Our performance

Objective 2: Facilitate a major projects pipeline

Key achievements

The department’s achievements during 2016–17 in facilitating a pipeline of strategic projects for Queensland included:

- completion of all Gold Coast 2018 (GC2018) Commonwealth Games competition venues; opening the new Coomera Indoor Sports Centre, Queensland State Velodrome, Carrara Sport and Leisure Centre; finalising upgrades of the Nerang Mountain Bike Trail, Carrara Stadium, Belmont Shooting Complex and the Gold Coast Hockey Centre. During design and construction, this $320 million program of work has supported up to 1000 jobs, with the $550 million Games Village supporting up to 1500 jobs

- progressed works for the new $44 million Queensland State Netball Centre, at Nathan

- handed over the Queen’s Wharf Brisbane site to Destination Brisbane Consortium on 1 January 2017

- submission of the Queen’s Wharf Brisbane Plan of Development (PoD) on 30 May 2017

- continued engagement with proponents to develop regional Integrated Resort Developments (IRDs)

- five private sector projects commenced construction or operations with facilitation support, delivering:
  - $490 million capital expenditure
  - 530 construction jobs
  - up to 18 current and 90 future operational jobs

- EISs underway on 14 coordinated projects (as at 30 June 2017), worth a total capital value of around $20.8 billion with potential to create around 33,900 construction and operational jobs

- the Coordinator-General declared three sections of the Inland Rail Project as coordinated projects as well as the Olive Downs mining project, South Burnett Coal Project and KUR-World Integrated Eco-Resort Development

- the Coordinator-General approved three projects and released environmental impact assessment reports for Lower Fitzroy River Infrastructure, Coopers Gap Wind Farm and the Nathan Dam and Pipelines projects

- the Coordinator-General recommended four new prescribed projects be declared: Adani Combined Project; Ravenswood Expansion Project; the Capricorn Copper Mine Project and re-declared the expanded Kidston Project

- the Coordinator-General recommended the declaration of the Adani Combined Project and the Kidston Project as critical infrastructure projects

- conducted a Biofutures Acceleration Program Expression of Interest, which attracted 26 proposals to develop commercial-scale biorefinery projects in regional Queensland

- led a two-stage competitive process for the delivery of a new PCYC at Fortitude Valley, Brisbane
negotiated an agreement under the Jobs and Regional Growth Fund between the State of Queensland and Bio Processing Australia to pursue Mackay as the location for a $50 million biorefinery

managed 90 submissions from eight state agencies for a range of property and land transactions under the Queensland Government Land Transaction Policy. This included sales via open market processes, in-priority disposals, leases and inter-agency transfers

successfully case managed projects with significant local benefits such as the $70 million Knauf Plasterboard Factory. Due for completion by August 2017, the state-of-the-art facility created up to 200 construction jobs with about 70 jobs expected when full production is reached in around two years’ time.

**Future priorities**

The department will continue to facilitate a pipeline of strategic projects that generate jobs and increase the value of capital investment in Queensland.

This will involve work across the department including the Office of the Coordinator-General, Economic and Industry Development, Major Projects and Property, Regional Economic Development and Industry Partnerships.

The Industry Partnerships group formed on 8 May 2017 brings together a dedicated team with expertise in the areas of negotiating, tendering, and pitching for substantial contracts as well as managing partnerships with private sector organisations.

Drawing on the individual and collective capabilities of our teams, we will:

- facilitate and coordinate large-scale and complex projects
- seek out private and public opportunities to feed the strategic / major projects pipeline
- deliver major public capital works
- undertake whole-of-government impact assessments
- facilitate best use of government assets and land for economic and social outcomes
- research and analyse to measure and maximise economic and financial impact and benefits.

Project priorities include:

- public consultation on draft master plans for the priority ports of Gladstone and Townsville, and formally commence master plan preparation for the priority ports of Hay Point/Mackay and Abbot Point under the Ports Act
- handover of the Athlete’s Village to the GC2018 for exclusive use, and complete defects liability periods for the games sporting venues
- commence letting of work packages on the North Queensland Stadium and construction of the main stadium
- completion of all non-heritage buildings demolition, begin basement excavation works and start construction of the new Brisbane River public spaces, Waterline Park and Mangrove Walk within the Queen’s Wharf Brisbane IRD
- progress and encourage opportunities for significant regional IRDs
- progress major project assessment and delivery through the Office of the Coordinator-General’s statutory powers and whole-of-government coordination
- progress support for six biorefinery projects through the Biofutures Acceleration Program
- continue to progress support for a proposed $50 million integrated biorefinery project for Mackay by Bio Processing Australia.
Program highlights

State development areas
State development areas (SDAs) declared under section 77 of the SDPWO Act are clearly defined areas of land established by the Coordinator-General to facilitate development, promote economic development and generate jobs.

SDAs provide an efficient system for the assessment of development applications and play a critical role in Queensland’s export-oriented economy.

There are currently 10 SDAs and they typically take the form of one of the following:

- industrial hubs for large-scale, heavy industry—located near ports, rail and/or major road networks, including the Abbot Point, Bromelton, Bundaberg, Gladstone and Townsville SDAs
- multi-user infrastructure corridors—for the co-location of infrastructure such as rail lines, water and gas pipelines, and electricity transmission lines including the Callide Infrastructure Corridor, Galilee Basin, Stanwell to Gladstone Infrastructure Corridor, and Surat Basin Infrastructure Corridor SDAs
- major public infrastructure sites—for example, the Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital in the Queensland Children’s Hospital SDA.

