

~~report by Deloitte Access Economics on the program which showed that, for every dollar invested in the Skilling Queenslanders for Work program, it generated nearly \$8 in return. But, Madam Deputy Speaker, as you would be aware, despite all of this evidence, the LNP when they were in government still callously axed this program. What a disgraceful thing to do to Queenslanders.~~

~~The evidence shows that the Skilling Queenslanders for Work program pays for itself and helps thousands of Queenslanders into the workforce. This is good news for our economy and good news for our state. Our Skilling Queenslanders for Work program is an initiative that is worth \$60 million each year over four years and it is going to deliver immediate benefits to communities throughout Queensland. We want to ensure that, no matter where they live, all Queenslanders can access job training and employment opportunities.~~

~~Our Skilling Queenslanders for Work program has a strong focus on developing skills to match current and future industry needs and is specifically tailored for local programs that support young and long-term unemployed Queenslanders on the pathway into work. Our Skilling Queenslanders for Work program puts communities in partnership with government to grow local employment opportunities, encourage greater social inclusion and assist people who need extra support to enter the workforce.~~

~~However, where the Palaszczuk government is focused on creating jobs for Queenslanders, the opposition are obsessed with their own jobs. It is this obsession which is tearing them apart. Just last week we have seen a failed leadership coup. We have seen the member for Chatsworth sacked as deputy opposition whip, although a little birdie told me that the member for Chatsworth actually tried to resign twice to the Leader of the Opposition last Wednesday night but the Leader of the Opposition lacked the courage to accept the member for Chatsworth's resignation at that time.~~

~~We have also seen the opposition tearing themselves apart over whether the Leader of the Opposition will have the courage to sack his chief of staff. We have seen them tear themselves apart over who would be the chair of the PCCC. We are seeing them tear themselves apart over the ambitions of the member for Callide and the member for Toowoomba South to move into the federal parliament, and we are seeing them tear themselves apart over the ambition of the member for Everton and last week's failed leadership coup.~~

~~I note that in today's *Courier Mail* Steven Wardill claims that the botched LNP coup to install the member for Everton as the Leader of the Opposition follows the Monty Python story the *Life of Brian*. Wardill claims that the disciples of the member for Everton, the coup leaders, did indeed mistake the member for Everton for the Messiah, although, as we have heard this morning, I think the member for Everton would much prefer to describe himself as the next Mike Baird. Just like Brian in the *Life of Brian*, the member for Everton is not the Messiah or the next Mike Baird; he is just a naughty, naughty boy.~~

~~However, there is much more to this story than has currently been told. If the rumours are true — if what the little birdies are telling me is true — I hear that the member for Everton and the member for Clayfield recently had discussions about leadership change. The Leader of the Opposition must be worried that his days are numbered.~~

~~**Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Ms Farmer): The time for matters of public interest has expired.~~

MINERAL AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction



Hon. AJ LYNHAM (Stafford—ALP) (Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines) (12.34 pm): I present a bill for an act to amend the Mineral and Energy Resources (Common Provisions) Act 2014 for particular purposes. I table the bill and the explanatory notes. I nominate the Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee to consider the bill.

Tabled paper: Mineral and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016.

Tabled paper: Mineral and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016, explanatory notes.

I am pleased to introduce the Mineral and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016, or the MOLA Bill. The primary objective of this bill is to amend the previous government's Mineral Energy and Resources (Common Provisions) Act 2014, the MERC Act, to deliver two of the government's key election commitments. Firstly, the amendments in the bill will restore the public notification requirements and Land Court objection rights relating to the assessment of proposed mines to all members of the community. Secondly, the amendments in the bill will ensure the protection of key agricultural infrastructure under the restricted land framework.

The bill also contains a number of minor amendments to other aspects of the MERCP Act. This includes amendments to clarify certain provisions of the industry-developed overlapping coal and coal seam gas tenure framework. These amendments will not change the policy intent, but rather they will ensure that the legislation operates effectively when it commences.

The previous government tried to remove community objection rights to proposed mining projects and limit the grounds for objections by directly affected landholders, their immediate neighbours and local government. This government has listened to the concerns of the community and has already taken the first step to deliver on its commitment to restore community objection rights with the repeal of section 47D of the State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971 in July last year. Section 47D, which was commenced by the previous government, had the effect of preventing anyone from objecting to an environmental authority application for large-scale mining projects if the proposal had been assessed through the Coordinator-General process.

Mr Cripps: That was last year. That was last year's speech.

Dr LYNHAM: You should have listened. I have just told you that. To fulfil the government's election commitment to reinstate broader community objection rights, the MOLA Bill will amend uncommenced sections of the MERCP Act that removed public notification and associated community objection rights. This will ensure all members of the community retain the right to object to the Land Court about any mining lease or environmental authority on appropriate grounds.

