

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 880

asked on Friday, 16 June 2023

MR L WALKER ASKED THE MINISTER FOR RESOURCES (HON S STEWART)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise what the government is doing to support the construction of infrastructure needed for the ongoing development of the resources industry in Queensland?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Government has long supported the development of common user infrastructure such as roads, rail, ports and electricity to stimulate investment and assist major resource developments to proceed.

While traditional infrastructure will remain important, the government is also committed to investing in common user infrastructure for the resources sector and ensuring growth in critical mineral exploration and extraction, and other value-adding industries across Queensland.

Queensland has some of the world's richest mineral-producing areas—which in North Queensland alone is estimated to be worth \$500 billion.

For example:

- The Queensland Government is investing \$5 billion to build the 1100 km CopperString 2032 project to connect the North West Minerals Province with Australia's largest renewable energy zone to mine and process critical minerals with renewable energy.
- \$75 million in funding has been allocated to build the Queensland Resources Common User Facility in Townsville to support the extraction and production of critical minerals, and to accelerate investment in advanced mineral manufacturing opportunities and enable development of supply chain and supporting industries in Queensland.
- The government is investing a further \$100 million through the Critical Minerals and Battery Technology Fund to support new investments in projects.
- The government is supporting the Resources Centre of Excellence in Mackay to expand and develop a new Future Industries Delivery Hub to drive research and innovation, and to increase resource export opportunities.
- \$5 million has also been allocated to investigate the feasibility of a new gas pipeline in the Bowen Basin, to help unlock additional gas resources and bring these to market.
- The government's Energy and Jobs Plan will also transform the state into a renewable energy powerhouse—delivering clean, reliable and affordable power for generations, supporting infrastructure investment in the regions and 100,000 jobs across Queensland by 2040.