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July 2010

Toward Q2 eNews

Welcome to the July edition of Toward Q2 eNews.

Last year we put in place a tough economic strategy to protect our building program and protect Queensland jobs throughout the global financial crisis. Our strategy to maintain a massive building program has seen us create jobs for ten months straight. The recent State Budget builds on this commitment with an investment of \$17.1 billion in infrastructure in 2010-11.

We are getting on with the job of delivering vital infrastructure for the future and we're generating jobs at a time when jobs and job security are more important than ever. We made a commitment to create 100,000 jobs and we are well on our way to meeting that target.

Queensland is on track to become the solar state with five Queensland projects shortlisted for funding under the Solar Flagships program. It is also good to see that people are keen to make the switch to solar and help us reduce Queensland's carbon footprint.

These programs are helping us build strong foundations for the future, and making Tomorrow's Queensland strong, green, smart, healthy and fair.

Anna Bligh MP
Premier of Queensland

Queensland the jobs capital of Australia



The government's economic strategy to secure and create jobs, and build a strong economic future for Queensland is producing results.

Queensland is the jobs generating capital of Australia, and has now enjoyed ten straight months of jobs creation. For the month of May, almost half of all the jobs created in Australia were created in Queensland.

The government remains committed to meeting our target of 100,000 jobs in three years and we are close to reaching the half way mark. This has been achieved through things like our massive building program and other jobs-generating initiatives including the lowest payroll tax in the nation, tax breaks for employers of apprentices and trainees, and unemployment programs like our Green Army that are creating new jobs and protecting our lifestyle and environment.

Photo courtesy of Queensland Motorways.

Building for Queensland's future



In the latest State Budget the government announced a \$17.1 billion investment in infrastructure for Queensland in 2010-11. The building program will protect jobs, and deliver vital infrastructure that meets the challenges of population growth.

The building program, the largest of any state in the country, will protect 106,000 jobs and deliver infrastructure like roads, hospitals and schools.

The government is spending more than \$7.3 billion on roads and transport infrastructure across the state, building or upgrading nine major hospitals and

building more schools and training facilities to improve Queenslanders' education and skills.

Building stronger regions



The 2010-11 State Budget recognises the importance of Queensland's regions and the critical role they play in Queensland's strength. That's why more than 57 per cent of the \$17.1 billion building program has been committed to projects outside Brisbane.

This includes investment of more than \$1.3 billion in improved and safer roads outside the South East Queensland corner, and new infrastructure plans that will guide regional growth.

The introduction of the \$4000 [Regional First Home Owner Grant](#) means a first home owner buying a new home in the regions will receive \$11,000 in cash incentives toward the cost of that house.

The government's \$10 million Regional Queensland Investment Incentives Scheme will also help drive business attraction initiatives outside the Greater Brisbane area.

Queensland's regions with their uniqueness and diversity are the key building blocks of Queensland. By investing there we are building the foundations for [creating a diverse economy powered by bright ideas](#).

Photo courtesy of Main Roads.

Sunshine state on track to become a solar state



Five Queensland projects have been shortlisted for funding under the \$1.5 billion Solar Flagships program, demonstrating Queensland's potential to lead the country in the development of renewable energy sources, particularly solar.

The Solar Flagships program will support the construction of up to four large scale solar generation plants in Australia. The initial phase of the project is focused on the construction of two large scale solar plants using photovoltaic technologies or solar thermal.

Queensland's dominance on the shortlist demonstrates our state's potential to lead the country in the development of renewable energy sources, particularly solar.

The eight shortlisted projects will now share in up to \$15 million of Federal funding, to develop pre-feasibility studies. The Queensland projects will work closely with the Office of Clean Energy over the coming months to further develop their proposals in preparation for the next stage of the process.

The five Queensland shortlisted projects are:

- AGL Energy proposes a multi-site project using thin film cadmium telluride solar photovoltaic technology generating up to 150MW at multiple sites across Australia including ACT, NSW, Vic, Qld and SA.
- ACCIONA Energy Oceania proposes to generate 200MW using solar thermal parabolic trough technology at a single site in either Queensland or South Australia.
- Parsons Brinckerhoff proposes to construct a 150MW solar thermal parabolic trough power station at Kogan Creek in Queensland.
- Wind Prospect CWP proposes to use linear fresnel technology at Kogan Creek in Queensland to construct a 250MW power plant.
- Transfield proposes to convert the Collinsville coal-fired power station in Queensland into a 150MW solar thermal linear fresnel power plant.

The Queensland Government will continue to support energy efficiency measures and green technologies, to [reduce Queensland's carbon footprint](#).

Photo by Lyle Radford.

Do the bright thing



Queensland families, businesses and community groups are encouraged to do the bright thing by switching to solar to save money on their electricity bill, and help [reduce Queensland's carbon footprint](#).

The government is committed to turning Queensland into the solar state by doubling our state's solar energy capacity over the next five years. Make the most of our brilliant sun through a range of measures including:

- [New Solar Hot Water Rebate](#)
- [Solar Bonus Scheme](#)
- [Solar Sports and Communities Grant](#).

For further information on how you can reduce your electricity costs and greenhouse gas emissions visit [Do the bright thing](#) or phone 13 GET SOLAR or 13 438 76527.

Photo by Adam Creed.

Share your ideas

What can we do individually, as communities and as a state to put Queensland out in front?

Share your ideas:

- **online** [Share your ideas form](#)
- **by phone** 1800 082 105
- **by mail** Performance and Delivery Office, PO Box 15185, City East QLD, 4002

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