



Speech By  
**Michael Healy**


**MEMBER FOR CAIRNS**

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## MOTION

### Climate Change

 **Mr HEALY** (Cairns—ALP) (12.05 pm): I rise in support of the Palaszczuk government's commitment to net zero emissions by 2050 and our commitment to 50 per cent renewables by 2030. Yesterday's Palaszczuk government announcement of a partnership with leading renewable energy and hydrogen company Fortescue Future Industries—I want to emphasise the word 'future'—will see the world's largest hydrogen equipment manufacturing facility built west of Gladstone. This will help us achieve the commitments we have made to the people of Queensland.

As the Treasurer said earlier today, this commitment from Fortescue Future Industries ends the culture wars perpetrated by the National Party on renewable energy. Visionaries like Twiggy Forrest are tired of the federal government's inaction on climate policy and are forging ahead without them. The future here is obviously an opportunity for this government. We have made commitments to the people of Queensland and we will continue to make commitments to the people of Queensland. The big question is what are those on the other side doing?

Up in my part of the world, I can guarantee members that, apart from having 3,000 beautiful reefs, 1,000 islands, 600 kinds of soft and hard coral and 1,500 different species of fish, we are seeing absolutely nothing from the federal government. The Palaszczuk Labor government acknowledges the importance of the 60,000 jobs connected to the Great Barrier Reef, the importance it has to our communities, the importance it has to our tourism industry and the fundamental contribution it makes to our economy.

We are hearing and seeing nothing from the federal government and very little from the other side here. They are contradicting the science and it is absolutely appalling. We are seeing what is happening around the world. We only have to look at what they are doing in the United States. The European Union, for example, is set to become the largest economic bloc in the world to completely ban the sale of combustion engine cars by 2035. Industry is moving ahead of government.

When people say 'give us a road plan', I say, 'It is already happening.' Industry is moving well and truly ahead and we are working with industry. The Biden administration in the United States has committed \$174 billion to accelerate supply chains for electric vehicles. The President has issued an executive order to secure critical materials for those supply chains. This is what is happening around the world.

As a result of a lack of leadership in Canberra we are being left behind. Governments like the Palaszczuk Labor government are setting goals. We are working towards zero emissions. Not only that, this is what is expected of us by the people of Queensland. I am more than confident when I talk to people in my electorate and talk to people in our region that they get the science. There is no self-interest here. I am very proud to be part of a government that recognises the importance of this and is working very hard to build new industries and secure future jobs.