

20 May, 2015

CALLIDE CREEK FLOOD REVIEW DELIVERY DATE REVISED

The delivery date for an independent review into the flooding of Callide Creek during Ex Tropical Cyclone Marcia has been revised to 5 June.

The Inspector-General Emergency Management Iain MacKenzie said a small extension to the previously scheduled delivery date of May 22 had been sought to ensure the report was thoroughly considered, and allow procedural fairness to be followed.

“There was a very significant amount of evidence collected from a number of entities and individuals across a diverse range of aspects of the review,” Mr MacKenzie said.

“I am committed to ensuring that the evidence we have collected is fully considered, and that natural justice is afforded to those entities and individuals who may be impacted by findings of the review.

“Many residents in the Callide Valley were significantly affected by this event and so it is imperative that we take all reasonable steps to get this review and its findings and recommendations right.

“To ensure this occurs, an extension of two weeks has been allowed for the finalisation of the report.”

Mr MacKenzie was tasked to undertake the review after Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk met with Callide Valley residents affected by Ex Tropical Cyclone Marcia and associated flooding.

The review will report on:

- The impact to the community of the Callide Valley from the flooding event on Friday 20 February 2015

- The operation of the Callide Dam in the lead-up to and during the event, including:
 - whether recommendations from the report on the “Review of Callide Dam Gate Operations in the January 2013 Flood Event” were implemented, and did, or would have if implemented, alter the impact to the community
 - the application of the Emergency Action Plan including integration with relevant disaster management plans
 - whether the operating specifications of the Callide Dam at the time of the event were reasonable
- Disaster management arrangements, specifically:
 - risk assessment and hazard mitigation strategies
 - disaster management planning and disaster operations, including warnings
 - engagement and communications, including with the community
- Performance of critical telecommunications infrastructure in the event.

As part of the review, independent experts were engaged to undertake an independent hydrological assessment relating to rainfall associated with Tropical Cyclone Marcia in the Callide Valley and any effect operations of the Callide Dam had on associated flooding.

In addition, a market research company was engaged to survey 406 Callide Valley residents on a range of topics including event impacts, warnings, public information, and telecommunications.