



Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

Record of Proceedings, 20 September 2018

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Gladstone Energy and Ammonia Project

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning) (9.54 am): The Palaszczuk government is bringing more jobs to Central Queensland. Today I am pleased to advise the House that the independent Coordinator-General has declared the \$1 billion Australian Future Energy Gladstone Energy and Ammonia Project a coordinated project. Should all approvals be granted, construction is proposed to commence in the middle of 2020. A peak workforce of 800 jobs during the two-year construction period is expected, with up to 200 jobs supported during the 30-year operational period.

Australian Future Energy estimates that 1,280 indirect jobs will also be created in the region during the operational phase, generating a significant increase in employment opportunities for the local communities in the Gladstone area. Further strengthening regional employment and job security, the Gladstone Energy and Ammonia Project proposes to use coal sourced from an existing mine in the Gladstone region.

The coal will be converted using state-of-the-art process plant technology into ammonia, synthetic natural gas and electricity. While ammonia is produced elsewhere in Australia, this is the first time that the above-ground coal gasification technology will be used to produce ammonia in Queensland, progressing our state's advanced manufacturing sector.

Ammonia is one of the basic building blocks of our modern economy and is used to produce agricultural fertiliser, household cleaners, water purification systems and the manufacture of plastics, fabrics and explosives. I know that this project will be welcomed by the member for Gladstone, the Gladstone community and the wider region, as it will support the area's growing manufacturing industry, making a fundamental contribution to the local economy and providing numerous employment and economic benefits.

The Coordinator-General's decision to declare this project a coordinated project will help streamline approvals and fast-track its delivery. This proven one-stop shop approach also ensures that all the potential impacts and benefits of the project will be considered in an integrated and rigorous way. I look forward to the preparation of the draft terms of reference by the Coordinator-General who, in coming months, will invite community comment on the matters that must be addressed in the environmental impact statement.

This project is ideally located within the Gladstone State Development Area, which has been specifically planned and designated to accommodate manufacturing and processing industries such as this. At the last election our government promised more jobs for Queensland and it is more jobs that the Palaszczuk government is delivering.