

When telephoning or calling
please ask for:

30th March 2015

To Whom It May Concern

MJ Smith Ground Preparation Pty Ltd has undertaken two major flood mitigation projects for Balonne Shire Council in 2013 in which a 4km levee bank was constructed to protect the majority of St George from future flooding.

These projects were worth a combined total of around \$5 million and were among the largest construction projects in St George in recent years following the significant flood events in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

The first project, the *Construction of the St George Flood Mitigation Levee* involved earthworks, drainage installation and associated works on resumed land through a residential area. MJ Smith operators conducted this work in a highly professional and timely manner. Not only was the workmanship of the actual project carried out to a consistently superior quality, but the way in which they and Michael Smith himself dealt with residents, community members and Council staff was exceptional. Construction of this first stage took just three months to complete.

MJ Smith Ground Preparation Pty Ltd was also awarded the contract for *Stage 2 of the St George Flood Mitigation Levee (Concrete Masonry Wall)*. In this project, MJ Smith was responsible for the construction of a concrete masonry wall, permanent relocation of raw water and bore water supply lines through the block wall for 12 residential properties and coordinating the relocation of Telstra connections to these properties. Additionally, MJ Smith was required to reinstate fencing and driveways of those impacted properties and deal directly with residents.

Due to the nature of the work, these flood mitigation projects drew some detractors, however, the MJ Smith crews dealt with this professionally and worked hard to allay community and resident concerns and deal with issues promptly and proactively.

MJ Smith Ground Preparation Pty Ltd was a delight to work with on our flood mitigation projects and I have no hesitation in recommending them.

Yours sincerely,



Kevin Searle
DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES