




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

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GAS SUPPLY AND OTHER LEGISLATION (HYDROGEN INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT) AMENDMENT BILL

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services) (4.57 pm): Acting on climate change is a key goal of the Palaszczuk Labor government. I rise to speak on this hydrogen industry development bill. The Palaszczuk government's Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan is one of the most significant nation-building, energy transition programs in the nation. In Queensland, with some of the best solar resources in the world, wherever the sun is shining or the wind is blowing we can capture it, send it or store it where it is most needed, driving down energy costs and transitioning to zero emission power.

Our plan will develop real action on climate change, cheaper energy, less carbon emissions and thousands of good jobs for Queenslanders. Independent modelling that informed the plan estimates that the industry could be worth as much as \$33.4 billion by 2040 and support more than 10,000 jobs. That is our vision, that is what this Palaszczuk Labor government will deliver and that is what this bill enables.

While the world grapples with these global challenges, Queensland is uniquely placed to make the most of this opportunity. We have vast natural renewable resources in wind and solar to manufacture green hydrogen. We have a series of publicly owned ports, saved from the seller under the LNP by this Palaszczuk Labor government, with huge export capability, including Abbot Point at Bowen and Hay Point in Mackay, along with Gladstone in Central Queensland and many others.

Queensland's green hydrogen industry is in the pipeline right now. It is the greatest opportunity in terms of jobs and action on climate change and provides an export opportunity for a generation, and that is what we aspire to. This legislation is about getting the regulatory settings right. As Queensland and the world recognises the importance of transitioning to net zero, the role that sustainable fuel sources such as hydrogen will play is increasingly evident. Not only can hydrogen help to limit emissions in hard-to-abate sectors but it will also play a key role in ensuring that Queensland prospers on the transition to net zero.

Queensland's public assets, our government owned corporations, are driving some of these significant hydrogen projects that are already under development. Whether it is the Stanwell-led consortium CQ-H2 hydrogen export project in Gladstone or CS Energy, that are in the process of delivering the Kogan Renewable Hydrogen Demonstration Plant, one of the most advanced renewable hydrogen projects in Queensland, we can drive this clean energy transformation because we kept our assets in public hands. There is a global demand for renewable hydrogen and Queensland is competing at an international level.

The amendments in this bill absolutely achieve the goals we are setting. They will provide the clarity and certainty to industry and help to support the development of a hydrogen industry in Queensland by ensuring settings are in place to transport hydrogen to markets. The bill also aims to establish a clear approvals pathway for hydrogen and hydrogen carrier pipelines, some of the critical enabling projects needed to set up this new industry in our state. These new hydrogen industries

present enormous opportunities for our regions, particularly in North Queensland and Central Queensland. The hydrogen industry in Gladstone represents a great opportunity for that region to develop a world-class hydrogen production and export market as well as deliver good jobs and clean energy for generations of Central Queenslanders.

Gladstone's strengths for developing a renewable hydrogen industry are clear. Gladstone has a long and proud history as a major energy exporter and is now diversifying into low-emission energy. The Stanwell-led CQ-H2 renewable hydrogen project in Gladstone will include a large-scale renewable hydrogen production facility at Aldoga and an export facility at the Gladstone port. In order for Stanwell to transport hydrogen from the proposed production facility to the port they will require a hydrogen pipeline, so pipeline licensing will play a vital role in the success of this clean energy industry. This bill represents an important first step to ensure the regulatory settings are right to support the emerging hydrogen industry in Gladstone and right across the state to achieve our net zero target.

The Palaszczuk Labor government is not just content with our solar revolution and our wind revolution, but hydrogen is a really important part of the clean energy transition. We have one of the most comprehensive plans in the world and especially the nation. This is another step forward to achieving that goal. It is only this government that can be trusted to do that. There has been no commitment by those opposite to the Energy and Jobs Plan in this state. The transition to clean energy certainly cannot be trusted to the stewardship of the LNP, which show no comprehension of energy policy after 8½ years in opposition.

I commend the bill and the minister for his hard work and the government for ensuring this emerging industry is facilitated. We need it for net zero. We need it for action on climate change. It is a bill that sets up Queensland for the future.