

**Question on Notice**

**No. 934**

**Asked on 11 June 2019**

**MR R MOLHOEK** ASKED MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS (HON G GRACE)

QUESTION:

Will the Minister outline the total cost to taxpayers of the appeal against the decision of the Supreme Court in the matter of State of Queensland v Maryrorough Solar Pty Ltd?

ANSWER:

The Government is yet to receive the invoice for the Court of Appeal matter and the quantum of costs awarded against the Government are yet to be determined.

The Government acted on the advice of an expert safety panel and Crown Law in relation to the making of the now invalidated section 73A of the *Electrical Safety Regulation 2013*.

The decision to appeal the Supreme Court decision was made following legal advice there were solid grounds for this course of action.

Safety is paramount and because of the often fatal nature of workplace incidents involving electricity and concerns around the rapid pace of construction in the solar farm industry, the Government considered it was necessary to defend the regulation and appeal the Supreme Court's decision to ensure clarity on this important matter. It was important to get clarity on this matter to inform possible future legislative and regulation making requirements.