

~~First Reading~~

~~Hon. JW SEENEY (Callide—LNP) (Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning) (3.10 pm): I move~~

~~That the bill be now read a first time.~~

~~Question put—That the bill be now read a first time.~~


~~Motion agreed to.~~

~~Bill read a first time.~~

~~Referral to the State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee~~

~~Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mrs Cunningham): Order! In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee.~~

**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT (CONSEQUENTIAL) AND OTHER
LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL****Introduction**

 **Hon. JW SEENEY** (Callide—LNP) (Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning) (3.10 pm): I present a bill for an act to make consequential amendments to the legislation stated in this act for the purposes of the Planning and Development Act 2014, and to amend other legislation stated in this act for particular purposes. I table the bill and the explanatory notes. I nominate the State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee to consider the bill.

Tabled paper: Planning and Development (Consequential) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2014.

Tabled paper: Planning and Development (Consequential) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2014, explanatory notes.

I am pleased to introduce the Planning and Development (Consequential) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2014, the second of the three bills I referred to when I introduced the previous bill. This bill makes amendments required for the proposed enactment of the Planning and Development Bill and the Planning and Environment Court Bill and the repeal of the Sustainable Planning Act 2009.

The Planning and Development (Consequential) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, is one of the three bills making amendments required as a result of our reform of the planning legislation. This bill concentrates on updating Sustainable Planning Act terminology and references in other acts and reflecting the consolidation of planning functions within the planning portfolio.

Other amendments in this bill are being made to the Environmental Protection Act and the State Development and Public Works Organisation Act. The amendments will facilitate projects within a state development area and streamline the environmental authority process for all coordinated projects evaluated by the Coordinator-General.

Following the declaration of the Galilee Basin state development area, proponents approached the Coordinator-General about facilitating the undertaking of temporary works on land within the Galilee Basin state development area. Amendments to the State Development and Public Works Organisation Act will facilitate projects within a state development area to clarify the application of the existing powers of the Coordinator-General to grant access for the purposes of works within that area.

Amendments to the Environmental Protection Act will contribute to the government's objective of streamlining the environmental authority process for all coordinated projects evaluated by the Coordinator-General. The amendments complement changes already made by the Mineral and Energy Resources (Common Provisions) Act 2014 and proposed in the Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2014 to enable a streamlined environmental authority process for coordinated projects evaluated by an environmental impact statement.

This bill, as well as the Planning and Development Bill, which I have just introduced, and the Planning and Environment Court Bill, which I will shortly introduce, aims to deliver the best planning system in Australia that stimulates positive development and provides opportunities for all Queenslanders now and into the future. I commend the bill to the House.

First Reading

Hon. JW SEENEY (Callide—LNP) (Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning) (3.13 pm): I move—

That the bill be now read a first time.

Question put—That the bill be now read a first time.

Motion agreed to.


Bill read a first time.

Referral to the State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mrs Cunningham): Order! In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee.

~~PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COURT BILL~~

~~Introduction~~

 **Hon. JW SEENEY** (Callide—LNP) (Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning) (3.13 pm): I present a bill for an act about the Planning and Environment Court. I table the bill and the explanatory notes. I nominate the State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee to consider the bill.

~~Tabled paper: Planning and Environment Court Bill 2014.~~

~~Tabled paper: Planning and Environment Court Bill 2014, explanatory notes.~~

I am pleased to introduce the Planning and Environment Court Bill, the last of the three bills that are the culmination of the reform of Queensland's planning legislation that I will introduce into the House this afternoon.

Queensland's dispute resolution system is very well regarded nationally and internationally, but this bill proposed some improvements. As a separate and stand alone act, it recognises the Planning and Environment Court as a specialist court whose jurisdiction extends well past the scope of the current Sustainable Planning Act.

The Planning and Environment Court currently has jurisdiction from approximately 20 different acts. This bill continues the establishment and function of the court, along with its jurisdiction and powers. Many reforms are of a fine tune, technical nature with some of the more significant reforms focused on providing an overriding philosophy for the court; and a complete redrafting of the alternative dispute resolution provisions and strengthening and expanding the powers of the ADR Registrar, including clarification of costs provisions as they relate to ADR powers. Other reforms include the introduction of security for costs to remove doubt about whether it can apply to the court; the refinement of the rules, orders and directions powers of the court; and expanding the court's excusatory powers to prevent development being defeated by legal technicality.

Many of the reforms are made in response to stakeholder feedback about providing certainty or at the request of the Chief Judge of the District Court and aim to provide sensible changes, with appropriate checks and balances, to ensure expeditious, low cost proceedings and save time for judges and demand on the court's resources.

Extensive consultation has occurred in relation to these reforms including with the Bar Association of Queensland, the Queensland Law Society, the Queensland Environmental Lawyers Association and the Planning Institute of Australia, with strong support expressed across the board.

It is anticipated that on commencement, following collaboration with the Chief Judge of the District Court, the Planning and Environment Court Act will be supported by the new attendant rules to replace the Planning and Environment Court Rules 2010.

This bill, as well as the Planning and Development Bill and the Planning and Development (Consequential) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, aims to deliver the best planning system in Australia that stimulates positive development and provides opportunities for all Queenslanders now and into the future.

~~First Reading~~

Hon. JW SEENEY (Callide—LNP) (Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning) (3.17 pm): I move—