

**Question on notice no. 7**

**Portfolio question number: SQ25-000253**

**2025-26 Budget estimates**

**Environment and Communications Committee, Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water Portfolio**

**Senator Perin Davey:** asked the Bureau of Meteorology on 27 March 2025—

Dr Stone: The flood warning network program is running on schedule and on budget. We have cost-sharing agreements in place with every jurisdiction except Tasmania. We're expecting that to come through very soon. That's just resolving a couple of language issues in the agreement. In Queensland we have acquired 200 sites.

Senator DAVEY: That acquisition has happened?

Dr Stone: Yes, that's happened. All 200 sites for acquisition in Queensland are confirmed. I can give a lot of detail on that. In New South Wales, over 250 assets will be remediated. We've been dealing with loads of councils there. That's all going well. All of the assets will be confirmed by 30 June this year.

Senator DAVEY: All in New South Wales?

Dr Stone: Yes.

Senator DAVEY: Some 200 sites in Queensland have been acquired. Have the upgrades commenced?

Dr Stone: Yes, absolutely. Capital works began on 30 July last year and have been continuing.

Senator DAVEY: Are you doing site by site; 200 is a lot of sites? We've had this conversation. All of the flood gauges are in various states of repair or disrepair or modernity. How are you going through the process? You've got 200 sites in Queensland. You've acquired them, you've assessed them and now is it a matter of triage?

Dr Stone: Yes, exactly. Some don't need remediation work; they can just be acquired. Some need remediation work, and that progresses when they're acquired.

Senator DAVEY: I appreciate this will be on notice. We could be in caretaker; you're still allowed to provide answers in caretaker?

Dr Stone: If you ask us a question on notice, my understanding of the procedure is that we must provide that on notice during caretaker.

Senator DAVEY: Can you provide a breakdown of the 200 sites and how many need remediation and how many don't?

Dr Stone: We have all of that information.