



Speech by

Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Thursday, 2 March 2006

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Brisbane International Motor Show

Hon. PD BEATTIE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier) (9.49 am): I report to parliament on the Brisbane International Motor Show which I will be officially opening tomorrow morning. I seek leave to have details incorporated in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

Once again this year, I will be officially opening the Brisbane International Motor Show, on Friday morning at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre.

While much of the emphasis at the International Motor Show is on design and performance, this year there will also be record numbers of fuel-efficient, environment-friendly vehicles on display.

Commonsense tells us that we cannot rely in the long term on crude oil.

That's why the Queensland Government is totally committed to working with industry to develop ethanol blended fuels, made from sugar cane and grain grown in Queensland.

We are leading by example with our Government fleet vehicles using ethanol blended fuel wherever possible.

The volume of ethanol blended fuel purchased by the Government has risen significantly over the past year, with consumption by Government now averaging well over 200,000 litres per month.

Since 2002 in Queensland, BP has sold over 17 million litres of ethanol blended fuel and the number of ethanol outlets has increased from 59 to 124.

Starting next month, we will begin the trial of a marketing campaign to raise public awareness of ethanol and boost public confidence in ethanol blended fuel.

I will be saying at the opening of the Motor Show that construction is expected to commence in May on the Dalby Bio-Refinery.

It will be the first dry mill, grain-to-ethanol plant constructed in Australia.

I will also be telling visitors at the opening that all of the V8 Supercars at this year's Lexmark Indy 300 will be using an ethanol blend fuel—Shell Optimax Extreme, which has 5 percent ethanol.

The fuel was tested by Stone Brothers Racing, Dick Johnson Racing and the Holden Racing Team—all of them reported improved performance and a much cleaner burn.

The good news for motorists is that the same fuel used by the V8 Supercars will be available at the service station pump for customers who drive modern and high performance vehicles.