

Infrastructure development



March 2007

Fitzroy Industry & Infrastructure Study

The Fitzroy Industry and Infrastructure Study (FIIS) has examined future developments in the lower Fitzroy region of Central Queensland. It has assessed the environmental and economic sustainability of the proposed developments as well as the supporting infrastructure required.

Infrastructure

It is widely recognised that high-quality, cost-efficient infrastructure is essential to enable a region to realise its economic development potential and to ensure the future liveability of regional communities.

The FIIS's proposed direction articulates a range of goals for the development of the Rockhampton Fitzroy region. It is critical that this vision is underpinned by planning to ensure the infrastructure required to support future development is available.

The FIIS initiative has conducted a range of investigations into potential infrastructure requirements and following community consultation, will work together with local infrastructure providers to develop an Action Sequencing Plan for infrastructure provision.

Infrastructure requirements of the FIIS

The assessment of infrastructure requirements based on the direction proposed in the FIIS has focused on common user infrastructure. Any developer proposing to establish a new venture in the future will need to provide infrastructure to meet the needs of their individual operations. For example, a feedlot would need to ensure provision of infrastructure such as wastewater management facilities, telecommunication cabling, water distribution pipelines, roads to access and move around the property, and electrical infrastructure (lines and/or generators).

However, there will also be a range of infrastructure which will be required by multiple operators. It is important that these common infrastructure needs are understood so that planning can be completed and appropriate funding arrangements considered.



Action sequencing of infrastructure

Ultimately, the assessment of infrastructure requirements will lead to production of an Action Sequencing Plan. The aim of the plan will be to:

- provide information about the infrastructure needed to support strategic investment in the Fitzroy region
- facilitate easier coordination of actions across the range of public and commercial entities involved in infrastructure provision
- give potential investors the assurance that the infrastructure necessary to support their operations will be provided when and where it is required.



Practically, the plan will be a document which

- lists the priority infrastructure requirements
- outlines what actions are needed to progress towards the provision of a piece of infrastructure
- establishes triggers for commencing actions over time
- identifies who should be involved.

The Action Sequencing Plan will need to be agreed to by all relevant parties involved in the planning and provision of the required infrastructure. It will assume that the infrastructure will be provided on a commercial basis as demand requires.

The impact of FIIS on community infrastructure

Economic growth based on strong competitive advantage and export efficiency can bring many benefits for communities, but periods of strong growth can also place pressure on existing community infrastructure.

The advantage of the FIIS initiative is that it will provide the state and local governments with a framework for anticipating the future needs of a growing community.

In other regions which have experienced strong growth, the state and local governments have established initiatives to coordinate planning for social infrastructure and respond to emerging issues in the community.

A trigger for coordinated government action will be incorporated into the Action Sequencing Plan to provide the Rockhampton and Fitzroy communities with the assurance that impacts on existing infrastructure will be managed.

Public consultation and feedback

Local residents, business owners and the public are now invited to obtain information and offer feedback about the proposed FIIS development, or identify other issues that they feel may not have been considered.

To do so, please:

- **visit the information displays** at the Rockhampton State Development Centre (corner of Fitzroy and Bolsover Streets) or the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries Rockhampton (corner of Bruce Highway and Yeppoon Road), where copies of the technical studies will be available
- **visit the website** at www.infrastructure.qld.gov.au/fiis
- **contact the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries Business Information Centre** on 13 25 23 (local call) to obtain copies of documents or to speak with a project representative
- **email** comments to fiis@infrastructure.qld.gov.au
- **post** comments to
FIIS Coordinator
Department of Infrastructure
PO Box 15009
City East Qld 4002
- **fax** comments to (07) 3225 8158.



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