The following provides an outline of activity conducted by the Coordinator-General and the department in relation to SDAs in the 2016–17 financial year.

Abbot Point SDA
Declared in 2008, the 16,885 hectare Abbot Point SDA was established to facilitate large-scale industrial development of regional, state and national significance, given its proximity to the Port of Abbot Point, access to both the Bruce Highway and north coast rail line, and its considerable distance from Bowen.

The Port of Abbot Point is identified as a priority port under the Ports Act. The department has commenced work to inform master plan development for the port.

The Coordinator-General continues to facilitate Adani’s Terminal 0 project, comprising of coal unloading facilities and storage for up to 40 million tonnes of coal per annum prior to export, approved in April 2016 as part of the Abbot Point Gateway Project.

During 2016–17, the Coordinator-General approved two applications in the Abbot Point SDA for port facilities and for rail infrastructure which completes the rail line approvals from the Carmichael Mine to the Port of Abbot Point.

Work is also continuing with the local native title group, through Juru Enterprises Limited, to provide further skills and capacity building while undertaking land management activities within the Abbot Point SDA.

The Coordinator-General completed a cumulative air quality impact assessment for Abbot Point and is in the design stage for a potential upgrade to the Bruce Highway intersection with Abbot Point Road.

These studies will help inform and provide guidance with respect to land use planning decisions regarding the location of existing, new and expanding industries within the Abbot Point SDA.

Bromelton SDA
Declared in 2008, the Bromelton SDA is strategically located on the rail network, providing ready access to intrastate and interstate markets.

The Bromelton SDA is located around six kilometres west of Beaudesert, and is an ideal location for industry in South East Queensland, particularly high impact and freight and logistics operations.
The Coordinator-General issued three approvals during 2016–17 within the Bromelton SDA—for a poultry farm, a transport depot and a change to an existing freight logistics terminal.

In June 2016, the Coordinator-General approved the $30 million SCT Logistics Project to establish an intermodal rail freight facility and warehouses on land situated adjacent to the rail line.

All project approvals have been finalised and the terminal became fully operational in January 2017. Stage 1 generated 100 construction and 100 operational jobs, with the potential to create a further 200 operational jobs when the project progresses to subsequent stages.

The department assisted SCT Logistics by liaising with the relevant stakeholders, including the Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR), Queensland Urban Utilities and the Scenic Rim Regional Council to ensure all necessary pre-requisites and approvals were in place for the new facility.

The department is continuing to liaise with SCT Logistics regarding local procurement and local construction of its new rail facility.

Construction of the $27.5 million Beaudesert Town Centre Bypass started in late 2016 and is expected to be completed in late 2017. This vital infrastructure will service increasing freight demands in the Bromelton SDA through improved access to the Mount Lindesay Highway. The project is jointly funded with the Scenic Rim Regional Council.

As part of the Building our Regions Program, the government also committed $3.3 million to a $6.6 million joint funding project with the Scenic Rim Regional Council and Queensland Urban Utilities to construct a 6.6 kilometre trunk water main.

The project will connect the Beaudesert Water Treatment Plant to the Bromelton SDA. This will enable the provision of reticulated water supply to industry precincts in the Bromelton SDA. Construction commenced in November 2016 and the pipeline is expected to be operational by April 2018.

The Coordinator-General is currently reviewing the Bromelton SDA Development Scheme. The review will ensure the Development Scheme is responsive to land use opportunities for industrial development, streamlines assessment processes, maximises the efficiency of land use and protects corridors for planned infrastructure.

**Galilee Basin SDA**

The Galilee Basin SDA, declared in June 2014, supports the development of the Galilee Basin and provides an efficient way to transport coal to the Port of Abbot Point via two multi-user rail corridors.

Protection and implementation of the Galilee Basin SDA is a critical initiative to support the opening up of the Galilee Basin. The Galilee Basin SDA generally comprises two 500-600 metre-wide corridors from the Galilee Basin to the Abbot Point SDA—one rail corridor to service the central Galilee Basin and a second corridor to service the southern Galilee Basin.

During 2016–17, the Coordinator-General approved three development applications in the Galilee Basin SDA—a rail infrastructure application from Adani, and two quarry applications.

Adani has obtained approval from the Coordinator-General for five development applications for rail infrastructure covering its full 380 kilometre rail line from mine to port. Four applications were within in the Galilee Basin SDA and one was in the Abbot Point SDA.
Gladstone SDA

Declared in 1993 and strategically located adjacent to the Port of Gladstone, the Gladstone SDA supports the development of industry of regional, state and national significance with connections to major rail networks and Australia’s national highway.

It is well suited to industries such as transport and logistics, chemical manufacturing, and mining-related industry and processing.

The majority of land within the Gladstone SDA is within state ownership (owned by either the Coordinator-General or the Minister for Economic Development Queensland).

Major public and private infrastructure within the Gladstone SDA includes gas, water, slurry, sea water pipelines, conveyors, roads and rail, with co-location of infrastructure facilitated through multi-user infrastructure corridors.

The Coordinator-General has progressively purchased land in the Gladstone SDA multi-user infrastructure corridors in order to facilitate a coordinated approach to infrastructure development.

The Coordinator-General continues to facilitate development through ongoing discussions with industry proponents who may benefit from establishing their projects in the Gladstone SDA.

