

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1196

asked on Tuesday, 18 September 2018

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister outline for (a) dam safety projects currently underway in Queensland in 2018-19 (i) the total number (ii) the total associated costs, (b) the total number and projected costs associated with dam safety in Queensland by 2030, (c) how the government intends to pay/cost recover these dam safety projects and (d) how much Queensland has spent on dam safety initiatives since 2008 (reported separately by year)?

- (a) (i) As at 5 October 2018, 16 dam improvement projects were being undertaken in Queensland to ensure the ongoing safety and reliability of dams and downstream communities. This includes dams owned by SunWater, Seqwater and the Department of Natural Resources and Mines.
- (ii) The 2018–19 State Budget included a \$30.74 million capital allocation for dam improvement projects being undertaken in 2018–19.
- (b) There are multiple major dam improvement projects being planned in Queensland for delivery by 2030. As the design options for these projects are yet to be determined, full costings have not yet been resolved.
- (c) Dam improvement projects are funded in a range of ways taking into account each project's particular circumstances, water customers, industry and community stakeholders—which may include costs associated with ensuring safety and reliability. The state works with water customers, industry and community stakeholders to identify which funding option should be adopted.
- (d) Historical dam improvement expenditures in Queensland are shown in the table below:

Year	\$M ¹
2007–08	3.21
2008–09	5.23
2009–10	23.7
2010–11	12.32
2011–12	4.58
2012–13	342.22
2013–14	20.97
2014–15	11.25
2015–16	24.19
2016–17	51.73
2017–18	78.59
Total	578.01

¹These expenditure figures relate to dam improvement works undertaken on dams owned by SunWater, Seqwater (or one of the previous entities that now comprise Seqwater), and the Department of Natural Resources, Energy and Mines.