



Speech by

**Hon. Jeff Seeney**


**MEMBER FOR CALLIDE**

Hansard Thursday, 29 November 2012

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## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Ella Bay Development**

 **Hon. JW SEENEY** (Callide—LNP) (Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning) (9.47 am): The LNP government is about growing the economy, putting Queensland back in business and creating jobs now and for future generations of Queenslanders. Last week the Premier and I announced that Queensland's biggest ever tourism development has been given the green light to proceed. This \$1.4 billion integrated tourism and residential community planned for Ella Bay near Innisfail will create hundreds of jobs and generate many millions of dollars in state taxes and duties.

Developer Satori Ella Bay Pty Ltd proposes to build three resort precincts, four residential precincts, a retail village, an 18-hole golf course and a cassowary research and education centre on the site of a 450-hectare former cattle property. The tourism development will comprise 860 units and villas and the residential component 540 permanent residences. The developer expects to employ a workforce of more than 400 at the peak of construction and, more importantly, create more than 800 full-time operational jobs with additional part-time peak season work. The Coordinator-General's approval of this project is based on a rigorous environmental assessment and is subject to a range of conditions. It is a great example of how we can balance social and environmental concerns with the need for economic growth. To proceed, it must also gain other statutory state approvals and, of course, Commonwealth approval under the EPBC act. The ball is now firmly in the court of the federal minister Tony Burke.

I think it is noteworthy that the Coordinator-General is concluding projects and bringing projects to fruition that have been languishing for years—in some cases decades. Ella Bay has been locked in the approvals process since 2005—seven years, going nowhere under Labor. Seven years on and in a mere seven months this administration has got a result and finalised the approvals process.

We are focusing on getting this state back on track, just like we told the people of Queensland we would. For too long such projects in this state have been delayed by indecision, by dithering and by dirty deals with the Greens. Currently the Coordinator-General has more than 30 major projects under active assessment, with the potential to attract \$78 billion worth of investment and create more than 40,000 construction jobs and 20,000 ongoing operational jobs. The LNP government is in the business of making things happen in this great state, where there are great opportunities.