



Speech By
Hon. David Janetzki

MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA SOUTH

Record of Proceedings, 16 October 2025

ENERGY ROADMAP AMENDMENT BILL 2025

Introduction

 **Hon. DC JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (11.28 am): I present a bill for an act to amend the Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Act 2024, the Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Regulation 2024 and the legislation mentioned in schedule 1 for particular purposes. I table the bill, the explanatory notes and a statement of compatibility with human rights. I nominate the Governance, Energy and Finance Committee to consider the bill.

Tabled paper: Energy Roadmap Amendment Bill 2025 [1596](#).

Tabled paper: Energy Roadmap Amendment Bill 2025, explanatory notes [1597](#).

Tabled paper: Energy Roadmap Amendment Bill 2025, statement of compatibility with human rights [1598](#).

On Friday, I shared the Crisafulli government's Energy Roadmap with Queensland. It is a balanced and pragmatic plan that improves the energy infrastructure we have today while we build what is needed for the future. When I announced the development of the road map in April, I also announced that a review of the Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Act 2024 would be undertaken to ensure legislation is fit for purpose to deliver an affordable, reliable and sustainable Queensland energy system and facilitate private sector investment in new energy generation. The outcomes of that review are reflected in the Energy Roadmap Amendment Bill I introduce today. Upon passage of this bill, the act will be known as the Energy (Infrastructure Facilitation) Act 2025.

We are delivering on the Crisafulli government's election commitment to repeal the former government's renewable energy targets. Clause 9 of the bill repeals part 2 of the act to remove the renewable energy targets and associated review and reporting requirement. Labor's renewable energy targets were always unachievable. Repealing the targets means Queensland's energy system will reflect a more pragmatic approach to our changing energy mix.

The Clean Energy Council has recently reported an investment pipeline in Queensland of more than 4.7 gigawatts of renewable generation capacity in wind and solar under construction or financially committed. That is on top of around 4.2 gigawatts of operational wind and large-scale solar capacity as at June 2025.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Pause the clock, please. Members, there is too much noise. I know it is the changeover. You can leave the chamber if you want to have a chat, please.

Mr JANETZKI: Renewable energy will continue to play an important role in Queensland's energy system, and that was made clear in the Energy Roadmap. We also need to plan to better leverage our existing energy infrastructure while we build the affordable, reliable and sustainable energy system Queenslanders need for the future. The bill will support system planning guided by revised objectives that balance the affordability and reliability of the state's energy system while keeping view of longer term sustainability.

Clause 14 amends section 16 of the act by replacing the reference to 'infrastructure blueprint' with 'system outlook'. That is important because we know the road to 2030 and beyond will be dynamic, and good energy policy is responsive to system dynamics, technological advancement and innovation.

Our energy system planning framework will identify key strategic infrastructure priorities to deliver an affordable, reliable and sustainable energy system. It also removes unnecessary prescription to enable greater flexibility to adapt to the sector outlook, consumer and community needs, and Queensland's evolving needs. This approach will de-risk Queensland's energy future, ease pressure on the state's balance sheet and ensure legislative settings facilitate private sector investment.

The public ownership targets in the amended act will be strengthened to deliver on the Crisafulli government's commitment to maintain public ownership of critical existing energy infrastructure. Queensland's state-owned power plants are among the youngest and most reliable found anywhere in Australia and the world.

Clause 10 amends the public ownership strategy contained within section 13 of the act. New section 13(1)(a) strengthens the public ownership target for generation to confirm the state will retain 100 per cent public ownership of its existing state-owned operational generation infrastructure.

New sections 13(1)(b) and (c) retain the public ownership targets for transmission, distribution and deep storage infrastructure of 100 per cent public ownership and makes them enduring. These targets are set directly under the legislation with clear, regular reporting requirements.

The Crisafulli government could not be clearer about its commitment to public ownership of existing energy infrastructure. It is the same reason we have committed to \$1.6 billion invested into the Electricity Maintenance Guarantee over the next five years to improve our generators.

The bill also makes amendments to improve, streamline and realign the act's infrastructure frameworks. Industry representatives have consistently told me that they value legislative frameworks to plan and invest in strategic transmission infrastructure.

The bill will replace the renewable energy zone framework with a new investment framework for regional energy hubs. Clause 30 amends the heading of part 6, replacing 'renewable energy zones' with 'regional energy hubs' to rename the framework in this part of the act.

Clauses 31 to 55 provide for the introduction of regional energy hubs as the replacement for renewable energy zones, providing a more streamlined legislative framework and enabling greater flexibility to achieve outcomes. It is important that no renewable energy zone has been declared to this point, and as such it is sensible to ensure that the framework can be reasonably flexible and adaptable to changing circumstances as we work towards declaring our first regional energy hubs. By properly embedding this model into the regional energy hub legislative framework, this bill will provide greater industry certainty and facilitate private sector investment into new energy infrastructure.

