



Speech by

Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe

MEMBER FOR STAFFORD

Hansard Thursday, 8 October 2009

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Callide Infrastructure Corridor State Development Area

Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE (Stafford—ALP) (Minister for Infrastructure and Planning) (10.07 am): I rise to advise the House of the declaration of the Callide Infrastructure Corridor State Development Area. The Callide infrastructure corridor will deliver on the Premier's election commitment to acquire a land corridor for underground gas pipelines—a gas superhighway. These pipelines will transport coal seam gas through Callide to Curtis Island where the proposed liquefied natural gas, or LNG, plants will be built within the Gladstone State Development Area. The continued economic development of Queensland requires effective linking of existing and future industrial centres with strategic infrastructure and services. It is anticipated that a medium-sized LNG industry—that is, 28 million tonnes per annum—will result in the creation of some 18,000 direct and indirect jobs in Queensland. The development of a single multi-user infrastructure corridor will enable the creation of multiple underground gas pipelines.

Going underground will benefit both landowners and proponents in terms of minimising impacts and achieving potential efficiency gains. Some minor modifications were made to the corridor route as a result of the stakeholder engagement program and the various desktop and field assessments carried out by the Department of Infrastructure and Planning. Again, these amendments were made to minimise disturbance to landowners and to the environment while maintaining access, efficiency and constructability benefits for project proponents. The declaration of a Callide Infrastructure Corridor State Development Area is another example of the state government's commitment to delivering a brighter future, especially for employment in our regions. Just six months into our term, the Bligh government continues to deliver on its election commitments.