




Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

Record of Proceedings, 5 September 2018

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Defence Industries

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning) (9.45 am): The Palaszczuk government is joining a new fight for more defence jobs for Queensland. The formal request for tender for Land 400 phase 3, estimated to be worth between \$10 billion and \$15 billion, is now open. As I said yesterday, I was not supported by those members opposite to travel to Adelaide to make Queensland's case directly to the decision-makers.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order!

Mr Powell interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Glass House, I have called the House to order. You are warned under the standing orders.

Mr DICK: As I have said on many occasions, we work; they whinge.

Mr SPEAKER: Minister, as I have expressed earlier, it would be helpful for the order of the House to not have commentary which is inflaming the opposition. These are ministerial statements.

Mr DICK: We have called for reinforcements and Rheinmetall Defence Australia has answered our call. Last Tuesday a giant Antonov cargo carrier flew into Adelaide from Germany, bringing with it the Lynx KF41, Rheinmetall's newly developed infantry fighting vehicle. Our goal is to see these Lynx vehicles rolling off the production line at the Military Vehicle Centre of Excellence that the Palaszczuk government is building at Redbank, potentially bringing hundreds of additional highly skilled jobs to Queensland.

The Palaszczuk government brought Rheinmetall to Queensland. With our support, they won the \$5.2 billion Land 400 phase 2 project for the new combat reconnaissance vehicle, the Boxer. Momentum is continuing to build in this new industry. Just last month Queensland companies secured more work to build truck trailers for the Australian Army through the \$1.4 billion Land 121 5B contract.

The Palaszczuk government's 10-year road map and action plan for defence industries is winning the battle to deliver jobs for Queenslanders. Today I am pleased to announce that we are ramping up our efforts even further with a Queensland first: the establishment of a ministerial advisory council on defence industry and jobs, and two regionally focused boards for the north and south of the state. I know that it will be welcomed by the members representing the Townsville area that the northern board will be based around Townsville. They will provide strategic advice on developing Queensland's defence industries and help attract further investment. They will identify local supply gaps and ensure suppliers right across Queensland have the chance to position themselves to tap into this growing market. These new expert advisory committees will ensure we continue to strengthen Queensland's reputation as a defence manufacturing powerhouse and further our state's position as Australia's natural home for defence.