The Coordinator-General approved Southern Oil Pty Ltd to establish a pilot project at their northern oil refinery site within the Gladstone SDA, which was opened by the Premier in June 2017.

This pilot project will value-add to the residual waste oil currently recycled at the site to test the further refining of the waste oil to produce green diesel, and the addition of waste streams, such as bagasse, to supplement production.

In June 2017, a study was completed on potential constraints and opportunities for linear infrastructure within the materials transport services corridor (MTSC) in the Gladstone SDA.

By continually improving the utilisation of land in the MTSC, industries in the Gladstone SDA can have better connections to utilities such as water, transport, and energy supply as well as access to the Port of Gladstone.

The Coordinator-General will progress further planning work for the MTSC during 2017-18 to ensure the corridor can address the future demands of industrial expansion in the Gladstone SDA.

Queensland Children’s Hospital SDA

Declared in 2008, the 15.8 hectare Queensland Children's Hospital SDA was established to facilitate the delivery of a hospital and associated infrastructure.

Adjacent to Brisbane’s existing Mater Children’s Hospital, the area includes the Lady Cilento Children’s hospital, the Centre for Children’s Health and Research, associated infrastructure and an education precinct (used by Somerville House and St Laurence’s College).

During 2016–17, the Coordinator-General approved two applications in the Queensland Children’s Hospital SDA—for a retail area and a carpark associated with the Ronald McDonald House. The Ronald McDonald House in South Brisbane officially opened in October 2016.

Townsville SDA

The Townsville SDA was declared in 2003, and is strategically located to support clusters of medium- to large-scale industrial development.

The Townsville SDA comprises 4900 hectares located approximately six kilometres south-east of the Townsville CBD in proximity to the Port of Townsville.

The Coordinator-General is committed to maximising development opportunities in the Townsville SDA and is actively working with a major landholder, Glencore, on master planning its landholdings to facilitate and coordinate development.
The Coordinator-General is continuing to progress options to develop an infrastructure charging strategy for the Townsville SDA, in conjunction with Townsville City Council and the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

On the 6 December 2016, the Commonwealth Government, Queensland Government and Townsville City Council entered into the Townsville City Deal—a 15-year program of planning, reform and investment. It includes two key commitments relevant to the Townsville SDA: acceleration of the state development area and the establishment of the Townsville Industrial Development Board (TIDB).

On 29 March 2017, the Coordinator-General approved an SDA application for a material change of use for a renewable energy facility (solar farm).

Covering an area of around 200 hectares, the solar farm will support increased operational efficiency and production for the Sun Metals Zinc Refinery by reducing the zinc refinery’s energy costs through the production of 120 megawatts of renewable energy.

Construction commenced in May 2017 and is expected to be completed in early 2018.

**Bundaberg SDA**

The Port of Bundaberg is the next port north of Brisbane and is the state’s only other east coast trading port that is outside the GBRWHA.

The Bundaberg SDA was declared around the Port of Bundaberg in February 2017 to help realise the potential for industry development on both the eastern and western sides of the Burnett River. Development of the eastern side is more likely in the short- to medium-term, with longer-term prospects on the western side.

There are potential opportunities for the Bundaberg SDA to capitalise on new trades at the Port of Bundaberg, including gypsum imports, silica sand exports and wood pellet exports.

The Bundaberg SDA will also provide opportunities for regional-scale industrial development, including mining support services as well as developments in the biofutures sector.

Areas of potential environmental and cultural value have also been identified along with buffer and flood conveyance areas.

Following the declaration of the Bundaberg SDA, the next step is to prepare a development scheme. The development scheme will be used to assess and decide SDA applications. The document is being prepared in consultation with key stakeholders including planning authorities, infrastructure providers, business and community groups as well as the wider community.

Public consultation on the draft development scheme is anticipated in late 2017.

**Commonwealth Games venues and village**

Delivery of the GC2018 competition venue infrastructure—in preparation for hosting the largest sporting event ever to be held on the Gold Coast—is now complete.

GC2018 will take place across 18 new, upgraded and existing venues across the Gold Coast and in Brisbane, Cairns and Townsville.

The department managed the planning, design, procurement and construction of three new world-class venues and major upgrades to a further six competition venues.

Venues were delivered well ahead of the games, and refurbishment of the Carrara Indoor Stadium, which will be used for event operations during GC2018, is progressing.

The $320 million investment has been delivered within budget and supported more than 1000 jobs during the design and construction stages.
As at 30 June 2017, 40 per cent of the construction contracts had been awarded to Gold Coast contractors, with a further 53 per cent going to other South East Queensland businesses.

Opportunities to work on world-class infrastructure projects enabled suppliers to up-skill and gain valuable experience that will build their local business.

More than 10,400 people have worked onsite in the construction of the venue infrastructure projects.

Long-term benefits are already being realised, such as the Carrara Sports and Leisure Centre hosting the World Badminton Championships.

Securing this event was a major coup, with the Gold Coast becoming the first city outside Europe and Asia to host the event. Attracting a global audience of more than 400 million, the championships also provided a great opportunity to promote the venue and the city ahead of the Games.

Beyond GC2018, Queenslanders will benefit from having world-class facilities to train and compete in.

**Parklands Project (Commonwealth Games Village)**

The department is overseeing the development agreement for the design and construction of the Parklands Project, which will provide accommodation and services to 6600 athletes and team officials during GC2018.

