

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1947

asked on Thursday, 28 November 2019

MR J KELLY ASKED THE MINISTER FOR STATE DEVELOPMENT, MANUFACTURING, INFRASTRUCTURE AND PLANNING (HON C DICK)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise how the W2B Fund is benefitting the people of Queensland?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Waste to Biofutures Fund (W2B Fund) provides \$5 million to support the development of waste-to-biofutures projects in Queensland. The W2B Fund is aligned with the Advance Queensland Biofutures 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan, which outlines the Queensland Government's vision for the sector.

A key objective of the W2B Fund is to facilitate the commercialisation of Queensland's Biofutures industry and grow the state's capacity to produce bioenergy, biofuels and bioproducts.

On 13 November 2019 I announced that \$1.9 million had been awarded to six businesses and universities to undertake innovative work in waste-to-bioproducts projects. The six projects will create 85 jobs during construction and operation and are collectively valued at more than \$22 million. Many of these benefits are destined for Queensland's regions.

For example, in Bundaberg, Energy360 is developing a bioenergy plant and electric vehicle charging station with the potential to power Bundaberg Regional Council's waste-recovery trucks.

In Toowoomba, the University of Southern Queensland is aiming to create granulated fertilisers from biosolids for use in existing agricultural machinery.

While in South East Queensland, BE Power Solutions is creating a biogas-solar power plant at the AJ Bush site at Bromelton, providing power to both the facility and the grid.

The W2B Fund is one initiative being used to achieve the Queensland Government's long-term vision to attract investment, develop new industries and grow jobs in the biofutures and resource recovery sectors.

More funding announcements will soon be made.