

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 801

asked on Wednesday, 15 May 2019

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**MR S ANDREW** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR STATE DEVELOPMENT, MANUFACTURING, INFRASTRUCTURE AND PLANNING (HON C DICK)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the impacts of mining booms on the supply and cost of housing in the Mirani Electorate and in light of the Bowen Basin upswing —

Will the Minister advise on this government's plans to boost construction of residential housing across the Mirani Electorate to better match the existing capacity of the region to support local employment?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Government is working to ensure residents of communities near large resource projects benefit from these projects, by introducing the *Strong and Sustainable Resource Communities Act 2017* (SSRC Act) that commenced in early 2018.

The Coordinator-General's enhanced social impact assessment guideline under the SSRC Act is mandatory for all large resource projects undergoing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process in Queensland. A social impact management plan must be produced for each project and contain a housing and accommodation strategy.

On 13 May 2019, the Coordinator-General approved the \$1 billion Olive Downs project, a significant regional project expected to create 1,000 operational jobs and 500 jobs during construction. This project had the first social impact assessment undertaken for a large resource project under the SSRC Act.

The Coordinator-General's approval included stringent conditions to manage social impacts, including that the proponent must reach agreement with the Isaac Regional Council on the project's workforce housing and accommodation management plan.

The Olive Downs EIS also included the proponent's commitment to provide financial investment in the housing and rental market within the Isaac Regional Council local government area.