The Parklands Project private developer agreement model delivers value for money for Queenslanders by significantly minimising risk and cost to the state.

The $550 million infrastructure project is providing a substantial boost to the Queensland economy and supporting 1500 jobs during design and construction stages.

The Village is the catalyst project for redevelopment of the Parklands Precinct – the largest urban renewal project ever undertaken on the Gold Coast.

As at 30 June 2017, 46 per cent of the construction contracts for delivery of the Parklands Village had been awarded to Gold Coast contractors, with a further 44 per cent to other South East Queensland businesses.

More than 5600 workers have played a role in construction of the Village. The project is on budget and on time for handover to the GC2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation in September 2017.

After GC2018, Parklands will become a new master planned, mixed-use community as part of the Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct. It will incorporate 1252 permanent dwellings, with 1170 one- and two-bedroom apartments, and 82 three-bedroom townhouses.

The developer will make the dwellings available for rent and sale from early 2019, with a gradual sell-down over time to minimise impacts on the Gold Coast property market.

**Queensland State Netball Centre**

The $44 million Queensland State Netball Centre is a purpose built, eight-court indoor facility located at the Queensland Sports and Athletics Centre, at Nathan.

It will be a base and training venue for the Queensland Firebirds and the headquarters for Netball Queensland, the sport’s state-governing body, as well as a community competition venue.

The department was engaged by Stadiums Queensland to deliver the project and is working closely with stakeholders to ensure an appropriate and detailed scope to maximise ongoing benefits.

In February 2017, Hansen Yunken Pty Ltd was appointed to design and construct the project. Initial site works started in June.
The Department of Transport and Main Roads has committed $7.37 million to fund the elevated carpark that will be utilised by Mains Road park ‘n’ ride commuters as well as Queensland State Netball Centre and Queensland Sports and Athletics Centre patrons.

Within the overall funding, the Australian Government has contributed $10 million, Brisbane City Council has transferred a parcel of land to Stadiums Queensland adjacent to the Queensland Sports and Athletics Centre site, and Stadiums Queensland is finalising a commitment from Netball Queensland to fund furniture and equipment.

The Queensland State Netball Centre project and the elevated carpark project combined will support up to 154 full-time equivalent jobs during design and construction. It is forecast to be completed in late 2018, in time for the start of the 2019 netball season.

Queen’s Wharf Brisbane

Queen’s Wharf Brisbane is a $3 billion project that will deliver a new, high-quality public precinct on state-owned land located between the Brisbane River and George Street and between Alice and Queen Streets. It will also deliver foreshore improvements extending to the Goodwill Bridge, including a new pedestrian bridge linking the precinct to South Bank.

Through this project the Queensland Government, in partnership with Destination Brisbane Consortium, is delivering economic growth for Queensland with significant job creation of up to 2000 construction jobs during peak construction and 8000 ongoing jobs when operational in 2022.

Queen’s Wharf Brisbane also delivers significant revenue to the state, with staged payments of $272 million and tax revenue estimated at $880 million in the first 10 years of casino operations.

The department hosted a Major Projects Series from July to November 2016 highlighting to regional Queensland that, while the project is being undertaken in Brisbane, the job creation and supplier opportunities delivered by Queen’s Wharf Brisbane may be shared across the state.

The series was attended by more than 1400 people in Brisbane, Toowoomba, Sunshine Coast, Bundaberg, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville, Maryborough, Ipswich, Gold Coast and Cairns.

In December 2016, thousands of Queenslanders attended an Executive Building Farewell facilitated by the department. The George Street building—one of the three non-heritage buildings being removed to make way for Queen’s Wharf Brisbane—saw nine Premiers and many memorable moments from its former tenants.

In August 2016, a Cultural Closure of the Neville Bonner Building was held. Following lengthy engagement with the Bonner family representative, the event was attended by the Minister for State Development, Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships employees and Indigenous community representatives.

Thousands of tenants from the precinct’s government and heritage buildings were relocated successfully prior to site handover. Destination Brisbane Consortium took possession of the site on 1 January 2017.

The decommissioning and storage of monuments, memorials and artwork from within the precinct were finalised before site handover.

The Plan of Development (PoD) was lodged as properly made with Economic Development Queensland on 30 May 2017 by Destination Brisbane Consortium.

Demolition of the non-heritage buildings continues throughout 2017 in readiness for excavation of the foundations, basements and underground car parks to begin.

The department continues to work closely with stakeholders, including the recognised Traditional Owners of the site, to ensure cultural heritage is protected and celebrated.
Integrated Resort Developments (IRDs)

Tourism contributes $23 billion to Queensland’s economy and supports more than 230,000 jobs. As part of the Queensland Government’s strategy to support and grow the tourism sector, the department is seeking to establish regional IRDs.

On 22 August 2016, Aquis formally notified the Queensland Government of its withdrawal from the IRD process and that it was no longer seeking a casino licence for Aquis at the Great Barrier Reef development at Yorkeys Knob in Cairns.

Following this, a market sounding program was undertaken including engagement and visits to the United States and Asia and attracted interest in tourism infrastructure and IRDs opportunities available in regional Queensland.

The Spit Parkland and Integrated Resort Development

In May 2016, ASF Consortium submitted a preliminary proposal to the Queensland Government for the Gold Coast IRD over five hectares of land between the Gold Coast Fisherman’s Co-operative and Sea World.

