



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Bailey**


**MEMBER FOR YEERONGPILLY**

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Gold Coast, Electricity Network**

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Yeerongpilly—ALP) (Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply) (9.51 am): With just two years until the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games, I am proud to advise the House that this government is continuing the drive to make sure all key infrastructure is on track. This includes ensuring the city's high-voltage electricity transmission network is games ready, with a \$25 million injection into the electricity grid's infrastructure. This \$25 million investment will also support up to 50 jobs in the local economy.

The \$25 million upgrade of the Mudgeeraba substation will improve the performance and reliability of Powerlink's transmission network on the Gold Coast, not only for the games itself but also for many years to come. The substation is 45 years old and one of two main critical supply hubs on the Gold Coast. The upgrade will bring the substation fully up to present-day standards, contributing to the resilience and responsiveness of Powerlink's operating and monitoring systems in the region while keeping it in public hands. This is the lowest cost option for consumers that will extend the life of the Mudgeeraba substation. Rather than undertake a major replacement, Powerlink will upgrade specific parts to further extend the life of the existing substation. This investment approach is focused on keeping network costs as low as possible. Importantly, all works have been planned to avoid any disruptions to supply.

The 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games, a proud Labor achievement, will attract a global TV audience of 1.5 billion viewers, so it is important that our key infrastructure is ready to help showcase the Gold Coast and Queensland to the world.

We are also investing in the Gold Coast's road network, with \$160 million in state funding committed for roadworks in the lead-up to the Commonwealth Games, supporting 166 local jobs on the Gold Coast. I am happy to report that the Ross Street roundabout, as part of that package, is well ahead of schedule.

When you look at Labor's record on the Gold Coast—Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 2 combined with stage 1 under the previous Labor government, the Gold Coast University Hospital, the M1 upgrade at Worongary, the Southport pool and Metricon Stadium—you see that Labor has a proud record of delivering for the Gold Coast, in stark contrast to the do-nothing record of the former Newman-Nicholls government.