




Speech By
Hon. Glenn Butcher

MEMBER FOR GLADSTONE

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Manufacturing

 **Hon. GJ BUTCHER** (Gladstone—ALP) (Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water) (10.09 am): Manufacturing contributes about \$20 billion to this state's economy and employs over 180,000 Queenslanders. We want to see this industry continue to grow and grasp those opportunities that we know are coming in this state. It really is quite simple: if we can make it here, we should. There is no bigger supporter of job-generating industries in Queensland than the Palaszczuk Labor government. Everywhere I go, our manufacturers are doing amazing things. They are out there getting the job done in Queensland. As a government our role is quite clear: we need to support them to reach their full potential, and that requires a plan.

Our plan is working. We are investing directly into businesses right now and giving them a pipeline of work into the future. We have invested nearly \$200 million across our Made in Queensland grants program, our Manufacturing Hubs Grant Program, our Manufacturing Energy Efficiency Grant Program and our six manufacturing hubs in regional Queensland. This direct investment is giving manufacturers the tools that they need to grow and harness future opportunities. Together we are creating the manufacturing jobs of the future.

Thanks to our Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan, there are opportunities for Queensland manufacturers everywhere you look in this state. From refining critical minerals to producing hydrogen and building energy storage systems, manufacturing is how local communities right across Queensland power not just our nation but also the world economy. Our Energy and Jobs Plan builds on our existing investment in positioning Queensland to have a thriving clean energy economy. We are already at the forefront of becoming a renewables, hydrogen and clean energy manufacturing superpower. We are positioning Queensland as a world-leading hub for manufacturing because we want to see a future that is made in Queensland. Our state's strong manufacturing sector is ready and capable of delivering what those big projects need. We are providing manufacturers with equipment and technology, and that means that they are positioned to capitalise on the pipeline of investment we are creating through our Energy and Jobs Plan.

I have seen firsthand the innovations that are going to drive the renewables revolution from businesses such as EcoJule and Anteo Tech, which are pioneering refinements in battery technology. AGIG is blending green hydrogen with gas for an entire city's supply. Linked Group is working towards a decarbonised future and Alpha HPA is using world-leading technology to refine high-purity alumina. These are manufacturing capabilities that exist right here in Queensland and that are in demand right across the world. From what I have seen, Queensland has the capability and the capacity to be a leader in energy production and in energy storage manufacturing.

Our government's plan for manufacturing is delivering now, creating jobs and economic growth right across Queensland. Thanks to the Energy and Jobs Plan, confidence in the manufacturing sector is high. It is a plan for the future of this state and the future is bright for Queensland manufacturers, Queensland businesses and Queensland workers in this state.