




Speech By
Peter Russo

MEMBER FOR SUNNYBANK

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PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT

Electricity Optimisation Program

 **Mr RUSSO** (Sunnybank—ALP) (2.57 pm): I thank not only the hardworking police and administrative staff at Mount Ommaney Police Station but all the staff at police stations across the state of Queensland. In May and June 2017, a 50-kilowatt solar system was installed onto the roof of the Mount Ommaney Police Station. The installation is one of many solar systems being installed onto police complexes as part of the Queensland Police Service Electricity Optimisation Project. It is anticipated that the installed solar system will produce approximately 26 per cent of the electricity required to run the Mount Ommaney Police Station, saving an estimated \$12,000 annually. It is also anticipated that the return on investment for the solar panels will be approximately 4.2 years.

The Electricity Optimisation Program has developed a program of works to install solar panels and deliver a range of cost and energy saving efficiencies to over 40 police stations. Since its commencement in December 2016 the project has identified potential savings of over \$1 million per annum. Not only is the project delivering significant cost savings to the service; it also reduces carbon emissions, providing a socially responsible investment, and aligns with Queensland government priorities including the Solar 150 initiative and the 50 per cent renewable energy target.

During 2016-17, 13 solar systems were installed at various locations including Cloncurry, Hendra, Longreach, Mareeba and Bamaga. A further 30 solar systems are to be installed into remote and regional police stations. This is another success story that the Palaszczuk Labor government has achieved during the past 2½ years. The Palaszczuk Labor government has made a commitment to a renewable energy target of 50 per cent renewables by 2030.

I wish to congratulate the Queensland Police Service on the Electricity Optimisation Project and the installation of solar power into Queensland Police Service facilities across the state, including the Mount Ommaney police complex, which I have already mentioned. The Electricity Optimisation Project was set up in December last year with a goal of reducing the Queensland Police Service's related costs so that the money can be better spent elsewhere.