




Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

Record of Proceedings, 30 April 2019

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Resources Projects

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning) (9.47 am): As we have heard from the Premier this morning, the Palaszczuk Labor government is delivering more resource industry jobs, including more coal industry jobs, for the people of Queensland. As the Premier has advised the House this morning, before Easter within my portfolio the Coordinator-General granted coordinated project status to help facilitate complex approvals for the Winchester South coalmine. When it commences, the proposed Winchester South facility coalmine near Moranbah in the Isaac region will deliver—

Mr Powell interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! Member for Glass House.

Mr DICK: For the advice of all honourable members, this mine will deliver \$1 billion in value to the Queensland economy. The proponent, Winchester South Coal Operations, expects this metallurgical coal mine would extract up to eight million tonnes of product coal each year. This output would support international steel making for approximately 30 years. Most importantly, the mine has the potential to create up to 500 jobs during its two-year construction period and will require a workforce of up to 450 full-time workers to operate the mine over its lifetime. These workers will be targeted from the heartland of the region—towns like Moranbah, Coppabella and Dysart. If approved, the project is expected to commence construction in 2021, with the first coal extraction proposed in 2023.

This is not the only major coal project we are progressing. Members may recall that on 6 September 2018 I was pleased to announce in this House the commencement of consultation on the environmental impact statement for the Olive Downs mine. This is another \$1 billion coalmine planned for the Bowen Basin. 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 and workers in the Bowen Basin will continue to be critical participants in the global steel production chain for decades to come. Importantly, these will not be fly-in fly-out mines. Thanks to the great Labor laws implemented by the Palaszczuk Labor government in our last term, we will deliver more local jobs for coalminers in the Bowen Basin, unlike federal coalition representatives who would not even meet with Oaky North coalminers locked out of their jobs. Our government makes no apologies for supporting sustainable coal jobs that will support regional communities for decades to come.