

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 311

asked on 20 March 2024

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

QUESTION:

With reference to Mount Isa possibly accessing cheaper and more readily available water from both Lake Moondarra and Lake Julius—

Will the Minister commit to immediate talks with Mount Isa City Council with a view to repatriating ownership to local authorities delivering reduced cost of water to Mount Isa residents?

ANSWER:

I am always open to Mount Isa Water Board, Mount Isa City Council and other stakeholders coming together to discuss practical ways to drive down water prices.

Under the existing Mount Isa Water Board (MIWB) structure, 50 per cent of any dividend and tax equivalent payments from MIWB are returned to the Mount Isa City Council. In addition, the Queensland Government subsidises Cloncurry's water supply through a Community Service Obligation payment, totalling \$7 million in 2023-24.

I regularly meet with Mount Isa City Council, and councils across the state, and I am happy to meet with the new mayor to discuss important matters in the Mount Isa region, including water prices and water proposals.