

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 881

asked on Thursday, 25 May 2006

MRS MILLER ASKED THE MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER POLICY (MR MICKEL)—

QUESTION:

How are people living in the electorate of Bundamba and Queenslanders in general benefiting from the Beattie Government's renewable energy initiatives?

ANSWER:

I am advised the Bundamba Electorate and Queenslanders in general can benefit in two key ways from this Government's support for renewable energy.

Firstly, all Queenslanders may purchase renewable energy through the **earth'schoice** and **Clean Energy** products supplied by ENERGEX and Ergon Energy. These Government-accredited renewable energy products reduce the environmental impact of electricity generation.

Over 68,000 households in this State purchased renewable energy through these products last year. This equates to over 122,000 megawatt hours of renewable electricity, saving almost 100,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions. This is equivalent to taking 23,809 cars off the road. The Queensland Government contributed \$63,104 in 2005-06 to the national Green Power Accreditation Program.

Secondly, Queensland Government support for renewable energy is enabling companies to position themselves as national leaders in a growing industry sector.

The Government has committed \$4.4 million through the Queensland Sustainable Energy Innovation Fund (QSEIF) to develop technology that promotes energy efficiency or that uses renewable energy sources. These projects offer Smart State solutions to reducing energy and water use. I would encourage the member for Bundamba to make local businesses aware of QSEIF.