

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1139

asked on Thursday, 6 September 2018

---

**MR S BENNETT** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND ENERGY (HON DR A LYNHAM)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise (a) whether the Queensland Government entered into contracts for difference (CFDs) with renewable energy generators and (b) the total expense of these agreements (listed separately by project)?

ANSWER:

- (a) The Queensland Government has entered into contracts for difference (CFDs) with the four projects supported through the Solar 150 initiative.

Through CFDs provided under Solar 150, the government will provide long-term revenue guarantees to the Whitsunday, Kidston, Longreach and Oakey solar farms.

CFDs have been widely used in a number of jurisdictions both in Australia and overseas, and have been shown to be amongst the most efficient ways to support renewable energy projects.

- (b) Information on the precise expenses for each of the individual agreements relating to Solar 150 cannot be released publicly, as this would jeopardise negotiations in the Renewables 400 process, is subject to commercial-in-confidence, and will ultimately change over the life of the projects.

It is important to note, however, that the revenue guarantee provided through Solar 150 was set through a competitive process requiring projects to submit bids to the Queensland Government. Solar 150 also leveraged \$21.9 million in capital funding provided by the Australian Renewable Energy Agency.

The combination of competition for support and ARENA capital contributions significantly reduced the cost and risk of Solar 150 to the state and ensured that, at the time the contracts were entered, Solar 150 represented the lowest cost solar projects in the state.