While public notification and objection rights will be restored, I am proposing to retain some more common-sense amendments to the public notification and objections processes contained in the MERCP Act. These include amendments to reduce the duplication that exists in the public notification requirements of the Coordinator-General's process and the assessment of environmental authority applications under the Environmental Protection Act 1994 and an amendment to expand the jurisdiction of the Land Court to strike out any objection that is outside the jurisdiction of the court, vexatious or frivolous, or an abuse of the court's process.

This government is committed to restoring the balance between responsible mining developments and the community's rights to have appropriate input into them. These changes will ensure that legitimate community concerns to proposed mining projects will be considered in the assessment of proposed mines.

020 This bill will also implement the government's election commitment to make changes to the restricted land framework. The restricted land framework provides landholders the right to say no to resource activities close to their homes, their places of worship, their businesses, childcare centres which look after their children and our hospitals. The previous government chose to exclude key agricultural infrastructure from the protections offered to landholders under the restricted land framework. This government has committed to reinstating the protections offered under the restricted land framework taken away by the previous government.

In this bill, I propose to amend the MERCP Act to extend the restricted land framework to include principal stockyards, bores, artesian wells, dams and artificial water storages connected to a water supply with a protection zone of 50 metres. I am also repealing the provisions in the MERCP Act that would allow the grant of a mining lease over restricted land without requiring landholder consent and that sought to establish a ministerial power to extinguish restricted land on mining leases where coexistence is not possible.

These powers were yet another example of where the previous government's legislation stripped away the rights of landholders. When the new restricted land framework commences, it will apply to all resource authorities for the first time. This means that landholders subject to new coal seam gas tenures will be able to use this framework to say no to resource activities close to their homes and businesses. Importantly, this will provide landholders with greater certainty and protections against resource activities in addition to existing environmental authority conditions.

The bill also contains amendments to address industry concerns and clarify the operation of provisions for the industry developed overlapping tenure framework for coal and coal seam gas. These proposed amendments will improve the management of overlapping tenure in Queensland and ensure the legislation will operate effectively once commenced.

The bill includes amendments for the following aspects of the framework: reducing the requirement for resource authority holders to have a joint development plan in place only in situations involving overlapping production tenures—that is, a mining lease and a petroleum lease; replacing the concepts of proposed and agreed mining commencement dates with a single mining commencement

date which is identified by the coal party; providing recognition of existing commercial arrangements; strengthening requirements for information exchange; clarifying the operation of the dispute resolution process; and other transitional provisions and minor miscellaneous amendments. These amendments will result in direct changes to the MERC Act itself and are proposed to commence on assent. However, the overlapping tenure framework as a whole will come into effect once supporting regulation and guidance material are finalised.

In this bill I also plan to clarify the requirements of resource companies accessing land to identify boundaries of a proposed mine without a prospecting permit to ensure the rights and obligations of landholders and resource companies are clear. This bill will fix this by: setting conditions for the person's conduct during entry; establishing a compensation liability to the landholder for any damage, loss or injury incurred as a result of entry; and prohibiting entry to restricted land without landholder consent.

The bill also contains other minor clarifying amendments. This bill also clarifies the transitional provisions for the application of the new land access framework including the new restricted land framework to remove any doubt as to their application in order to ensure a seamless transition on commencement of the new land access framework.

A wide range of stakeholders have been consulted on the amendments proposed in this bill. This includes the Queensland Law Society; Indigenous groups; agricultural peak bodies such as AgForce Queensland and the Queensland Farmers' Federation; environmental and community groups such as Lock the Gate Alliance, the Environmental Defenders Office, the Basin Sustainability Alliance and the Wilderness Society; and resources sector peak bodies such as the Queensland Resources Council, the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association, and the Association of Mining and Exploration Companies.

This bill demonstrates that this government has listened to the concerns of Queenslanders who strongly opposed certain aspects of the MERC Act under the previous government and restores the rights which the previous government removed from landholders. The government is committed to maintaining the delicate balance between rights and obligations of landholders and the resources sector in Queensland. I commend the bill to the House.

First Reading

Hon. AJ LYNHAM (Stafford—ALP) (Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines) (12.44 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 Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Farmer): Order! In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee.

~~BRISBANE CASINO AGREEMENT AMENDMENT BILL~~

~~Introduction~~



~~**Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Attorney General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Training and Skills) (12.45 pm): I present a bill for an act to amend the Brisbane Casino Agreement Act 1992 to provide for the ratification of a new agreement. I table the bill and the explanatory notes. I nominate the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee to consider the bill.~~

~~Tabled paper: Brisbane Casino Agreement Amendment Bill 2016.~~

~~Tabled paper: Brisbane Casino Agreement Amendment Bill 2016, explanatory notes.~~

~~I am pleased to introduce the Brisbane Casino Agreement Amendment Bill 2016 into the Parliament today. As members would all be aware, on 20 July 2015 the Destination Brisbane Consortium was announced as the government's preferred proponent to revitalise an under-utilised area of state owned land in the heart of the Brisbane CBD known as Queen's Wharf Brisbane and stimulate the tourism and construction sectors of Queensland's economy.~~