



PRIME MINISTER

5 May 1974

OFFER OF ASSISTANCE TO QUEENSLAND FOR HOUSING RESTORATION WORK

The Prime Minister said today that he was concerned over reports of delays being experienced by the Queensland authorities in obtaining tenders for housing restoration works approved under the flood relief arrangements between the Queensland and Australian Governments.

The Australian Government, therefore, had offered the Queensland Government assistance, by way of an Australian Government volunteer work force of some 70 employees, to assist with flood restoration work. The Prime Minister added that the volunteers cover the full range of building tradesmen and would be provided by the Australian Department of Housing and Construction for a period of at least three months. The work to be undertaken by this team was likely to comprise restoration of houses in particular defined areas in the Brisbane metropolitan area or possibly in the City of Ipswich.

The Prime Minister said that if this offer is acceptable to the Queensland Government then the appropriate arrangements would be decided between officers of the two Governments quickly in order that work could be commenced as soon as possible.

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