




Speech By
Lance McCallum

MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

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ADJOURNMENT

Job Creation; Clean Energy; Coronavirus, Vaccination

 **Mr McCALLUM** (Bundamba—ALP) (7.10 pm): Thanks to Queensland's safe and strong response to COVID our economy is booming, jobs are being created and our local community of Bundamba is on the fast track. We have a first-class ticket for an express trip to more local jobs with the awarding of a multimillion dollar maintenance contract to Redbank's very own Progress Rail for Queensland's *Spirit of the Outback* and *Westlander* tourist trains. This means 48 local jobs as we overhaul five of our most iconic locos. The upgrades will improve performance, reduce fuel by up to 20 per cent and decrease exhaust emissions. This means a better journey for passengers, better outcomes for the environment and more local jobs.

We are putting cleaner trains on track and we are taking our clean energy to the world. Two days ago we announced the world's biggest hydrogen electrolyser manufacturing plant in Gladstone supporting thousands of local jobs in Central Queensland. This \$114 million investment from Fortescue Future Industries will create over 300 jobs initially, with the potential for thousands more. Yesterday we welcomed Fortescue and Incitec Pivot committing to a joint feasibility study for a renewable hydrogen and zero emissions ammonia production and export facility at Gibson Island right here in South-East Queensland, and today we announced renewable hydrogen will also be produced on the Darling Downs, with plans for a demonstration facility and even more local jobs near Chinchilla via our proudly publicly owned CS Energy. We are well on the way to making Queensland a world-leading clean energy superpower.

These investments and the ongoing confidence in our skilled workers and robust economy is all made possible by keeping Queenslanders safe as part of our safe and strong recovery. It is because we listen to the expert health advice and we continue to get vaccinated. Last week we welcomed the Premier, health minister and Chief Health Officer to our local Queensland vaccination clinic in the Ipswich Mall. The clinic has played a crucial role in helping over 43 per cent of eligible Ipswich residents get fully vaccinated. It is a great result and I thank and congratulate everyone who has already gotten their first or second doses, but we can and should do more. I am encouraging everyone to get vaccinated as soon as they possibly can. It has never been easier or more convenient. It not only protects the individual, it protects our families, our loved ones and our wider community. We have done a great job working together to stay safe in the middle of a global pandemic that has ravaged other countries and even other states and we have a golden window of opportunity to get vaccinated now.