



Dam the Mary River? Save the Mary River!

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Save the Mary River Coordinating Group

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SEQ crisis rally – water, health, roads - what next?

PREMIER Peter Beattie will get the message that his voters have had enough of “crisis management” when thousands march into the Brisbane Botanical Gardens on Fathers Day – September 3.

Opponents to the proposed Mary River dam at Traveston Crossing have motivated groups with grudges against the Beattie Government to join forces for the biggest protest yet – on the eve of the State election.

Tired of eight years of neglect, Save the Mary River protestors are telling the Premier: “It’s Time! Three strikes and you’re out!”

The bold statement was endorsed at a committee meeting this week, when executive member Kevin Ingersole checked off water, health and road infrastructure as major failures of the Government in its mindset of uncontrolled growth which will add an expected 1 million new residents to South-East Queensland during the next 20 years.

“Mr Beattie has a vision without a plan,” Mr Ingersole said.

“The population explosion in the south-east of the State is unsustainable, and the people of Queensland have woken up to that before the election.”

He said the Save the Mary River group and its like-minded supporters had just one objective – to see the Beattie Government voted out on polling day.

“The groups marching with us on September 3 all have major issues with the Government and, combined, we intend to demonstrate to Peter Beattie what people power is all about.

“We have to go to Brisbane to bring the message home to the people who live in the capital – there is no infrastructure in this State to cope with the wave of new residents flowing over the border.

“Are they just going to accept road congestion, the damming of environmentally sensitive rivers and the breakdown of our hospital system?”

City residents have been asked to think hard about the issues and come out in large numbers to support the protestors.

The crowd will include Mary Valley and Gympie residents fighting to save the Mary River from the flawed dam proposal at Traveston Crossing, the Rathdowney and Wyaralong anti-dam campaigners and members of the groups opposing the spit development at the Gold Coast and the Brisbane tunnel project.

Buses from the Mary River catchment from its upper reaches all the way to Maryborough and Hervey Bay will bring people to the city for the protest.

In the case of the Mary Valley protest, Mr Ingersole said more than \$2 billion would be wasted on the Traveston Crossing Dam, which could be spent on positive alternatives including recycling waste water, desalination, rainwater tanks, better roads and improved hospitals.

Inquiries for rally details to 5488 4800 or 5447 9288, or follow the campaign on the website www.savethemaryriver.com

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