



Speech By
Glen Kelly

MEMBER FOR MIRANI

Record of Proceedings, 16 October 2025

ADJOURNMENT

Central Queensland, Road Infrastructure

 **Mr G KELLY** (Mirani—LNP) (9.05 pm): The Bruce Highway rightly gets plenty of attention—and it needs it—but across Central Queensland, and especially in my electorate of Mirani, there are many other roads in a far worse condition that rarely get a mention. Some of these sit within the Queensland Beef Corridors project. These roads carry world-class beef—the backbone of an industry worth \$1.7 billion to the national economy—yet anyone who has driven those roads knows how desperately they need sealing and upgrading.

My good friend the member for the Gregory knows these roads well and continues to advocate strongly for their repair. The Queensland Beef Corridors project shows what can be achieved when all levels of government work together. We have finally seen progress, with \$38 million released by the federal government to start early works.

In Mirani, 7.6 kilometres of the May Downs Road will finally be sealed and upgraded. The Duaringa Apis Creek Road is earmarked for future funding. That is welcome news, but it is just the start. The old Marlborough Sarina Road is sealed but it is crumbling under the heavy load of wind turbine transport. During the first stage of Clarke Creek Wind Farm it literally fell apart. Squadron Energy's \$1.6 million contribution will not go far. With stage 2 of Clarke Creek and two other renewable energy projects under construction, the damage will only worsen.

Taxpayers should not have to pay for roads destroyed by the vehicles for these projects that they were never built to carry. These are not just freight routes; they are lifelines. Two major feedlots on the Marlborough Sarina Road move more than 50,000 head of cattle every year. Families use the same roads to get their kids to school. In Clarke Creek, locals are even polling how many windscreens they have replaced because of gravel spray.

Upgrading these roads is not a luxury; it is essential for safety, productivity and fairness. Regional industries, families and communities rely on these roads every single day. It is time they received the same attention as the Bruce Highway and were fixed properly once and for all.