



### Transport and the environment – Climate change

**JONATHON  
NOTT:**

Well, this is the hospital. We've got the ocean, about 100m just in front of us here. We've got a grassy area between that and the hospital is only about two metres above sea level. We could expect the whole of the ground floor and even potentially parts of the first floor, to have waves washing through them.

This road contains the ambulance, our major ambulance station, Fire and Rescue, and also just to the side, the State Emergency Services headquarters as well. Our major Ergon power station is just here in this area as well, so all of this area will be under water, a major and important emergency link that will be isolated during a severe cyclone.

So where we can see all of these white rooved buildings and silver rooved buildings, all through that area down through there, all of that would be under water. You can see the CBD, which has been experiencing a bit of rain at the moment would also be under water. It's a bit akin to the situation in New Orleans, where we have always taught about New Orleans as an impending disaster for the last 10 to 15 years, and that's exactly what did occur. And Cairns really is the equivalent of New Orleans in Australia.

We are going to see some terrible scenarios here in North Queensland in the future, that are going to make headlines all around the world and cause people a lot of grief, both personally, emotionally and economically. I think that's a reality. I don't think there's any way out of that.