

Investment has surged in Bundaberg region due to the Paradise Dam. This should not be put under threat by a failure to fully remediate the dam.

Save Paradise Dam

Paradise Dam has a minimum economic asset life of 50 years and has only been in operation for just 15 years.

Unless fully remediated without any unnecessary lowering of the dam wall, Bundaberg region will be stripped of at least 35 years of economic expansion.

That means not only will farmers suffer from lost opportunity, but also local businesses that rely on the growth supplied by the dam's significant contribution to water security.

The wanton economic destruction of value that would flow from a failure to fully remediate Paradise Dam is not an option.

Water is the economic life blood of the region: it not only supports farmers but the economic backbone of Bundaberg.

Instead of tearing down the dam wall, government should be looking at expanding the irrigation network to grow the region and underpin the economic output associated with a guaranteed supply of water.

Until investigations are complete, the economic risk of dismantling the dam is unacceptable, after independent experts told the Commission of Inquiry that testing was 'suspect' and safety issues overstated.

Expert opinion

Global geotechnical expert Dr Paul Rizzo says an alarmist atmosphere has evolved over safety of Paradise Dam, without adequate basis.

In a report presented to the Commission of Inquiry into Paradise Dam, Dr Rizzo says the issues can be addressed, without lowering the dam wall by 5 metres:

- Allegations of defective construction practices are unproven
- The dam is highly unlikely to experience catastrophic failure
- The dam can be remediated at reasonable cost, as done at other dams around the world
- Corrective engineering actions should be measured, not extreme or dramatically disruptive.

Irrigators ask: Why is the State Government determined to lower the dam wall despite independent expert evidence which indicates there's no reason to do so?

"As an emerging foodie destination, certainty of water will determine continued success of our thriving horticultural economy, which underpins the prosperous visitor economy."

**Bundaberg Tourism CEO,
Katherine Reid**

"Any negative impact on the farming community will have a negative impact on our broader community. Save the dam."

**Waves Sports CEO,
Brendan Royall**

"I'm very concerned that expansion of local medical and healthcare services will stall if the Bundaberg economy slumps because Paradise Dam capacity is reduced."

**Bundaberg Orthopaedic Surgeon,
Dr Michael Delaney**

"Our region's economic growth and employment are closely linked with the water security provided by Paradise Dam. The dam must be fixed without lowering the wall."


**Chamber of Commerce President,
Tim Sayre**



The potential cost of inaction on Paradise Dam is in the order of \$2.4 billion over the next 30 years:

"To the extent that agriculture underpins Bundaberg's economy, inaction on Paradise Dam can jeopardise not only future investment in agriculture but future investment in other sectors. There are also implications for the state economy given Bundaberg's substantial contribution to Queensland agricultural activity."

Adept Economics



"Water security is so important to our region"

Mayor Jack Dempsey



**Bundaberg
Fruit & Vegetable
Growers**

To find out how you can help save the economic future of the Bundaberg region and the jobs that go with it, go to:

saveparadise.com.au