



Speech By  
**Hon. Grace Grace**


**MEMBER FOR MCCONNEL**

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Record of Proceedings, 14 February 2024

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**North Queensland, Biorefinery**

 **Hon. G GRACE** (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for State Development and Infrastructure, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing) (9.48 am): The Miles Labor government is leading the charge when it comes to creating a cleaner greener future for Queensland and the world. We are investing in renewable energy, we are investing in our regions and we are placing Queensland at the forefront of new and developing industries.

Key to this transformation is the Queensland new-industry development strategy. The strategy identifies six industries essential for a decarbonised world including the bioeconomy, which covers products such as sustainable aviation fuel. With airlines publicly committing to net zero emissions by 2050, the demand for sustainable aviation fuel is only increasing. The industry is expected to be worth around \$23 billion in 2030. Right now, that fuel is only produced overseas. However, we saw an opportunity for Queensland and we are grabbing it with both hands.

I am proud to update the House that plans for a multimillion dollar biorefinery in North Queensland have taken a step forward. This week, Jet Zero Australia and LanzaJet announced the execution of a licence and engineering agreement that will accelerate the development of this product using LanzaJet's technology that uses sugarcane by-product to create jet fuel.

This follows the completion of a feasibility study for the facility that is expected to create about 1,000 construction jobs and 100 refinery jobs and produce more than 100 million litres of fuel a year. It will bring opportunities not only for the aviation industry but also for agriculture, defence and tourism with the production of renewable diesel. I am proud that the Miles government invested \$760,000 in that feasibility study alongside aviation giants Qantas and Airbus. It is a win for the economy and a win for the people of North Queensland. I know that all three Townsville members support this new industry and that the member for Townsville has met with Jet Zero and has been a big advocate for this project.

Our vision is that Queensland will be a major producer of sustainable aviation fuel. My department is working with proponents across the state, including Ampol and Japanese energy giant Eneos. We have commissioned a report that shows how Queensland can be front and centre of this exciting new industry. It is clear: the Miles government's vision for Queensland's future as a clean energy superpower is taking us to new heights and will help us reach our 80 per cent renewable energy target by 2035. The Miles government is proudly not only delivering new industry and new great regional jobs but also delivering a cleaner, greener and more prosperous future for our great state.