

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1446

asked on Wednesday, 18 September 2019

MR D LAST ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND ENERGY (HON DR A LYNHAM)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the proposed hydro-electric power station on the Burdekin Falls Dam—

Will the Minister provide an update on how much of the \$100 m announced by the government in 2017 has been re-invested to date on undertaking a feasibility study and a business case for this important North Queensland project?

ANSWER:

CleanCo has been reallocated the full \$100 million for the proposed Burdekin Falls Dam hydro-electric power station pending further consideration of this project. In the event the project is not progressed, CleanCo will be required to invest this funding in a regional renewable energy project to support regional jobs and help the government reach its 50 per cent renewable energy target by 2030.

This forms part of the Queensland Government's commitment of \$250 million over two years—\$150 million in 2019–20 and \$100 million in 2020–21—for CleanCo to build, own and operate new commercial renewable energy generation in Queensland.

CleanCo is best placed to deliver innovative commercial projects, including hydro-electric investments. CleanCo will review the case for the Burdekin Falls Dam hydro-electric power station, and make recommendations about investments that support a portfolio of assets that is sustainable and profitable.

CleanCo has a mandate to support the development of 1000 megawatts of new renewable energy generation by 2025, putting ongoing downward pressure on electricity prices, and growing investment and jobs in the renewable energy sector.