A further update of the proposal was released in December 2016.

On 18 December 2016, the Queensland Government announced it would undertake independent community consultation about how an IRD could best benefit the Gold Coast and broader community, while also protecting and enhancing The Spit.

On 24 March, the Queensland Government announced that, due to local feedback, the community consultation area had been expanded to include Philip Park and Muriel Henchman Park. The community consultation resulted in more than 8000 completed submissions.

On 1 August 2017, the government terminated the ASF Consortium Spit Project.

KUR-World Integrated Eco-Resort

On 12 July 2016, the Coordinator-General declared the KUR-World Integrated Eco-Resort a ‘coordinated project’ under the SDPWO Act.

The proponent is Reever and Ocean Developments Pty Ltd. If developed, the project would be a substantial eco-tourism asset to the state.

Located around 20 kilometres north-west of Cairns, the proposal includes an integrated eco-resort with luxury hotel and residential accommodation, education and business facilities, rejuvenation, health and wellbeing facilities, and adventure and recreation facilities.

The project requires a capital investment of $640 million and could create a peak construction workforce of 545 and up to 600 operational jobs.

On 27 June 2016, the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy determined the project to be a ‘controlled action’, requiring assessment under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act).

The Coordinator-General will coordinate a whole-of-government assessment and will work closely with the proponent and government agencies to ensure the potential impacts, including impacts on protected species habitat, are managed to an acceptable level.

Inland Rail Project

On 16 March 2017, the Coordinator-General declared the $1.35 billion Gowrie to Helidon and the $1 billion Helidon to Calvert sections of the Inland Rail Project as ‘coordinated projects requiring an EIS’ under the SDPWO Act. The Coordinator-General also declared the $1.2 billion Calvert to Kagaru section a coordinated project requiring an EIS under the SDPWO Act on 16 June 2017.
The three declared projects are part of the proposed $10.9 billion Inland Rail Project between the Port of Melbourne and Acacia Ridge in Brisbane, via Toowoomba. To be delivered by the Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited (ARTC), an Australian Government owned corporation, the rail project stretches 1700 kilometres and includes 358 kilometres of track in Queensland.

The project is intended to deliver significant transport benefits and improve national productivity by reducing freight transport costs and timeframes and shifting freight from trucks to trains.

The Queensland Government continues to work with the Australian Government and other stakeholders to develop freight rail infrastructure needed in Queensland to underpin a strong and productive economy supporting future jobs growth.

The three coordinated projects in Queensland would generate a peak construction workforce of 5200 during 2020 to 2024. Around 700 jobs would be required to operate the entire railway line from Melbourne to Brisbane.

The Coordinator-General sought public comment on draft terms of reference for the EIS for the Gowrie to Helidon project from 6 May to 5 June 2017 and for the Helidon to Calvert section from 6 May to 26 June 2017. The draft terms of reference for the Calvert to Kagaru section were under preparation in June 2017 for public comment.

The Coordinator-General will consider all comments received on the draft terms of reference when finalising them for each project.

A final terms of reference contains the matters the proponent must address when preparing the EIS including the project’s environmental, social and economic impacts. As the three projects were determined to be ‘controlled actions’ requiring assessment under the EPBC Act and each is being assessed under the Bilateral Agreement as the matters to be addressed will include Commonwealth, state and local government requirements.

The Coordinator-General will work closely with ARTC to progress the environmental assessments and will coordinate a whole-of-government assessment.

The remaining two sections of the Inland Rail Project in Queensland are the $54 million Kagaru to Acacia Ridge—which mostly uses existing standard gauge lines—and the $1.145 billion New South Wales/Queensland border to Gowrie section.

ARTC intends to apply for coordinated project declaration to the Coordinator-General for the border to Gowrie section following a decision on the preferred alignment by the federal Infrastructure and Transport Minister.

**Sunshine Coast Airport Expansion**

The Sunshine Coast Airport Expansion Project would deliver jobs and economic growth for the Sunshine Coast region, and provide a major boost to tourism.

The project involves capital expenditure of $347 million and will provide an economic boost of $311 million to the regional economy by 2040.

It is estimated to create a peak construction workforce of 86 and an additional 1538 direct operational jobs by 2040. The proponent has indicated that construction would commence as soon as required approvals are in place, with planned commencement in 2020.

The Coordinator-General’s Evaluation Report was released on 19 May 2016 approving the project and setting strict requirements to protect water quality and protected species habitat.

The Federal Minister for the Environment approved the project on 18 July 2016, subject to conditions under the EPBC Act.

The Coordinator-General continues to work with the proponent and key agencies to facilitate the required approvals.
The project will also be assessed by agencies in the Australian Government, for example the Civil Aviation Safety Authority and Airservices Australia, as part of its responsibility to manage aviation airspace.

**Biorefinery Projects**

The development of a $1 billion sustainable and export orientated industrial biotechnology and bioproducts sector (e.g. advanced biofuels, biochemicals) by 2026 is being driven through the Advance Queensland *Biofutures 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan* and associated initiatives.

One of these initiatives is the Biofutures Commercialisation Program, aimed at attracting national and international bioindustrial expertise to assist researchers or businesses to scale up and test new or improved processes at the pilot or demonstration phase.

The Biofutures Commercialisation Program is administered by the Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation (DSITI).

The $5 million Biofutures Industry Development Fund (BIDF) supports commercial-ready products or processes to reach a point where the proponent can access venture capital as a stepping stone to production.

