




Speech By
Patrick Weir

MEMBER FOR CONDAMINE

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PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT

Energy Plan

 **Mr WEIR** (Condamine—LNP) (2.36 pm): For two years I have called on this Palaszczuk government to deliver an energy plan. In September it was finally delivered. While I and all Queenslanders are pleased to finally see some sort of forward planning, it is fair to say that this plan has raised more questions than answers. The plan states that the \$62 billion plan will deliver 70 per cent renewable energy by 2032 and 80 per cent renewable energy by 2035. This would include 12 gigawatts of new large-scale wind and 10 gigawatts of large-scale solar.

What the plan does not say is how the government will achieve these predictions or how they will be funded. Queenslanders deserve confidence that this is not a PR exercise designed to get this government to the next election in 2024. Queenslanders rightly deserve to know the KPIs to deliver the infrastructure that they have committed to. I am informed the turbines required for these projects can have over five years in construction lead time. Significant development in transmission infrastructure will be required, let alone the land agreements for such works. Make no mistake, this will be an extraordinary task.

The government has recognised that it needs baseload power and part of this plan will see two large-scale hydro projects constructed, Pioneer Burdekin and Borumba. The minister may not realise this, but there will be significant infrastructure works required before any dam works can even start. The total spend of this renewable plan is, as I said, \$62 billion. We all know this government's appalling record when it comes to overseeing large-scale projects, whether it be Cross River Rail or the Rockhampton Ring Road, which has gone from \$1 billion to \$1.7 billion before a sod has even been turned.

The Premier and her energy minister must answer the following questions: what is the funding model; how much is the federal government committing and has the minister reached any form of agreement; how much will the state contribute; how much will the private sector contribute; and what actions will be taken by this government to inspire confidence for the private sector to invest. The Pioneer Burdekin project is \$12 billion alone. This government has committed it to be in operation by 2035, without a business case, resumptions of land or even any community consultation. Given this government's abysmal track record, how can any Queenslander possibly believe them.

This week the federal Labor Treasurer confirmed household electricity prices will rise by over 50 per cent in the next two years. The government's energy plan, on the other hand, says Queenslanders can expect lower electricity prices. Only one of these statements can be correct. The federal Labor Party was elected on the premise that they would reduce electricity bills by \$275. Queenslanders will not forget this broken promise.