QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 2154

asked on Thursday, 10 November 2016

DR ROWAN ASKED THE MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE PROTECTION AND MINISTER FOR NATIONAL PARKS AND THE GREAT BARRIER REEF (HON DR S MILES)—

QUESTION:

With reference to an interview on ABC Radio in which the Minister stated that 'temperatures had risen by one degree' while also indicating climate change was threatening the survival of turtles on the Great Barrier Reef—

Will the Minister advise if he was referring to local temperatures or international measures and over what time period?

ANSWER:

This statement refers to average temperatures in Queensland. The Queensland State of the Environment Report 2015 reveals that the annual average temperature across Queensland has increased by approximately 1.1 degree Celsius since 1910. The Queensland climate is highly variable but there is a clear shift to warmer average temperatures, particularly in recent decades.

While the Member continues to question the science of climate change, the Palaszczuk Government is committed to understanding how increased temperatures will affect Queensland, adapting to the impacts we cannot avoid, and transitioning the Queensland economy to a clean energy future.