



Speech by

**Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk**

**MEMBER FOR INALA**

Hansard Tuesday, 8 June 2010

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## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Waste Management**

**Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Acting Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability) (10.20 am): Our government has a plan to tackle Queensland's mounting waste problem. Behind the introduction of an industry waste levy is a bold 10-year reform plan which aims to reduce landfill by one-third and to transform how Queenslanders manage waste. With more than 32 million tonnes of waste each year, Queensland is one of Australia's biggest waste generators, yet we are also one of the worst recyclers. We are recycling only about a third of our waste. South Australia recycles about 70 per cent of theirs. As landfill space runs out and more greenhouse gases are emitted by our dump-and-run habits, Queensland needs to become a leader in waste management. Put simply, we want businesses to match the remarkable recycling efforts of households.

Today I table Queensland's draft Waste Strategy 2010-2020 for public consultation and detailed development with industry and local government. It proposes sweeping reforms and introduces Australia's most comprehensive suite of waste infrastructure and industry support measures. A major focus of the strategy will be to help businesses transition to better waste management practices. Examples of business initiatives to be considered as part of an investment worth more than \$160 million include a smart resource register, where businesses can exchange their waste materials with others that could use them; an online database, which will allow businesses to quickly identify where they can obtain recycled products for their operations; and a network of collection hubs to improve the state's recycling of computers, TVs and other e-waste, batteries and fluorescent light bulbs.

The draft strategy represented the beginning of a conversation with industry, local governments and the community about why Queensland's approach to waste needs to change. The document sets bold 2020 targets, such as 75 per cent recovery and recycling of construction and demolition waste, which is currently at 35 per cent, and 60 per cent of commercial and industrial waste, which is currently at 18 per cent. This strategy will help bring about the behavioural change that is necessary to increase Queensland's recycling rates.

*Tabled paper:* Queensland's Waste Strategy 2010-2020: Waste Avoidance and Recycling Consultation Draft, June 2010 [\[2329\]](#).