

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 642

asked on Thursday, 18 June 2020

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**MR D LAST** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND ENERGY (HON DR A LYNHAM)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the raising of Burdekin Falls dam—

Will the Minister advise (a) since there is no budget, what funding has been budgeted in 2020-21 for the project, (b) whether the process of completing an Environmental Impact Statement has commenced and if so, when it will be completed and (c) the date when the detailed business case study will be completed?

ANSWER:

The Burdekin Falls Dam raising and dam improvement projects are now being undertaken as a combined detailed business case. A combined business case will provide a comprehensive and holistic assessment of all proposed structural changes to the dam, provide a complete picture of all options available, and enable consideration of a combined design solution which could result in significant savings compared with constructing the two projects sequentially.

- (a) Sunwater's total budget for the detailed business case, including delivery of the environmental impact statement (EIS) and preliminary design work to take the project to its pre-construction phase is estimated at approximately \$19.7 million. This does not include detailed design and final construction costs.

Sunwater has allocated \$5.68 million for the raising project and a further \$5.891 million for the improvement project for the 2020–21 financial year, noting that the two projects will now form a combined business case.

An EIS is being developed for the Burdekin Falls Dam Raising Project in parallel to the detailed business case. The formal EIS process will commence once the state and Commonwealth governments have assessed the project and the terms of reference are confirmed.

At this stage, the EIS is expected to be completed in 2023.

- (b) The combined detailed business case is expected to be delivered by Building Queensland in mid-late 2021.