




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR YEERONGPILLY

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Ethanol

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Yeerongpilly—ALP) (Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy and Water Supply) (10.03 am): Today the Palaszczuk government is releasing a discussion paper outlining our plans to establish an ethanol mandate to grow biofuels and biomanufacturing industries and create jobs across the industry here in Queensland. The economic and environmental benefits of ethanol as a renewable resource are recognised worldwide and we want Queensland to be part of this sustainable energy future. We will work closely with industry on the amount of the mandate so that it grows in line with local production capacity. Importantly, we want local industries to capture the market share to ensure that any ethanol sold in Queensland comes from Queensland and is produced by Queensland workers. There is also an opportunity to boost the use of biofuels, like biodiesel blends, to take advantage of the growing demand for diesel. There are several bioplants on the drawing board in Queensland, including two plants in development, with strong interest from the private sector to explore opportunities. This is backed by a joint Deloitte Access Economics-QUT study which predicts biorefining in all its forms could contribute more than \$1.8 billion in gross state product to Queensland and create over 6,000 jobs over the next 20 years in a fully developed industry.

The Palaszczuk government is holding regional forums across this state to encourage industry, key stakeholders and the community to have their say about the ethanol mandate. By working together we can all help shape the future of this exciting and growing industry across Queensland. Our consultation will explore consumer protections and consumer education about the benefits of E10. Importantly, regular unleaded petrol will still be available at petrol stations in Queensland. This means that if drivers do not want to use ethanol fuels they will not have to. A bill will be introduced into parliament to set the framework for the mandate and we will work closely with all members of this House to seek their support in passing this important legislation. Early feedback from the RACQ, Canegrowers and the Australian Sugar Milling Association has been encouraging and I look forward to working with industry, stakeholders and the community as we embark on what is shaping up to be an exciting era in biofuel technology. I table a copy of the discussion paper.

Tabled paper: Department of Energy and Water Supply: Towards a clean energy economy: achieving a biofuel mandate for Queensland, discussion paper, June 2015 [\[552\]](#).