**Biofutures Acceleration Program**

The $4 million Biofutures Acceleration Program (BAP) is a key initiative of the *Biofutures 10-Year Roadmap*.

The program aims to attract keystone investors to Queensland to develop or expand commercial-scale bio-refineries.

Launched in September 2016 with an international Request for Information and targeted industry consultation, market information was gathered to frame an international Invitation for Expression of Interest from suitable proponents.

The Invitation for Expression of Interest, which ran from November 2016 to January 2017, attracted 26 proposals from established companies based in the United States, Asia and Europe as well as Australia.

Six regional biorefinery projects were selected to receive BAP funding and support arising from the expression of interest process. These proposed projects include:

- a biorefinery in a Queensland sugarcane region by US biotechnology company, Amyris, estimated to create 70 jobs
- a $60 million MSF Sugar biorefinery complex at Atherton, generating 130 potential jobs
- a $26 million expansion of United Ethanol’s biorefinery, in Dalby, creating 50 jobs
- an $11 million biorefinery project by US biorefinery company, Mercurius, estimated to create 50 jobs
- a biorefinery proposed by Brisbane-based biotech company, Leaf Resources, in a regional Queensland location yet to be determined
- an $18 million biorefinery project in Bundaberg by Brisbane biogas energy development firm Utilitas, generating 34 jobs.
The department is working with these proponents and others identified during the expression of interest to accelerate their biorefinery development plans in Queensland.

Queensland Ports and Airport Biofuelling Capability Study

The department commenced a high-level scoping study to determine the readiness of Queensland’s sea ports and airports to store and supply biofuels.

The study examined existing airport and sea port infrastructure, estimated future demand for biofuel and investigated capacity to supply marine bio-based diesel and sustainable aviation fuel.

The study’s outcomes will be used to inform future infrastructure requirements to support Queensland’s expanding biofutures industry.

Bio Processing Australia’s Mackay Biorefinery Project

The department negotiated an agreement between the state and biotechnology company, Bio Processing Australia (BPA), to pursue Mackay as the location for a new integrated biorefinery.

The proposed biorefinery is expected to deliver up to 115 jobs and attract significant investment and further jobs in the region.

The project’s oil seed crushing plant is likely to establish large-scale soy bean cash cropping in the Mackay region, creating an additional income stream for local sugarcane farmers.

The department will continue to work with the company as it undertakes a full feasibility study.

The project was conditionally approved to be eligible to receive assistance through the $130 million Jobs and Regional Growth Fund.

Clean coal mining to renewable energy

Galilee Basin

The Queensland Government supports development of the Galilee Basin on a commercially viable and environmentally sustainable basis.

The Galilee Basin covers an area of 247,000 square kilometres and contains mostly high-volatile, low-sulphur thermal coal. There are six proponents with mine development proposals in the Galilee Basin.

Adani’s Carmichael Coal Mine and Rail Project, and the North Galilee Basin Rail Project are the most advanced. Adani’s combined mine, rail and port project will produce up to 60 million tonnes of thermal coal per year for export via a 389 kilometre railway line through the Port of Abbot Point.

On 6 June 2017, Adani announced internal Final Investment Decision approval for the Carmichael Coal Mine and Rail project and confirmed that early construction works will begin in 2017. It will generate up to 5000 direct jobs at the peak of construction and 4500 direct jobs at the peak of operations across the mine, port and rail components of the project. Most of these jobs will be for regional Queenslanders.

Other proposed projects in the Galilee Basin which have received Coordinator-General approval include Kevin’s Corner, Alpha Coal, South Galilee Coal and Galilee Coal and Rail. The China Stone Coal project is currently undergoing an EIS process. If all projects in the Galilee Basin were to proceed, at peak around 18,392 construction and 15,592 operational jobs could be created and total capital expenditure is estimated at $55.8 billion.

The Coordinator-General’s evaluation reports for the approved projects have set extensive, stringent conditions to protect landholders, flora and fauna, groundwater resources, surface water and air quality. Controls on dust and noise have also been set.
Bundaberg Port Gas Pipeline

The 28 kilometre Bundaberg Port Gas Pipeline is catalyst infrastructure to enable economic growth for the Bundaberg Region.

The Queensland Government committed $18 million over two years for the project which created 55 construction jobs, including more than 42 local roles for labour or contractors.

Work on the pipeline started in March 2016 and was completed and commissioned in early 2017.

This project has enhanced the existing gas network and integrated with the Wide Bay Gas Pipeline. It represents a significant investment with benefits flowing from additional commercial activity in the region.

The Bundaberg Port Gas Pipeline provides capacity for other companies wanting to access gas. This will potentially result in a greater economic benefit by leveraging growth from the same infrastructure used by several end users.

The department worked with Economic Development Queensland (EDQ) and Australian Gas Networks Limited, owner of the Wide Bay Gas Pipeline, to deliver the project.

The state entered into a fixed price development agreement with Australian Gas Networks Limited to design, deliver and operate the pipeline.

The department has continued to work with Bundaberg Regional Council and local industry stakeholders to capitalise on the new pipeline and secure new industry and jobs for the Bundaberg region. For example, the pipeline will support the development of the new Knauf Plasterboard facility.

Knauf Australia has almost completed its $70 million state-of-the-art plasterboard manufacturing facility which includes gypsum handling and processing facilities to support plasterboard production and use in the agriculture sector.

