



## Speech By Hon. Dr Steven Miles

## **MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA**

Record of Proceedings, 12 October 2021

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

## Hydrogen Industry

**Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure) (9.47 am): As members heard from the Premier, Sunday was a great day for Queensland. I joined the Premier, the Treasurer, the world's first hydrogen minister, the member for Gladstone and Minister for Manufacturing, the Gladstone mayor and Dr Andrew Forrest to announce a partnership that will see Gladstone become a renewable energy and renewable hydrogen powerhouse.

Fortescue Future Industries will build one of the world's largest manufacturing plants for hydrogen equipment that will produce up to two gigawatts of electrolyser capacity annually. Thanks to the Palaszczuk government's health response, we are powering ahead with Queensland's economic recovery with big game-changing projects like this one.

The facility will be up and running by early 2023. It will create 120 construction jobs and 53 operational jobs and more than 300 jobs over the life of the project, but most importantly it makes us a first mover in this kind of technology and a very attractive place to invest for other similar companies. I will have more to say about this in my speech to the CEDA Towards Net Zero forum later today alongside the Australian government's Minister for Energy and Emissions Reduction, Angus Taylor. I must say that I am very much looking forward to hearing what Australia's energy policy is today. Queensland's high energy intensive industries know that renewables and hydrogen are the key to protecting existing jobs and creating new ones.

On Monday we demonstrated exactly how manufacturing hydrogen generation equipment here in Queensland will protect Queensland industrial jobs. The Gibson Island fertiliser and ammonium factory was old when Incitec Pivot bought it. It was first built in 1969. With rising gas prices the workers there worry whether their jobs will still be there year after year. If they can use those Gladstone-made electrolysers to make green hydrogen and green ammonia, both as their own feedstock and to export around the world, they will secure existing jobs and create hundreds more.

One does not have to look far to see that the world's shift to clean energy is an opportunity for us to become a renewable energy superpower here in Queensland. That is why our \$3.34 billion Queensland Jobs Fund has renewable energy, hydrogen and manufacturing at its core. For the world to use renewable energy it will take huge amounts of new equipment to capture sun and wind and convert them to energy and fuels. We want that equipment to be built here in Queensland. Twiggy's facility, when it starts producing electrolysers in just over a year's time, will be the world's biggest, putting Queensland at the absolute centre of renewable energy jobs growth. When companies around the world buy hydrogen electrolysers they will come with a 'made in Queensland' stamp and they will have created jobs right here in Queensland.