




Speech By
Hon. Leanne Linard

MEMBER FOR NUDGE

Record of Proceedings, 25 May 2023

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Science Research Agreement, Bavaria

 **Hon. LM LINARD** (Nudgee—ALP) (Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (10.26 am): Later today, on behalf of the Queensland government I will sign a new science research agreement with the Bavarian state government in Germany. This will help Queensland in its drive to address climate change and to reach its goal of net zero emissions by 2050. The new agreement puts in place formal cooperation between the two governments to support collaborative university-level research on priority topics. This six-year agreement builds on existing research and industry connections between the two states which include the Queensland University of Technology's collaboration with Bavaria's University of Bayreuth and the University of Queensland's partnership with the Technical University of Munich.

The collaborative research priorities supported by this agreement include artificial intelligence, quantum technologies, additive manufacturing, life sciences biomedical research, bioeconomy and aerospace. It also includes a focus on sustainable energy including green hydrogen, synthetic fuels and energy storage, clean tech and emission reduction technologies. These are areas of particular interest to Queensland as we work to manage the risks of climate change and achieve our state's renewable energy and zero net emissions targets.

Among other things, the research opportunities resulting from the agreement will help Queensland and Bavaria develop prosperous and resilient economies that manage the risks of climate change and make the most of the many opportunities that go along with transitioning to a net zero emissions economy. Importantly, the science priorities promoted in the agreement—especially green and synthetic fuels, better energy storage, emission reduction technologies and bioeconomy—will help the state in its drive towards achieving the goals of the Queensland Climate Action Plan 2020-2030.

Queensland enjoys longstanding trade investment links and industry collaborations with Germany. Last year, we signed a Joint Declaration of Intent for Cooperation in Bioeconomy with the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research. We also have a number of existing knowledge-based partnerships with some of Germany's leading organisations such as BMW, Siemens and the German Space Agency. There are currently more than 700 German researchers and academics based here in Queensland making valuable contributions to our scientific research collaborations. We look forward to continuing to strengthen our international science partnerships as we build our reputation as a global science leader.

There is no doubt that Queensland is well positioned to be a hub for international collaboration. We are home to a vibrant science and technology community and have world-class research institutions and a strong track record of innovation. Our researchers are global leaders in fields such as environmental science, material science and biomedical research. Together, these capabilities make Queensland the perfect place to research, design and test new ideas and products. I look forward to seeing the benefits and outcomes that this new partnership delivers both here in Queensland and in Bavaria.