

Question on Notice

No. 514

Asked on Thursday, 4 June 2015

MR KATTER asked the Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy and Water Supply (HON M BAILEY) —

QUESTION:

With reference to the Cloncurry to Duchess Road—

Is the Minister aware (a) of the significant savings that are available from the large stockpiles of road building material along the Cloncurry to Duchess Road, as contribution for road user fees from a nearby mining operation, and (b) the strategic importance of this road given that the lack of wet weather access impacts heavily on the two large mining operations?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Mount Isa for the question.

- (a) I am aware of the gravel material secured from mining operator Chinova Resources through road impact contributions.

I am advised that the stockpiled material is valued at \$2.3 million, and will provide a valuable resource for potential pave and seal projects on the North West Queensland road network.

- (b) I also recognise the local and regional importance of the Cloncurry–Duchess Road as a vital transport route for the local community as well as mining and agricultural industries.

I note that sealing works on the Cloncurry–Duchess Road would significantly improve its efficiency and functionality. Such works would improve capacity, support the resource sector growth and add value to existing and future mining operations. Importantly, such works would also improve safety for all road users and reduce maintenance costs.

I also note that the 2015-2016 State Budget will be handed down by the Treasurer on 14 July 2015 and will detail the infrastructure to be funded by the Palaszczuk Government.