

Question on Notice

No. 163

Asked on 13 March 2025

MR R KATTER ASKED TREASURER, MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND MINISTER FOR HOME OWNERSHIP (HON D JANETZKI)—

QUESTION:

With reference to growing community concerns over the conduct of Powerlink's CEO and members of the Board in relation to delivery of the CopperString project—

Will the Treasurer advise if the Treasurer is aware of (a) commercial dealings between Central Petroleum and APA Group which may be relevant to the independence of Powerlink Board chair Kathy Hirschfeld and (b) advice or comments from Powerlink CEO, Paul Simshauser, to the Treasurer or other government officers that contradict Powerlink's advocacy for, and promotion of, the CopperString project to the people of North West Queensland?

ANSWER:

Governance of Government Owned Corporations (GOCs) is underpinned by a robust overarching legislative and policy framework, designed to uphold independence and accountability.

The Queensland Government expects the highest standards of governance across all government owned entities. Any direct or perceived conflicts of interest across GOC boards are managed by GOCs in accordance with the *Corporate Governance Guidelines for Government Owned Corporations* and GOC conflict of interest policies.

The Government does not interfere in private commercial transactions between independent organisations.

The Government will continue to work collaboratively with all stakeholders to deliver the best outcomes for Queensland.