The facility will have the capacity to produce plasterboard wallboard, ceiling tiles, compounds and metal systems. Construction of the plant started in February 2016 and is due to be completed by August 2017.

The department helped to secure Knauf’s investment in the region, which will support local and regional economic growth. At peak construction, the project created up to 200 jobs with around 70 local jobs expected to be created when full production is reached in about two years.

Kidston Project

This project supports the Queensland Government’s policy of generating 50 per cent of the state’s electricity needs from renewable energy by 2030.

The government has recognised the value of this project by declaring it a prescribed project and a critical infrastructure project.

The project involves innovative co-location of infrastructure for large scale solar and hydro-electric power generation at a disused mine site.

The total renewable energy generated at completion of Stage 1 – a 50MW solar farm – is equivalent to removing around 33,000 cars off Australian roads each year.

Stage 2 will see the solar farm component expand to an additional 270MW capacity. This stage is expected to generate renewable electricity equivalent to removing around 178,200 cars off Australian roads each year.

Construction has started on Stage 1, with 88 workers on-site. A further 500 construction workers and 18 operational workers are estimated for Stage 2.
Santos GLNG Gas Field Development Expansion

The Santos GLNG Gas Field Development Project would extend the Santos GLNG project by progressively developing coal seam gas reserves across 35 petroleum tenements, comprising an area of 10,676 square kilometres in the Bowen and Surat basins.

The project is located across the local government areas of Maranoa, Western Downs and Central Highlands Regional Councils, and Banana Shire Council and has the potential to result in substantial economic impacts over its 30-year life.

The project at full development forecasts a workforce of 1980 jobs at its construction peak and an operational workforce of around 300. The project will draw on a local workforce with minimum targets of 20 per cent during construction and 50 per cent during operation.

The maximum number of production wells for the expansion is estimated to be 6100.

The Coordinator-General’s Evaluation Report on the EIS was released on 4 December 2015. The project was approved, subject to strict environmental conditions to reduce the potential impacts on water, land and biodiversity. The project is being undertaken in accordance with Queensland’s strong regulatory framework to manage environmental impacts associated with coal seam gas developments and to ensure the industry develops in a responsible way.

The Environmental Authority for Stage 1 was granted on 28 February 2017 and construction started in March 2017. The project is being developed incrementally and includes:

- drilling and completion of gas production, monitoring and underground gas storage injection wells
- gas gathering, treatment, compression and transmission pipelines
- water management and monitoring, including treatment where necessary
- power supply and generation
- construction and operation of support infrastructure including roads, quarries and accommodation facilities.
Case Study: Coopers Gap Wind Farm

The $500 million Coopers Gap Wind Farm, the largest proposal of its type in Queensland, could generate around 350 construction and 20 operational jobs.

It was declared a coordinated project by the Coordinator-General in June 2016, who then approved the EIS with conditions on 1 March 2017.

The proposed construction of up to 115 wind turbines would generate up to 460 megawatts of power, which has the potential to supply power to an estimated 240,000 households.

Once operational, the wind farm would assist in meeting the government’s renewable energy generation target.

AGL Energy Limited advises that the project is on track to begin construction in late 2017.

The project is an example of the Coordinator-General’s streamlined assessment processes, which fast track approvals while ensuring a rigorous environmental impact assessment.

The timeframe for the Coordinator-General’s evaluation report and approval for the Coopers Gap Wind Farm was the fastest EIS recorded, taking just seven months.
Ports

Priority ports master planning

The Queensland Government is continuing its program of master planning for the priority ports of Gladstone, Townsville, Abbot Point and Hay Point/Mackay, demonstrating its commitment to their ongoing sustainable development.

Mandated under the Ports Act, master planning for priority ports will optimise the use of infrastructure and address operational, economic, environmental and community relationships, as well as supply chains and surrounding land uses.

Working with port authorities, local government, state agencies and other key stakeholders, including industry and community groups, the department is continuing to advance the priority port master planning program.

The Port of Gladstone is the first priority port to undergo master planning under the Ports Act. Since issuing a notice of proposal in early 2016, the department has been working with the port authority, local government, state agencies and other stakeholders to develop a draft master plan that meets the requirements of the Ports Act.

The draft master plan, along with the amended proposed master planned area (which was refined as a result of public consultation in 2016), will be issued for public comment before being finalised.

In February 2017, master planning for the priority Port of Townsville formally began with the issuing of a notice of proposal under the Ports Act to the port authority and the local government. An evidence base to support master planning is currently being prepared.

Preliminary master planning is underway for the priority ports of Abbot Point and Hay Point/Mackay.

Throughout the processes the Queensland Government is applying the Guideline: master planning for priority ports. The guideline, released on 1 December 2016, operates as a strategic framework for the implementation of master planning under the Ports Act and identifies the principles and processes for priority port master planning.

The guideline was developed through comprehensive stakeholder engagement and public consultation on the draft version. The final guideline was released on 1 December 2017 as a key deliverable for the Queensland Government fulfilling both the Ports Act and port-related actions of Reef 2050.

Priority ports are critical economic hubs for Queensland and their ongoing sustainable development will ensure regional jobs, investment and trade growth.

Master planning will enable the state government to effectively manage the land and marine areas needed for the efficient development and operation of the priority ports while ensuring that the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the GBRWHA is an intrinsic consideration in priority port development, management and governance.

