




Speech By
Kim Richards

MEMBER FOR REDLANDS

Record of Proceedings, 12 October 2021

MOTION

Climate Change

 **Ms RICHARDS** (Redlands—ALP) (11.59 am): I rise to support this motion and this government's commitment to net zero emissions by 2050. This is an important commitment that makes sure that we as a government leave a legacy for future generations—one that they will be proud of—when it comes to our planet, our environment and the economic opportunity that the renewables sector provides for all Queenslanders through harnessing our state's biggest asset, our amazing sunshine.

I am a proud Queensland hydrogen champion and I have been pushing this barrow for many years now, particularly out in the Redlands. The Redlands is where the rubber hits the road when it comes to research and development into hydrogen and sees the great work happening in the hydrogen space in our regions up north. Through our government's plan and investment in renewables, particularly in hydrogen, we have seen at our Redlands research facility a lot of start-ups and incubators in the hydrogen space. QUT is out there.

In 2019 we exported the first hydrogen to Japan from the Redlands research facility. They are working on multiple different projects looking at how we can transition to a new energy future. We have vanadium flow batteries that are being tested. We went to the sod turning of the new \$3 million Lava Blue facility that is being built at the Redlands research facility. They are looking at how they can use minerals to create new batteries. They are looking at manufacturing high-purity alumina at pre-commercial scales. The facility they are building will provide the capacity to produce critical minerals for battery and renewable energy systems.

We also have out there Martin Newton from Zero Alpha Energy. He has been looking at green hydrogen, initially from his driveway on Coochiemudlo Island. It was the craziest thing to witness the systems he was developing there. He is now located at the Redlands research facility thanks to our government supporting these types of start-ups. Martin is looking at how he can decarbonise energy intensive assets utilising green hydrogen. I know that they had another trial with QUT out there last week. There is some amazing work happening in that space. In the skills and training area, I also had the opportunity to see the sod turning for Electro Group's \$23 million renewable energy training centre. That will be fantastic.

It is this side of the House that is focused on a renewable energy future. The only zeros our Prime Minister will be known for are those added to our national debt. There is zero in planning, zero in ideas and zero in action. It is embarrassing. He needs to get himself to Glasgow, represent Australia and make sure he positions our country and future generations.