



Speech By Hon. Di Farmer

MEMBER FOR BULIMBA

Record of Proceedings, 25 October 2023

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Renewable Energy

Hon. DE FARMER (Bulimba—ALP) (Minister for Employment and Small Business, Minister for Training and Skills Development and Minister for Youth Justice) (9.55 am): The state's clean energy transformation is well underway as Queensland moves towards our goal of 80 per cent renewable energy by 2035. Our energy transformation will support 100,000 new jobs by 2040, with workers in electrical trades, engineering, construction and technical areas already in high demand. This is great news for Queenslanders. However, if we want to meet our ambitious renewable energy targets we need to make sure we have the workforce in place to support it, and that is why today I am very proud to table Queensland's clean energy workforce road map—the first of its kind in Australia.

Tabled paper: Queensland Government: Report titled 'Queensland's Clean Energy Workforce Roadmap: Delivering the workforce for our energy transformation' 1739.

This is the workforce plan to support the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan by outlining what jobs will be needed, where they will be needed, what skills will be required and what we need to do to make sure all of those things are in place. It builds on the strong workforce foundations set out in the Queensland workforce strategy and the more than \$1.2 billion we invest annually to continue delivering high-quality training and creating exciting career pathways for Queenslanders. In delivering the road map we consulted with more than 90 key stakeholders, with, importantly, 95 per cent of infrastructure investment and 70 per cent of employment projected to be in regional areas. We held forums across Queensland to capture the priorities of regional communities and industry to make sure the right skills are delivered in the right locations. The road map sets out \$30 million worth of initial actions to build our future workforce, and we are talking about workers currently in the workforce and how they train for the future and those who are going to be new entrants.

The plan includes mobile regional energy jobs hubs across the Queensland renewable energy zone regions; an expansion to our Gateway to Industry Schools program to make renewable energy the 12th industry sector in the program which will mean 2,000 students at over 30 schools will be looking at a career in renewable energy; regionally tailored clean energy future skills demand/supply analysis; local jobs opportunity guides; as the Premier said, endorsing the Equal by 30 campaign principles committing to improving opportunities for women in the clean energy sector which will make Queensland the first state in Australia to sign up to this global commitment; a skills academy as part of Stanwell's Future Energy Innovation and Training Hub in Rockhampton; uplifts to state owned training infrastructure; and expansion of the VET Emerging Industries initiative to develop renewable energy industry training solutions.

Today I am also releasing the *Future energy jobs* guide, which provides information on the key occupations that will deliver Queensland's clean energy transformation. The guide helps school leavers and existing skilled workers explore career opportunities in the clean energy sector and identifies pathways to get there. It builds on the strong workforce foundations set out in the Queensland workforce

strategy and the hydrogen industry workforce development road map, and we were also the first in Australia to develop a hydrogen workforce road map. Together they are a great next step to deliver a skilled, ready workforce across the state. I thank all those involved in the development of this road map and the *Future energy jobs guide*, which will help deliver cleaner, more reliable and affordable power in Queensland for generations.

Tabled paper: Queensland Government: Report titled 'Future Energy Jobs Guide' 1740.