




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles
MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

Record of Proceedings, 22 August 2023

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Recycling Modernisation Fund

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympic and Paralympic Games Infrastructure) (9.47 am): The Palaszczuk government has a plan to deliver future prosperity for Queenslanders. Queensland's Big Build will ensure we have the hospitals, schools, roads and homes to cater for our growing population. Our Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan is setting the state up for more jobs and a cleaner, greener future built on renewables and capitalising on the natural assets the Sunshine State has to offer. The Energy and Jobs Plan is ambitious but we know our targets are achievable and will maintain our great lifestyle while creating good jobs and services.

We are determined to do even more to create jobs and protect our unique Queensland lifestyle. That is why the Palaszczuk and Albanese governments have teamed up to deliver the Queensland Recycling Modernisation Fund. Nearly \$13 million has been allocated to six new projects across Queensland with a focus on creating jobs, reducing landfill and boosting our recycling capacity. Thanks to this investment, more than 69,000 tonnes of waste will be diverted from Queensland landfill with projects such as that at Action Products in south-west Brisbane who took up our call to arms to create jobs by increasing recycling at their plastic manufacturing business.

Action currently manufactures plastic spacers, which are used in the construction industry to reinforce steel during a concrete pour. It is a critical part of any building process. Thanks to an \$810,000 investment, the business will now easily be able to crush down industrial wheelie bins into these plastic parts. The Action team says the building industry wants to see more recycling happen and the Palaszczuk government is proud to support them as it is making our building industry more sustainable.

This round of QRMF funds is supporting 82 construction jobs and an additional 116 operational roles. Securing the jobs of the future for Queensland is the goal of the Palaszczuk government's new-industry development strategy. The new infrastructure we have helped purchase will sort, process and transform waste plastics, paper, cardboard and glass into new products for use in agriculture, manufacturing, construction and sustainable food packaging. We know these new projects here in the south-east, on the Gold Coast, Logan, Toowoomba and also in Rockhampton will make a significant impact on our recycling footprint. The next round of grants, which focuses solely on recycling plastics, is already open. I encourage more Queensland businesses to join us on this journey to a cleaner and even more prosperous future.