



Speech by

Hon. Paul Lucas

MEMBER FOR LYTTON

Hansard Tuesday, 13 November 2007

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

State Planning Policy, High-Impact Industries

Hon. PT LUCAS (Lytton—ALP) (Deputy Premier and Minister for Infrastructure and Planning) (9.55 am): In response to the Binary Industries chemical fire at Narangba in August 2005, the Queensland government is implementing a whole-of-government planning initiative to ensure adequate, long-term supply of land suitable for the development and operation of high-impact industries across the state. The planning initiative comprises a set of cross-agency policy initiatives that collectively will provide a regulatory and management regime which can be applied to manage existing high-impact industries and establish best practice standards for new operations.

This work has included investigation of operational aspects of high-impact industries and consideration of measures for improving land use planning in and around existing and new high-impact industry areas in order to minimise the potential for their off-site impacts. Having considered these measures, the government has decided to prepare a state planning policy for high-impact industries to ensure these industries are appropriately planned and regulated. The new state planning policy will define high-impact industry, focus on establishing appropriate buffers around these industry operations, apply to high-impact industries in new estates, and be relevant to the evaluation and management of existing estates containing high-impact industries.

State planning policies are made under the Integrated Planning Act 1997 about matters of state interest and have the force of the law. These planning policies are required to be integrated into local government planning schemes and, where that integration has not occurred, must be considered when assessing development applications. The proposed state planning policy will therefore provide surety to all regions that the land use planning regimes to be applied to all new industrial land uses for high-impact industries will be consistent and will direct individual local governments and state agencies to engage in best practice land use planning for high-impact industry. In line with the requirements of the Integrated Planning Act 1997, consultation with the community and relevant stakeholders will be conducted throughout the development process of the state planning policy.