

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 1086**  
**Asked on Friday, 14 October 2022**

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

With reference to the Premier's commitment to the CopperString project with the release of the Energy and Jobs Plan on 29 September and the Minister's statement 'The State Government will link renewable energy generators in North West Queensland to the national electricity market'—

Will the Minister advise when the State Government will build CopperString and link renewable energy generators in North West Queensland to the national electricity grid?

**ANSWER**

The Queensland Government is committed to a secure, affordable and clean electricity supply for North Queensland and to supporting economic and employment opportunities from renewable generation investment.

The Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan commits Queensland to 70 per cent renewable energy by 2032 and a strong transmission network is critical to achieve this target. A foundation of the Plan is a new SuperGrid transmission backbone, of around 1,500 km transmission lines. This backbone includes a transmission line from Townsville to Hughenden to unlock more renewables and provide a critical step to connecting Mount Isa to the grid. The Queensland Government will invest \$285 million to undertake early works on the first two stages of the backbone transmission, with early design and planning for the backbone transmission to be delivered by 2024.

The Queensland Government is working with the project proponents of the Copperstring project to develop a viable Government-led model for the connection to Mount Isa and the North-West Minerals Province. The Queensland Government is also seeking support from the Australian Government to enable this infrastructure project to proceed.

The Queensland Government will continue to assess and support investments which produce the greatest benefit for new renewable energy projects and jobs in North Queensland in accordance with the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan.