

FAIRBAIRN DAM SPILLWAY

Safety Improvement Project



Why is Fairbairn Dam undergoing a safety improvement?

SunWater regularly conducts dam safety assessments in accordance with the national industry guidelines to ensure we maintain safe and efficient dam operation.

Routine dam inspections have detected the Fairbairn Dam spillway drainage and anchoring system is no longer functioning efficiently.

SunWater is undertaking safety improvement works as a preventative measure that will ensure the dam can continue to function as designed.

The dam is extremely safe under current conditions and can safely manage a rainfall event that exceeds historical records.

When will this be happening?

The Fairbairn Dam Spillway Safety Improvement Project will commence in late April 2016, with completion of the first stage expected in late 2016. This work is the first stage of ongoing improvements to Fairbairn Dam.



Safety improvement features

The Fairbairn Dam Spillway Safety Improvement Project will involve:

- the modification of drain outlets;
- the repair and replacement of blocked drains;
- the replacement of the steel anchors;
- the filling of any voids under the concrete slabs of the spillway; and
- the construction of a mass reinforced concrete overlay to accommodate the steel anchors.

FAIRBAIRN DAM FACTS

- Fairbairn Dam is located 25 kms southwest of Emerald in Central Queensland.
- Construction of Fairbairn Dam commenced in 1968 and was completed in 1972.
- Fairbairn Dam is named after Sir David Eric Fairbairn KBE DFC, who was the Federal Minister for National Development from 1964 to 1969.
- The Fairbairn Dam lake is named Lake Maraboon.
- “Maraboon” is an Aboriginal word meaning “where the black ducks fly.”

SunWater, the owner and operator of Fairbairn Dam, is undertaking a safety improvement project to ensure that the dam can continue to safely cope with extreme rainfall events. This improvement forms part of SunWater’s ongoing Dam Safety Improvement Program.



ABOUT SUNWATER

SunWater has developed and now manages a regional network of bulk water supply infrastructure that spans across Queensland to support around 5000 customers across the mining, power generation, industrial, local government and irrigated agriculture sectors.

Spread from as far as Mareeba, west to Mount Isa, and South to St George and Goondiwindi, our water storage and distribution network includes 19 major dams, 63 weirs and barrages, 82 major pumping stations and 3100 kilometres of pipelines and channels.

Fairbairn Dam Spillway Safety Improvement Project

Your patience during the construction period is appreciated



Facilities

- Picnic tables
- Boat ramp
- Water (untreated)
- Toilets
- Lookout
- Swimming zone
- Electric BBQs

Construction impacts

SunWater understands that Fairbairn Dam and Lake Maraboon is a popular area for visitors and we will endeavour to minimise noise and traffic disruptions during the improvement works. Your patience is appreciated.

Public access to the boat ramp, picnic areas, camping grounds and nearby businesses and residences will not be affected other than occasional minor traffic disruptions.

Project works will not disrupt current water supply to SunWater customers.

SUNWATER APP NOW AVAILABLE

Get operational and emergency updates straight to your phone.

Available for Android and iOS.



For more information visit:

www.sunwater.com.au/sunwater-app

Further information

Find out more about SunWater's Dam Safety Improvement Program

by visiting our website at:

www.sunwater.com.au



MAKING WATER WORK