

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 668**  
**Asked on Wednesday, 26 May 2021**

**MR P WEIR** ASKED MINISTER FOR ENERGY, RENEWABLES AND HYDROGEN AND MINISTER FOR PUBLIC WORKS AND PROCUREMENT (HON M DE BRENNI)

With reference to the 50 percent renewables target by 2030 set by the State Government—

Will the Minister advise what work has commenced on providing a transition plan for industry?

**ANSWER**

Since the Palaszczuk Government was elected 44 large scale renewable energy projects have been constructed or committed, representing \$9.9 billion in investment and creating 7,000 jobs in regional Queensland.

This has resulted in reaching 20% renewable energy consumed at the end of 2020.

This is in stark contrast to the Newman Government where not a single renewable project was constructed.

As the Member would be aware the Government has commitment \$2 billion to the Renewable Energy and Hydrogen Jobs Fund to grow publicly owned renewables, create jobs in manufacturing and construction as we head towards our target of 50% renewable energy by 2030.

Additionally, in August 2020, the Queensland Government announced \$145 million to establish three Queensland renewable energy zones (QREZ) – the Northern, Central, and Southern QREZ.

The first stage of the Northern QREZ is commencing with the Queensland Government committing \$40M to upgrade the coastal circuit transmission lines between Townsville and Cairns in Far North Queensland.

The transmission works will enable the connection and development of Neoen Australia's Kaban Green Power Hub project, a 157 megawatt wind farm located in the Atherton Tablelands south-west of Cairns. The Kaban wind farm is worth over \$370 million and expected to support around 250 construction jobs.

Further work is underway on the first stages of developing the Central and Southern QREZ. An online Registration of Interest survey in September 2020 recorded interest from 192 projects representing over 60,000 megawatts of project capacity, billions of dollars of investment and thousands of construction jobs, demonstrating the significant further potential of QREZ to facilitate renewable energy development.

Looking further ahead, the Government has committed \$22 million for a detailed design and cost analysis for a one gigawatt pumped hydro project at Borumba Dam. This investment will enable us to progress a multi-billion-dollar construction project that would leverage billions more in clean energy investment and support thousands of jobs.