be the construction of an "inland levee bank".

My suggestion is that a levee be established, to the Possible Maximum Flood level,

running between the Lismore Waste Disposal Centre to the foot of Monaltrie hill along the alignment of the existing Wyrallah Road.

The new road to run along the top of the levee.

Material for the levee to be "won" from upstream adjoining land, creating a storm water detention basis to assist with storm water control.

The facility would need to be supported by flood pumps to remove storm water when natural flows are blocked by rising flood waters.

An alternative to this levee route would be to carry out similar work on that portion of Skyline Road that runs north from Wyrallah road. This would protect a lot less area, excluding zoned industrial land but would cover almost all the houses that were flooded.

River Dredging.

Lismore was established where it is, due to the juncture of two rivers. This juncture area allowed ocean going vessels to travel upstream to lismore and turn around.

This obviously required there to be a degree of water depth within the river to allow the safe passage of the vessels.

In addition to allowing vessels to use the rivers, it also meant that at anyone time, a large volume of water was able to travel down the river.

Anecdotal evidence provided by river users is that the river has silted up, such that the possibility of ocean going vessels sailing to Lismore is now fanciful.

The consequence is that it can now carry less water within its banks and thus in times of floods cannot remove water quickly enough to prevent flooding.

To restore the river to its natural state and to reduce the impact of floods a dredging program needs to be introduced.

Regards

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