




Speech By
Hon. Jeff Seeney

MEMBER FOR CALLIDE

Record of Proceedings, 4 March 2014

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Galilee Basin Development Strategy

 **Hon. JW SEENEY** (Callide—LNP) (Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning) (9.45 am): In November 2013 the Premier released the Galilee Basin Development Strategy to facilitate the future development of the Galilee Basin and grow the resources sector as one of the four pillars of the Queensland economy. The development of the Galilee Basin mines and the infrastructure to support them is set to deliver the next wave of resource sector jobs to Queenslanders. This government is determined to grow the business of the state, and we will do all we can to facilitate the progression of the projects proposed for the Galilee Basin and the jobs that they provide.

This government promised to deliver better infrastructure and better planning, and that is precisely what we are doing as a critical part of Queensland with our Galilee Basin Development Strategy. The development of proposed mines such as the Alpha, Kevin's Corner and Carmichael coalmines have the potential to deliver up to 28,000 new jobs for Queenslanders: 15,000 jobs are forecast to be created during construction and over 13,000 jobs when the mines are operational. It is predicted that these projects will generate an investment of \$28.4 billion—investment dollars that have the potential to spin not only through local economies but right across the state economy.

The state government is continuing to ensure that these proposed projects get the support they need to come to fruition. Queensland's independent Coordinator-General has begun consultation on a proposed Galilee Basin state development area to facilitate the timely delivery of critical infrastructure like rail and provide capacity for all miners to access the port of Abbot Point. In early January the Coordinator-General wrote to over 400 stakeholders including landholders, native title representative bodies, local governments and proponents. Detailed information on the Galilee Basin state development area has been provided in the form of mapping, a draft development scheme and fact sheets.

It is very important to highlight yet again that only a very small fraction of the land currently identified within the proposed state development area will be required for rail infrastructure, and the state development area will shrink to reflect the first mover's preferred rail corridor as soon as that is identified. Queensland needs new resource sector jobs, and the Galilee Basin projects will be critical in providing them for Queenslanders today and generations to come.