




Speech By
Hon. Anastacia Palaszcuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

Record of Proceedings, 27 March 2015

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Abbot Point Coal Terminal

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (9.35 am): As the Leader of the Labor Party and now Premier, I have always supported the responsible development of the Galilee Basin. By opening up the Galilee Basin, we will see a new source of wealth for our state and our country and a massive new source of jobs for Queensland workers. As opposition leader I was confident we could find a better way to proceed with the expansion of the Abbot Point Coal Terminal. For a Labor government that meant ensuring capital dredge spoil was not dumped in the middle of our Great Barrier Reef. It also meant not allowing the dumping of capital dredge spoil on the Caley Valley Wetlands. Both of these proposals, pushed by the former government, were firmly opposed by Labor in opposition.

Recently I travelled to nearby Townsville with Minister Lynham to announce a new agreement between this government and Abbot Point's major proponents. This new agreement will see dredge spoil placed on land known as T2 at Abbot Point, adjacent to the existing coal terminal—not on the Caley Valley Wetlands or within the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage area.

The government worked closely with both of the proponents, Adani and GVK. Both companies have welcomed the new agreement, which gives them and their financial backers certainty. It also gives confidence to local communities and businesses, especially in Bowen, Mackay and Townsville, who have been sent a clear message that this government supports the responsible development of the Galilee and the expansion of the coal terminal.

I have also made it clear that we will not subsidise Adani's railway from the proposed Carmichael mine to the port of Abbot Point. As I have always said, this is a commercial project. It needs to stand up commercially on its own two feet.