



# Dam the Mary River? Save the Mary River!

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Save the Mary River Coordinating Group

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## The State Government's Secret Dam Report

Premier Peter Beattie told the Queensland Parliament on May 23 that in relation to the proposed mega dam on the Mary River: "We could have done a detailed assessment in secret without letting anyone know, but that is not how my Government operates."

He went on to say: "We will continue to inform the community as more detailed information becomes available."

Save the Mary River Coordinating Group secretary Alan Sheridan said today that at a meeting in Kandanga on May 25, the State Government's Project Director for the proposed mega dam was informed that the community was aware of a secret report by engineering firm GHD, which assessed about 80 dam options around South-East Queensland.

"The Project Director confirmed such a report existed but said he was not authorised to release any details and that it was up to government to make this information available," Mr Sheridan said.

"The community group also asked him how much water could be provided from the four dam proposals for which the State Government had already spent \$40 million acquiring land (Glendower, Wyaralong, Amamoor and Borumba Stage 3) and how this compared to the proposed mega dam on the Mary River.

"Once again, the Project Director advised that he was not authorised to make those details public."

Interestingly, on the very same day NRMW Minister Henry Palaszczuk, responding to a question from a representative of the Mary Basin community regarding the Government's choice of the Traveston site, said that no study had been prepared and that no cost estimates had yet been made.

"It appears that the Government has a hidden agenda and is determined to keep Queenslanders in the dark," Mr Sheridan said.

"If, as it seems, this is the case, it is indeed a sad day for democracy in this State," commented Mr Sheridan.

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