

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 523

asked on Thursday, 15 March 2007

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**MS STONE** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR MINES AND ENERGY (MR WILSON)—

QUESTION:

With reference to climate change and as the Queensland government supports the national position to actively reduce greenhouse gas emissions through recognising the significance of clean air technologies—

How has the State Government demonstrated support for this statement?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Government is committed to the long term reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

Queensland is playing a leading role in adopting the newest and cleanest power generation systems nationally.

The adoption of more efficient coal-fired power stations, and the introduction of Queensland's 13% Gas Scheme have seen a six percent reduction in the average emissions intensity of our generation fleet from 1996-97 to 2005-06.

The development and deployment of clean coal technologies on a global scale is one of the most critical components in the global warming challenge.

Queensland is contributing \$300 million to the Clean Coal Technology Fund and I am pleased to note that Queensland will be the location of three low emission technology demonstration projects of national and international significance.

Operated by the Queensland Government-Owned Corporation, CS Energy, and in conjunction with a consortium including foreign investors, the Callide Power Station in Biloela is currently developing the world's first oxy-fuel clean coal power plant with carbon capture and storage. This \$188 million project has been endorsed by the Asia Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate, reflecting the project's importance to the national and international energy communities.

Additionally, ZeroGen Pty Ltd is also developing an 80 megawatt integrated gasification combined cycle power plant with carbon capture and storage in Central Queensland.

These projects build on the State's already impressive research and development capabilities located in Pullenvale, which include CSIRO, the Centre for Low Emission Technology and the Cooperative Research Centre for Coal in Sustainable Development.

The Queensland Government is also supporting energy efficiency and renewable energy – for example through the \$14.25 million Energy Choices program, and \$5 million over five years for the Townsville Solar City Project.

The Townsville Solar City Project, which is led by the Government Owned Corporation, Ergon Energy, will install 500 solar Photovoltaic systems and 2,500 smart meters, as well as perform 1,700 energy audits. It is expected that the project will generate 11 gigawatt hours of renewable energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by over 50,000 tonnes to 2013.

This is equivalent to taking 1,700 cars off the road over the life of the project.