

## Question on Notice

No. 598

Asked on Tuesday 29 April 2008

**Mrs Attwood** asked the Deputy Premier and Minister for Infrastructure and Planning (MR LUCAS)—

QUESTION:

Will he provide details of the strategies of the Coal Taskforce?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Mount Ommaney for her question.

The Coal Infrastructure Program of Actions was established in 2005 as a blueprint for expansion of the infrastructure required to deliver increased coal exports relative to demand through to 2010, covering transport, water, energy, skills and housing requirements.

I am advised that the Coal Infrastructure Taskforce is working to:

- Facilitate the implementation of the Queensland Government's Coal Infrastructure Program of Actions;
- Develop the Queensland Coal Infrastructure Strategic Plan; and
- Identify demand for and usage potential of Coal Seam Gas Water.

The update of the Coal Infrastructure Program of Actions in March 2008 has identified infrastructure projects to 2015 valued at an estimated \$19.3 billion, including:

- \$1 billion in committed and \$4.6 billion in planned rail infrastructure;
- \$2.1 billion in additional rollingstock;
- \$2.5 billion in committed and \$7.2 billion in planned port infrastructure;
- \$445 million in water infrastructure;
- \$1.3 billion in committed and planned energy infrastructure;
- \$25 million in skills development; and
- \$31 million in housing and planning.

I am also advised that significant planning work is currently underway for a number of major infrastructure projects which will significantly contribute to increased export capacity in Queensland. These projects include:

- Goonyella-Abbot Point Rail Expansion Project (GAPREP) (Northern Missing Link);
- Abbot Point Stage 3 port expansion to 50Mtpa;
- Surat Basin Railway (Southern Missing Link); and
- Stage 1 of the Wiggins Island Coal Terminal development having a capacity of 25 Mtpa.

To date, the Coal Infrastructure Program of Actions has delivered an additional 36Mtpa to the coal network in Queensland. Current nominal capacity across all systems stands at approximately 205Mtpa and the Program plans for capacity expansion, which if implemented, will deliver a total capacity to a level around 400Mtpa by approximately 2020.

The Coal Infrastructure Program of Actions demonstrates the Queensland Government and industry's commitment to growth and expansion of infrastructure to capitalise on world demand for this most important resource.

In addition, I have been informed that the Coal Infrastructure Strategic Plan is being developed by the Coal Infrastructure Taskforce to identify coal industry infrastructure requirements to 2027. This will include an examination of transport, regional infrastructure, water, power, roads, skills and housing requirements.

The Coal Infrastructure Strategic Plan will:

- provide a dynamic medium to long-term framework to allow for Whole-of-Government and industry planning to ensure the effective and timely delivery of coal related infrastructure;
- provide a comprehensive understanding of expected future coal demand and production;
- detail the hard and soft infrastructure required to meet expected coal production increases, including community infrastructure;
- identify triggers, dependencies and lead times to ensure the timely provision of infrastructure to meet the needs of industry; and
- be responsive to future changes in energy policy which may impact on coal production.

Advice to me is that the Plan is based on forecast demand for Queensland's coal rising to a level of 400Mtpa by 2027. It describes the sequence and triggers for timely infrastructure delivery to satisfy this level of demand and is consistent with the expansion plans detailed in the Coal Infrastructure Program of Actions.

Consultation on the Plan has occurred with industry stakeholders and will continue until July 2008. I understand that the Plan is expected to be finalised by the third quarter of 2008, and will be updated on a yearly basis to ensure it accurately reflects the dynamics of the world coal market.