

Question on Notice

No. 723

Asked on 25 May 2023

MR S KNUTH ASKED TREASURER AND MINISTER FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT (HON C DICK)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Nerada Tea plantation on the Atherton tablelands which has been hit by rising supply chain costs, falling consumption patterns and price pressure from major supermarkets, which employs 21 locals and which is in severe danger of closing at the end of June 2023 as reported in the media recently—

Will the Treasurer step in and provide emergency funding to keep jobs and the operation alive while the factory is retooled to produce the highly lucrative demand for powdered and liquid tea-derivatives?

ANSWER:

Queensland Treasury staff have met with Nerada Tea representatives along with regional officers from the Departments of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning; Agriculture and Fisheries; and Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water.

All agencies discussed possible programs to support Nerada Tea. Nerada Tea representatives confirmed their business case for change horizon is two years. Agency representatives agreed to continue engagement on current and future funding programs that align with Nerada Tea's circumstances.