



Infrastructure

OBJECTIVE

To encourage investment in infrastructure to support growth in the industry.

POSITION

The Queensland sugarcane industry operates alongside an ever-expanding urban environments along the east coast.

In order to coexist, economic sugarcane operations need to be maintained. This often entails the need for additional infrastructure, particularly roads and crossings for access.

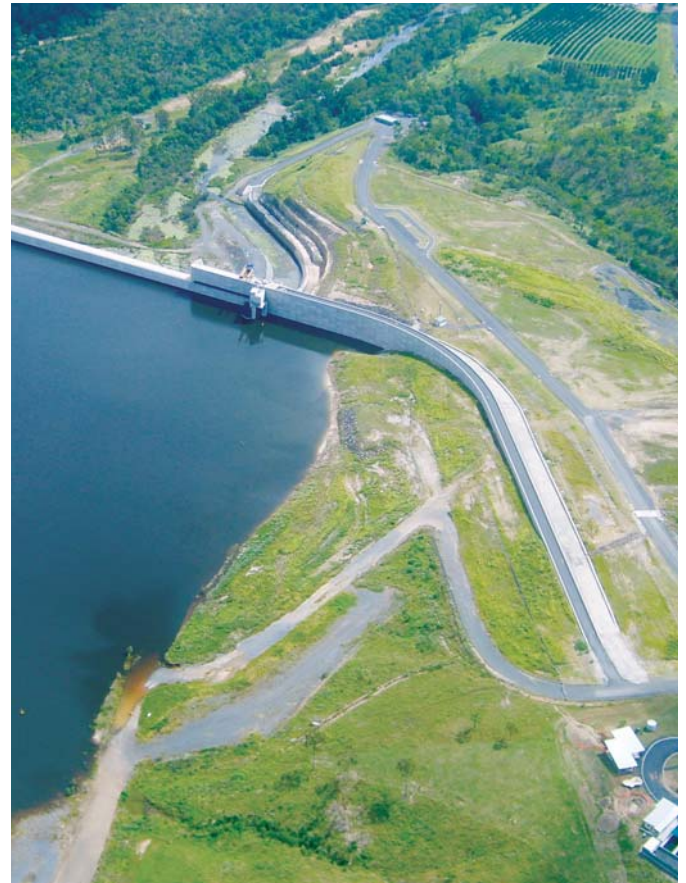
Increasingly, Queensland is subject to extremes of climate resulting in drought and floods. Strategic infrastructure such as dams for water security, and flood-proof roads to maintain access will assist the industry to be more resilient and productive.

North Queensland's geographic proximity to the growing sugar deficit in East Asia provides the Queensland sugar industry with a competitive advantage in both the sugarcane growing and raw sugar milling sectors.

Queensland has enormous potential to expand its sugar industry and develop several new, large areas of sugarcane production for export to Asia. In fact, the Queensland Agricultural Land Audit identified Northern Queensland to have the greatest potential for industry expansion.

ISSUES

- There has been limited infrastructure development that directly supports Queensland's sugarcane industry for more than a decade.
- Drought and flood continue to impact industry productivity and no mechanisms exist to reduce their effects.
- Urban sprawl continues to restrict operation of cane farming.



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ACTIONS

- CANEGROWERS calls on the Queensland Government to support rural Queenslanders by investing in projects that will stimulate jobs and growth, and ensure government policies facilitate expansion of the industry.
- Ensure water security by investing in water infrastructure for the sugarcane industry in regional Queensland, such as:
 - Funding for water storage or pipeline for Maryborough cane farmers;
- Invest in road infrastructure to improve the safe access for oversize agricultural vehicles.
- Support the development of new sugarcane production in Queensland.
- Establish regional innovation summits to identify opportunities to expand Queensland's sugar industry. ■



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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A BIG INDUSTRY DRIVEN BY GROWER CONFIDENCE



Australia is the world's second largest exporter of raw sugar



80% of Australia's raw sugar production is exported



\$2.5 billion value to the Australian economy



17,400 direct jobs, and 80,800 indirect jobs supported by the sugar industry



CANEGROWERS is the peak representative body for Australian sugarcane growers. Representing some 80% of growers, **CANEGROWERS** ensures growers needs are represented at the highest possible level of industry and government decision making. For more information visit www.canegrowers.com.au