QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 481

asked on Tuesday, 23 March 2010

MRS ATTWOOD ASKED THE MINISTER FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY (MS JONES)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the success of the Low Carbon Diet Community Funding Program across Queensland?

ANSWER:

The Low Carbon Diet is one of the Queensland Government's initiatives to help the State reach its Q2 target to reduce carbon emissions by one third by 2020. The Diet is designed to help Queenslanders reduce their carbon footprint at home and in their communities by making simple lifestyle changes. When individuals sign up for the program they are encouraged to reduce their carbon footprint by up to 2000 kilograms in 30 days.

From July 2008 to June 2010, the Queensland Government is undertaking a \$1 million Low Carbon Diet Community Funding Program to assist not-for-profit, incorporated organisations and local councils, to implement the Low Carbon Diet in their local areas. The four round funding program offered grants of between \$2,000 and \$10,000 (GST exclusive) to assist these groups to encourage community members to adopt low carbon lifestyles.

Through the program, a total of almost \$800,000 in Low Carbon Diet Community Funding will have been provided to 86 community groups.

The standard of applications received in all rounds of the Low Carbon Diet Community Funding Program has been excellent and applications have been received from across Queensland – from Cairns to Longreach to Texas in the south of the State.

Funding recipients have demonstrated application of the Low Carbon Diet, including community educational forums, house to house carbon reduction challenges and sustainability expos. For example, the Noosa District Landcare Group is promoting the Low Carbon Diet message to 10 local schools and up to 300 Landcare members.

Through the life of the program, the Low Carbon Diet Community Funding program is expected to reach approximately 60,000 households, or 168,000 Queenslanders, with an estimated 336,000 tonne reduction in CO2 emissions.