




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles
MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning) (9.46 am): Queensland's economic recovery plan is already recreating jobs in our traditional industries and supporting new industries. In places like Townsville that means fast-tracking vital infrastructure projects, sustaining the construction industry and providing for future growth. Queensland's culture of innovation and collaboration between government, universities and industry gives investors a global advantage to meet the demands of a growing global economy.

Today I want to update the House about a very important project: the Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct. This will be Australia's first environmentally sustainable advanced manufacturing, processing and technology hub. The Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct is an exciting milestone for a new age in industry, with North Queensland poised to take advantage. With the support of the members for Townsville, Thuringowa and Mundingburra—our Townsville state MPs—and the Townsville mayor, the Lansdown project is the No. 1 project we want funded with the \$195 million committed to the Townsville City Deal. I want to thank the Townsville City Council, the mayor, Townsville Enterprise and the *Townsville Bulletin* for their support of the project and in particular for organising the forum that we all attended last week. It was very well attended across all sectors of the Townsville community.

Last year the state government approved zoning amendments for the precinct to enable new and emerging industries such as renewable hydrogen to easily access the Port of Townsville and tap into Asia Pacific markets. A significant portion of the precinct has already been committed to advanced battery manufacturing, clean energy and battery minerals processing. One business that has signed on is Imperium 3 with its \$3 billion lithium ion battery gigafactory. The Palaszczuk government approved Imperium 3's feasibility study for this project, which calculated it would support around 1,150 direct jobs when at full capacity.

Two other companies signed up to the precinct are Pure Minerals and Edify Energy. Pure Minerals plans to produce battery-grade nickel and cobalt sulphate from nickel cobalt ore. It will also produce high-purity alumina which is a by-product of the process. Edify Energy plans to build a renewable hydrogen electrolyser pilot plant. This will provide hydrogen to other industry parties at the precinct and further reduce their carbon footprint.

We live in a time of transformation where both our energy and industrial systems—the foundations of our economy—are undergoing profound change on a global scale. North Queensland will play an important strategic role in this transformation, not just in Australia but globally, and the Lansdown eco precinct is key to unlocking that potential and the jobs that will come with it.