



Speech By  
**Hon. Cameron Dick**


**MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE**

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Record of Proceedings, 6 September 2018

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS**

**Olive Downs Mine**

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning) (9.45 am): Modern economies need steel—steel for our buildings and steel for the bridges, tunnels and railways that the Palaszczuk Labor government is building. Steel is needed for our renewable future to build the wind turbines, solar panels and electric cars of the future. If we want to make steel we need good-quality metallurgical coal, and the best metallurgical coal comes from the mighty Bowen Basin in Queensland.

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order! Minister, please resume your seat. Members, I am not sure what was particularly offensive about those comments. I am wondering what the interjections are all about.

**Mr DICK:** The best metallurgical coal comes from the mighty Bowen Basin in Queensland. This important sector delivers thousands of jobs and has helped drive our exports to a record \$74 billion in the last financial year. I am pleased to report that metallurgical coal is putting more jobs in the pipeline for regional Queensland.

Pembroke Olive Downs Pty Ltd proposes to develop a new \$1 billion open-cut metallurgical coalmine in the Bowen Basin, and this week the Coordinator-General is inviting stakeholders to have their say on the \$1 billion Olive Downs metallurgical coalmine with the release of the project's environmental impact statement. Once approved and operational, the mine could maintain around 1,000 operational jobs over an 80-year time frame and produce up to 15 million tonnes of coking coal each year. This will ensure that great communities in the Bowen Basin will continue to be critical participants in the global steel production chain for decades to come.

Importantly, this will not be a FIFO mine. The project proponent, Pembroke Resources, will be seeking workers from local towns in the vicinity of the mine like Moranbah, Nebo, Dysart and Middledmount. The project proposal includes coal handling and crushing facilities at the mine's Olive Downs South and Willunga precinct, a rail link to transport coal to the Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal, a water pipeline and a power transmission line. I know that this project is welcomed by the Isaac Regional Council, in particular the Mayor, Councillor Anne Baker.

Working with the council, we will ensure this development occurs sustainably. The Coordinator-General's environmental assessment process provides an integrated and rigorous assessment of major projects. All feedback and comments from agencies and the public are coordinated and considered in one overall assessment of the project's impacts and benefits. The independent Coordinator-General has reviewed a draft EIS prepared by the proponent and determined that it is satisfactory to release for comment. I encourage all interested stakeholders to make a submission on the draft EIS, which will shortly be available online for public comment until 10 October this year.