



Speech By  
**Hon. Grace Grace**


**MEMBER FOR MCCONNEL**

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Record of Proceedings, 16 April 2024

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Gladstone, Electrolyser Facility**

 **Hon. G GRACE** (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for State Development and Infrastructure, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing) (9.51 am): The Miles government is delivering Queensland's Big Build for a big and growing state with a big future. We are in the biggest decade of infrastructure delivery in our history, with \$90 billion plus investment over the next four years alone. We are delivering the homes, schools, hospitals, renewable energy infrastructure, roads and transport our growing state needs and we are delivering a generation's worth of good, secure, local jobs now and into the future. Good governments do not just deliver projects like this directly; good governments also create the conditions that key private businesses want to invest and thrive in. That is exactly what we are doing in the fantastic city of Gladstone, for example. I know that the minister and member for Gladstone has been a strong advocate for his community.

Last week, the Miles government held a cabinet meeting at and officially opened Fortescue's Gladstone electrolyser facility. It is the first manufacturing facility in Australia to build hydrogen electrolyzers at a commercial scale and is one of the largest globally—and it is right here in Queensland. The factory itself has the ability to manufacture enough hydrogen electrolyzers to produce over two gigawatts per annum, significantly increasing current global production. Fortescue could have made the significant investment anywhere in Australia—anywhere in the world—but they chose Queensland. A crucial factor was the support the Miles government offered through my department when it comes to things such as a single point of contact for project management and coordination, fast-tracking approvals and provision of trunk infrastructure including roads, water and power, as acknowledged by Cam Smith, CEO of Fortescue Hydrogen Systems.

The facility is the first stage of a wider green energy manufacturing centre being developed by Fortescue on the 100-hectare site located on the Aldoga industrial estate in the Gladstone State Development Area. While there we also announced development approval for the next phase, a 50-megawatt green hydrogen production facility called PEM50, paving the way for construction to begin. Collectively, the two Fortescue projects will generate 240 jobs during construction, 93 ongoing local operational jobs and, as the energy precinct continues to develop, Fortescue estimates more than 300 indirect local jobs will also be supported. It is projects such as this that bring our visionary strategies like the Queensland new-industry development strategy, the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan and the Queensland Hydrogen Industry Strategy to reality. In Gladstone and in Queensland we are proudly cementing our spot as world leaders when it comes to clean economy manufacturing jobs in hydrogen and renewable energy, supporting industries for our regions now and into the future.