



Speech By
Hon. Anastacia Palaszcuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

Record of Proceedings, 1 December 2015

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Jobs

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (9.47 am): We said we would be a government about jobs and we are delivering. In the two weeks since the last sitting of this House, there has been a series of major job-creating projects announced right here in Queensland. The biggest of these was unveiled here at Parliament House last Friday. Rio Tinto announced that they will invest \$2.6 billion in developing one of the world's largest bauxite deposits, 40 kilometres south of Weipa. At the peak of construction, the project is expected to provide work for 1,100 people and ongoing employment for 1,400 workers in Weipa and 2,000 workers at refineries in Gladstone. This announcement is an enormous boost to Queensland's economy and will provide jobs for up to 40 years.

It was just one of several major announcements over the last fortnight, involving expenditure totalling \$8 billion and jobs numbering in their thousands. My government's clear focus and priority is captured in the words 'jobs now and jobs for the future'. That is precisely what we see in these major resource development projects and other projects.

Let's look at some of the other projects from the past fortnight. First there was news of QGC's \$1.7 billion Surat Basin LNG project expansion. The project will provide a welcome employment boost and means that valuable royalties can continue to be generated from Queensland's natural gas environment. QGC's development decision shows that Queensland has the right policy settings for attracting business investment. At peak, this project is expected to generate 1,600 construction jobs.

On that same day Minister Anthony Lynham and I signed off on the contractual close with Destination Brisbane Consortium for the \$3 billion Queen's Wharf development. This project will deliver more than \$1 billion to the state, more than 2,000 construction jobs and 8,000 operational jobs. Following that was the announcement that Queensland has secured an \$800 million gas pipeline project from the Northern Territory, bringing jobs and critical energy supplies to the state's north-west.

My government has been focused on winning the pipeline project for Queensland. Today I want to personally commend the role and the hard work of my Minister for State Development, Anthony Lynham, in getting this project across the line for Queensland. This is an exciting achievement for Queensland in relation to the jobs and opportunities it will create for local suppliers, as well as the potentially cheaper energy it will supply to the north-west resources projects. The new interconnector will generate an anticipated 560 construction jobs across the 600-kilometre pipeline. The Queensland government has already been working with locals in the north-west to ensure local suppliers are ready to capitalise on any opportunities from the pipeline's construction.

Moving from the north-west back to the south-east, Treasurer Curtis Pitt last week announced a new \$140 million development will get underway at North Lakes at the start of next year. This redevelopment positions the Moreton Bay region to further build on the positive economic growth and jobs creation recorded this year.

These projects come on top of \$35 billion in the state budget for infrastructure investment over four years to support jobs for Queenslanders. A total of 43,800 jobs has been created since the election, and the good news just keeps coming. We are delivering for Queensland.