



Speech By  
**Hon. Dr Steven Miles**


**MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA**

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Record of Proceedings, 14 October 2021

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Renewable Energy, Jobs**

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure) (10.10 am): The Palaszczuk government is committed to creating more jobs in more industries across more regions for Queensland. In fact, supporting investment in renewables is part of Queensland's plan for economic recovery from COVID-19. Three years ago the Premier met with businesses and academics in Japan to talk about the potential to export Queensland's sunshine as hydrogen. The following year we released our hydrogen strategy. Then the Premier appointed a minister for hydrogen—a world first. This year we launched the Renewable Energy and Hydrogen Jobs Fund, a \$2 billion commitment to grabbing the opportunities that are coming from clean energy.

In Townsville, we are working with Sun Metals Group as they move to operate their refinery on 100 per cent renewable energy by 2040 and use hydrogen in their trucking fleets with longer-term ambitions to export renewable hydrogen to South Korea.

The Port of Townsville has also now signed memoranda of understanding with multiple companies to investigate the export of hydrogen and there will be more developments coming very soon. By backing Queensland to become a renewable energy superpower, we will create and sustain jobs long into the future. If approved, the project will help the state reach its target of 50 per cent renewable energy by 2030. A precinct like this would encourage more investors in renewable manufacturing to come to Townsville. Our ambitious targets and investments are creating huge opportunities with more jobs in more industries right along the renewable energy supply chain.

We are also working with Townsville City Council and Townsville Enterprise Limited to build the Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct. The week before last, we declared the Townsville Energy Chemicals Hub at Lansdown a prescribed project, bringing them a step closer to building an advanced manufacturing facility that will refine ore to produce materials for new-technology batteries. The project will create around 800 construction jobs and its operational phase will create an estimated 1,700 jobs, including 300 highly skilled advanced manufacturing jobs at the facility and 1,400 jobs in support industries.

Each of these partnerships, as they come to life, means more jobs in more industries, powered by Queensland clean energy, and they happened because we got on with seizing the opportunity.