



Speech By  
**Hon. Cameron Dick**


**MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE**

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Record of Proceedings, 15 May 2019

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Olive Downs Mine; Alliance Airlines**

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning) (9.51 am): Yesterday our government announced the approval of the Olive Downs coalmine, bringing 1,500 new jobs to Central Queensland, and what a great project it is. As the ABC has reported, not a single negative submission was made against this mine by any environmental group during the project's environmental impact assessment. It is a great example of how our environmental laws ensure that good projects that stack up will be approved in our state. It is also another example of our government's strong support for coal industry jobs.

Today I am pleased to inform the House of even more jobs coming to Rockhampton and Central Queensland. I am pleased to inform the House that Alliance Airlines, Australia's third largest airline, is expanding its Queensland operations and will establish a new operational base in the great city of Rockhampton. Two weeks ago I was proud to join the member for Rockhampton and the member for Keppel to launch Alliance's new \$12.5 million project that will support up to 30 new full-time jobs in its first year of operation, growing to 58 full-time jobs over the next five years. This new operation brings greater connectivity, potential new routes, increased private charters and new tourism adventures to Central Queensland, with crew maintenance and aircraft based in Rockhampton.

For the people of Rocky it also means that during natural disasters like flooding, fires or cyclones there will be improved access to large commercial jet aircraft. Importantly, this would not have happened without the Palaszczuk Labor government's industry assistance program which attracted Alliance to put this base in Queensland. It is another chapter of a Queensland success story that would not be happening without Queensland Labor governments.

Alliance started its operations in 2002 with assistance from the then Beattie Labor government and is now Australia's largest charter operator, specialising in charters for the resource sector. The company has grown from one Brisbane head office and maintenance facility with just two Fokker 100 aircraft in 2002 to now having permanent maintenance facilities and offices in Brisbane, Townsville, Cairns, Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne and Darwin and in excess of 40 aircraft. The Queensland government's \$105 million Advance Queensland Industry Attraction Fund is continuing to offer financial incentives to encourage businesses to relocate or to expand in Queensland. It is a clear reminder of how the Palaszczuk Labor government's industry policies are growing our state's economy and providing more jobs for our regions.