



Speech by

# Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

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Hansard 21 April 2004

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

### Worley Group, Aughinish Alumina

**Hon. P. D. BEATTIE** (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier and Minister for Trade) (10.01 a.m.): While in Ireland on my recent trade and investment mission, I witnessed the signing of a major contract between Queensland company Worley and the Aughinish Alumina refinery in the Shannon Estuary. I congratulate the Brisbane office of the Worley group for its job creation efforts for Queenslanders through its multimillion-dollar alumina refinery expansion contract. I toured the refinery and can attest to the significance of this achievement.

The Worley operation in Brisbane began as one person with a local focus and has grown with the Smart State to become a worldwide hub for specialist process engineering and multidisciplinary services. This is about Smart State going to the world. I seek leave to have the remainder of my ministerial statement incorporated in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

The Aughinish project is recognition of Worley's worldwide expertise in alumina and its creation in Brisbane of a globally-recognised centre of excellence for alumina.

Aughinish was the largest construction project in Europe at the time, employing up to 6,500 workers.

It represented an investment of 1 billion (A\$1.6 billion), making it the largest ever single private investment in the Irish economy to that date.

Aughinish Alumina is expanding refinery operations in County Limerick by 250 thousand tonnes per annum, to a yearly output of 1.8 million tonnes.

After providing preliminary engineering services to Aughinish for the concept design of the expansion and cost estimates, Worley was selected to manage the project.

Worley has worked on site for the past six months and is now increasing the project team to provide engineering, procurement and construction management services for the next two years of the project.

The engineering is being carried out in the Brisbane office, which supports a site team in Ireland.

Worley has a track record in achievement, having won the Emerging Exporter award in the Premier of Queensland's 2002 Export Awards.

It's a company achieving real success on the world stage and I am sure every Member of this House will join me in congratulating it.