

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1420

asked on 14 November 2023

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**MR S ANDREW** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND MANUFACTURING AND MINISTER FOR WATER (HON G BUTCHER)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Gracemere to Mount Morgan Pipeline—

Will the Minister advise (a) why the project cost has more than doubled in twelve months, jumping from \$40.4m in 2022 to \$88.2m in 2023 and (b) whether the \$88.2m spend is being made on a 'costs recovery basis', with the project's cost to be later passed on to local households in their water utility bills?

ANSWER:

- a) The Gracemere to Mount Morgan Pipeline is being delivered by Rockhampton Regional Council.

The pipeline is vital for water security in Mount Morgan and the Palaszczuk Government is proud to support Council with this important project by committing \$40.4 million in funding. The Albanese Government has also committed \$30 million.

Council have undertaken a competitive tender to get the best value for the pipeline. As part of the project, Council will use the opportunity to also deliver complementary works alongside the pipeline route to provide wider community benefits and ensure the water needs of Mount Morgan and Gracemere are met. These complementary works include additional reservoir and pumping capacity to support anticipated growth in Gracemere and widening Razorback Road.

While the complementary works weren't in the original project scope, delivery of the pipeline project is a good opportunity for Council to deliver these works. Combined, the Mount Morgan Pipeline project and complementary works bring the total project cost to \$88.2 million.

- b) The project is being delivered by Rockhampton Regional Council and any questions regarding ongoing implications for water utility bills are a matter for Council.