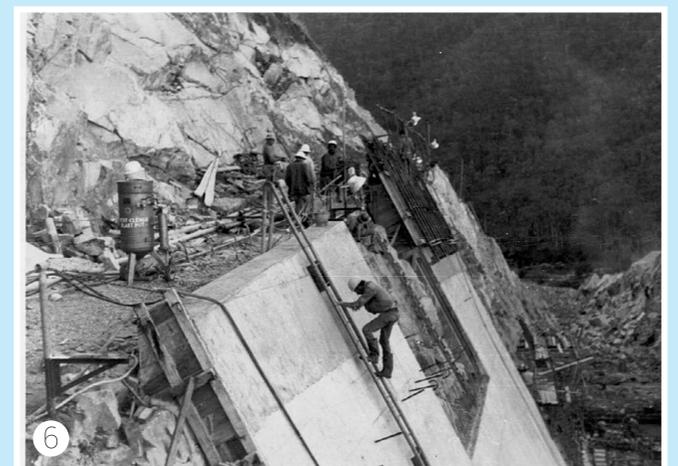
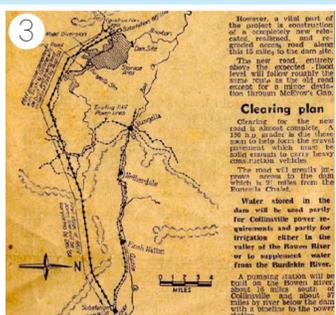


HISTORY OF EUNGELLA DAM



1. Dam spillway construction

2. Sketch of water pipelines associated with Eungella Dam

3. Mackay Daily Mercury article 17 Aug 1964 with area map of proposed Eungella Dam

4. Dam foundation construction

5. Opening ceremony 14 February, 1969 with Premier Joh Bjelke-Petersen and dignitaries

6. Hazardous work on spill way wall

Preparation for the dam commenced in 1964 with the clearing of 800 acres of lush river flats on Eungella Station. The McEvoy family's Eungella Station homestead was moved, as 1400 acres of their land was later inundated with water.

Up to 250 people, many living in the on-site township, were involved in the dam construction which took 4 years, at a total cost of \$12.6M. The foundation of the dam wall was made of clay earth core and rock. Work was hazardous on the spillway walls, with relatively relaxed safety levels by today's standards.

The Premier of Queensland, The Honourable Joh Bjelke-Petersen M.L.A. officially declared the Eungella Dam open on February 14, 1969.

Eungella Dam, 35km west of Eungella, is on the Broken River which drains the wet forests on the western slopes of the Clarke Range. Its waters generally flow north-west to join the Bowen River, a tributary of the lower Burdekin River.

Initially Eungella Dam was built to provide reserve water supply for the steam power station on the Collinsville coalfields, some irrigation and recreational activities.

Then a pipeline was constructed by Utah in the 1970s from Eungella dam to supply newly developing mines in the Bowen Basin and the new town of Moranbah. Later, in the 1980s, a pipeline from the Bowen River weir was built to Newlands Mine then on to Glenden. In 1997 SunWater commissioned another pipeline,

the Eungella Water Pipeline, following in part the original Utah line to Moranbah, with an extension later to Coppabella and one south to Lake Vermont mine.

Eungella Dam provides high quality water at a low cost (partly gravity fed). It has become the major source of water for the Bowen Basin mines and lifeblood for its surrounding inhabitants, cattle and wildlife. Its full storage capacity is 112,477 mega litres, covering 890ha, with maximum depth of 37.2m

Step Back in Time

gathering Eungella's past

Images were contributed to the "Step Back in Time - Gathering Eungella's past" project by past and present residents.

Visit www.history.eungella.com.au for more information.