



## MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 3rd March 2020

### Paradise Dam Inquiry Demonstration

More than 100 farmers, irrigators, farm workers, business owners, families and local residents gathered Tuesday morning outside the hearing of the Paradise Dam Commission of Inquiry at Bundaberg courthouse, to stand up for the region's water security.

Among the crowd were the Member for Bundaberg David Batt, Member for Burnett Stephen Bennett, Mayor Jack Dempsey and several Bundaberg City Councillors.

David Batt MP said the demonstration showed how much distress "the Paradise Dam debacle" is causing the local community and said he would not stop fighting until the people of the Bundaberg region had "the answers they deserve".

Bundaberg Fruit and Vegetable Growers Managing Director Bree Grima said water security was vital for Bundaberg's prosperity, growth and economic development.

"The State Government must meet the water security commitment it made 15 years ago with construction of Paradise Dam. Farmers have invested heavily in the region on the basis that it would be a food bowl, not a dust bowl", said Ms Grima.

"If the government and Sunwater are truly concerned about farmers mental health – then fix the problem, fix the dam," she said.

Lycée and macadamia grower Craig van Rooyen said "Public safety is paramount, but the right solution is to fix the dam

"The government is taking what they think is the easiest way out and ignoring the impact on Bundaberg because they don't want to take responsibility", said Mr van Rooyen.

Local berry farmer Tina McPherson said Paradise Dam was built to drought-proof Bundaberg and provide confidence .... tearing it down instead of fixing it would be a disgrace."

"Who lied to us ? ... We are seeking the truth, they are hiding it", said Mrs McPherson. "If it happens here, they can do it anywhere and it shows their water security policy and promises are a lie".

[END]

For comment contact Bree Grima, BFVG on 0403 616 702, 41533 007 or visit [www.bfvg.com.au](http://www.bfvg.com.au).

#### How can you help?

1. Like the [facebook page](#)
2. Visit the [Save Paradise Website](#), use the resources, send letters to MP's
3. Sign the [Petition](#)
4. Complete the non-binding water use [survey](#)
5. Donate to the cause (new [gofundme](#) or direct deposit details below)

#### Direct Deposit Details

**Name:** MRH Lawyers Law Practice Trust Account,

**Bank:** Commonwealth Bank of Australia

**BSB:** 064 403

**Account:** 1089 1119

**Reference:** 776389 plus your name



This email was sent by Bundaberg Fruit and Vegetable Growers Cooperative Limited, 23 Enterprise Street, Bundaberg QLD 4670, Australia to [kylie.jackson@bfg.com.au](mailto:kylie.jackson@bfg.com.au)

[Unsubscribe](#)