The bill enhances the priority transmission investment framework by streamlining and simplifying arrangements to remove unnecessary prescription and processes. This will improve the timely assessment and delivery of efficient and least-cost transmission projects for Queensland.

Clauses 15 to 28 provide for the streamlining and improved flexibility of the PTI framework. Our Energy Roadmap outlined the investment of \$221 million this financial year into Powerlink's Gladstone Project—a project critical to the long-term stability of Queensland's electricity grid, particularly in Central Queensland. This enhanced framework creates the legislative settings within which this project and future PTI projects can be delivered efficiently to ensure the long-term reliability of power.

Clause 29 omits the expiry date of 31 December 2035 for part 5, enabling the continued operation of the framework in line with meeting the strategic investment path objectives. The operation of the framework may be necessary beyond 2035, a date linked to the 2035 renewable energy target being repealed by the bill.

The Crisafulli government is committed to delivering the CopperString project. CopperString will connect the North West Minerals Province to the national electricity grid, unlocking substantial new economic opportunities for north and north-west Queensland from Townsville, Charters Towers, Hughenden and Richmond to Julia Creek, Cloncurry and Mount Isa. CopperString will also enable investment in new low-cost energy generation, harness the significant renewable resources along the eastern limb and, as I have mentioned, resources industry development along the western limb. This is why CopperString is central to our Energy Roadmap.

Clause 58 introduces a new part 8 titled 'CopperString Project'. The new part contains several divisions which form a legislative framework to support QIC's delivery of CopperString, including opportunities for government to partner with the private sector. Under the PTI framework, only Powerlink can deliver transmission projects, and these amendments are therefore necessary to give QIC the legislative authority to meet our promise to deliver CopperString. These amendments represent an

important step in our considered approach to establishing the right technical, commercial and legislative settings for CopperString. QIC will continue work on delivery and report to the government as is required.

A key objective of the bill is to streamline and simplify energy legislation to remove unnecessary complexity, prescription and processes. This ensures our legislation is flexible and responsive to evolving needs and sector dynamics and reduces administrative costs.

The bill ends the governance bodies established by the former government under the act. The bill repeals: part 9, the Energy Industry Council; the former part 8, the Queensland Energy System Advisory Board; and part 10, the Queensland Renewable Energy Jobs Advocate. The Energy Industry Council has held just one meeting. The Queensland Energy System Advisory Board has held eight meetings in total, two under the former government. I have attended one meeting.

Such governance arrangements do not need to be enshrined in legislation and have rarely been used, particularly under the former Labor government. Any necessary advice on energy issues can be sought more efficiently and flexibly through administrative means as required without the need for complex and costly legislative and governance structures.

I have established the new energy roundtable this year in preparing for and delivering the Energy Roadmap, gathering 93 attendees from across the entire spectrum of the energy sector, listening to the views and learning from the experience of key stakeholders in the energy mix.

Importantly, the Job Security Guarantee and its associated \$150 million fund will be retained as part 7 of the act, providing further confidence to workers in coal communities that under our government they will never be left behind. Under Labor's plan to arbitrarily close coal earlier, tens of thousands of regional jobs were left in the lurch. Our government is supporting these communities by keeping coal running for longer while ensuring there is hope for a long-term future for these great parts of our great state.

This bill delivers on key government election commitments and amends legislative settings to deliver on our Energy Roadmap, including CopperString.

First Reading

Hon. DC JANETZKI (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (11.38 am): I move—

That the bill be now read a first time.

Division: Question put—That the bill be now read a first time.

AYES, 50:

LNP, 50—Baillie, Barounis, Bates, Bennett, Bleijie, Boothman, Camm, Crandon, Crisafulli, Dalton, Dillon, Doolan, Dooley, Field, Frecklington, Gerber, Head, Hutton, Hunt, B. James, T. James, Janetzki, G. Kelly, Kempton, Kirkland, Krause, Langbroek, Last, Leahy, Lee, Lister, Mander, Marr, McDonald, Mickelberg, Minnikin, Molhoek, Morton, Nicholls, O'Connor, Poole, Powell, Purdie, Rowan, Simpson, Stevens, Stoker, Watts, Vorster, Young.

NOES, 34:

ALP, 33—Asif, Bailey, Bourne, Boyd, Bush, de Brenni, Dick, Enoch, Farmer, Fentiman, Grace, Healy, Howard, J. Kelly, King, Linard, Martin, McCallum, McMahon, McMillan, Mellish, Miles, Mullen, Nightingale, O'Shea, Pease, Power, Pugh, Russo, Ryan, Scanlon, Smith, Whiting.

Grn, 1—Berkman.

Pair: Perrett, Butcher.

Resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a first time.

Referral to Governance, Energy and Finance Committee

Mr SPEAKER: In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Governance, Energy and Finance Committee.