

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 163

asked on Tuesday, 18 February 2020

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise in relation to the government's proposed water pipeline from Toowoomba to Warwick (a) which entity will operate the pipeline and associated infrastructure once constructed, (b) will the cost of the construction and operation of the pipeline be subject to any form of cost recovery against water users, (c) what is the expected cost of the pipeline's construction and (d) what is the expected cost per megalitre of water delivered to Warwick through the pipeline?

ANSWER:

The Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy is working with the Toowoomba Regional Council, the Southern Downs Regional Council and Seqwater to plan and deliver the pipeline.

Seqwater is undertaking the feasibility study for the pipeline which will include estimates of infrastructure delivery costs.

The project is still being costed; however, delivering water security for Warwick is vital.

The details of ownership, operational and governance arrangements, and water pricing for the pipeline are the subject of work currently being undertaken by the Queensland Treasury Corporation.

The work is being done alongside planning activities so as not to delay construction of this critical contingency supply infrastructure. Decisions on ownership and operation will be made in consultation with the Toowoomba and Southern Downs regional councils and Seqwater once the Queensland Treasury Corporation assessment is completed.