Cairns Shipping Development Project (Trinity Inlet)

Ports North revised the Cairns Shipping Development Project to cap its proposed expanded capacity at ships up to 300 metres in length. Ships of this size cannot currently berth in the Port of Cairns and are required to anchor offshore.

The Cairns Shipping Development Project aims to widen and deepen the existing Trinity Inlet shipping channel, upgrade wharf facilities, enhance vessel capacity and improve port efficiencies.

With around 1 million cubic meters of dredged material to be placed on land, the revised proposal requires less than one quarter of the volume of dredging originally proposed, and is expected to cost $120 million, or around one third of the previous estimate.
On 12 July 2017, the Coordinator-General released the revised draft EIS for public comment until 25 August 2017. The Coordinator-General will consider all public and agency comments in producing the evaluation report for the project and concluding the EIS process.

**Townsville Port Expansion**

Port of Townsville Limited proposes an expansion of the port to meet future growth to 2040.

The Townsville Port Expansion Project includes the deepening and widening of existing shipping channels, the construction of six new berths and the creation of a significant area of reclaimed port land.

The proposal would provide 174 direct jobs at the peak of construction and 180 permanent operational jobs.

In June 2015, the proponent advised that the project was being amended to be consistent with the government’s policies for the protection of the Great Barrier Reef.

In October and November 2016, the additional information to the EIS was released for public comment following the Coordinator-General’s request for additional information on key issues raised in submissions during public consultation on the draft EIS in 2013.

The Coordinator-General is now working with the proponent to complete the EIS process.

The Ports Act identifies the Port of Townsville as a priority port for which ongoing development is supported, but for which capital dredge material must be either beneficially re-used, or disposed of on land.

**Port of Gladstone**

The Port of Gladstone is Queensland’s largest multi-commodity port and the world’s fifth largest coal export terminal, exporting 72 million tonnes in 2015. Major exports from the port include coal, alumina, cement, petroleum, aluminium and agricultural products. The introduction of the LNG industry and the Wiggins Island Coal Terminal continue to increase the throughput of the port.

Gladstone Ports Corporation (GPC) proposes to duplicate the existing Gatcombe and Golding Cutting shipping channel to accommodate more shipping traffic. Currently, the ability of the port to accommodate high numbers of vessels is limited by the shipping channel depth and lack of passing capacity.

Without this channel duplication project, further vessel congestion and delays will significantly limit both the port’s capacity and associated economic development of Central Queensland and the state.

The project involves upgrading infrastructure at the Port of Gladstone, including:

- dredging a new and existing nine-kilometre long channel to a depth of 16 metres and a width of 200 metres
- disposing of approximately 12 million cubic metres of dredged material
- installing new navigational aids for the channel duplication and relocating existing aids.

The project is a coordinated project undergoing an EIS, which includes detailed investigation of:

- potential water quality and marine impacts related to dredging and dredge material disposal
- beneficial re-use options for disposal of dredge material.

As part of its EIS investigations, GPC is revisiting its dredged material placement proposal in accordance with the requirements of the Ports Act.

If the project proceeds, it would create around 100 construction jobs and 20 operational jobs.

The Port of Gladstone is a priority port and currently a master planning process is underway in accordance with the Ports Act.
The objective of master planning for all priority ports is to optimise the use of infrastructure and address operational, economic, environmental and community relationships, as well as supply chains and surrounding land uses.

**Prescribed projects**

Prescribed project powers under the SDPWO Act can be used to assist proponents to overcome unreasonable delays in obtaining project approvals. The Coordinator-General is currently monitoring 13 prescribed projects.

During 2016–17, the Coordinator-General recommended the declaration of four prescribed projects to the Minister for State Development. These were:

- Adani Combined Project (prescribed project and critical infrastructure project)
- Ravenswood Expansion
- Capricorn Copper Mine
- Kidston Project (declared a redefined project, both a prescribed project and critical infrastructure project).

The $1.76 billion Byerwen Coal project is a prescribed project and will deliver significant economic benefits to the local region and the state.

The $1.05 billion expanded Kidston Project was re-declared a prescribed project and critical infrastructure project in June and commenced construction in February 2017, with 88 workers on site, expected to grow to 500.

The Isaac Plains Mining Complex was declared a prescribed project on 11 April 2016, and the Coordinator-General has been working closely with Stanmore on the approvals required. The mine has created 150 jobs since recommencing in January 2016.

The Coordinator-General is also assisting a range of projects in construction in north and north-west Queensland, including, Resolute’s Ravenswood mine, MMG’s Dugald River zinc mine, and the Capricorn Copper mine project.

For a prescribed project, the Coordinator-General has the power to intervene in the approvals process, including by issuing a:

- progression notice—which requires the decision-maker to progress the administrative processes necessary to complete the assessment process within a specified timeframe
- notice to decide—which requires the decision-maker to make the relevant decision within a specified timeframe
- step in notice—allowing the Coordinator-General (with the Minister’s approval) to 'step in' and assume responsibility under the relevant law for assessing and making a decision on a project, in place of the usual decision-maker.

**Critical infrastructure projects**

If a prescribed project is considered ‘critical or essential’ for economic, social or environmental reasons to Queensland, the Minister may declare it a ‘critical infrastructure project’.

The Coordinator-General recommended the declaration of the Adani Combined Project and the Kidston Project as critical infrastructure projects.

The Adani Combined Project announced on 6 June 2017 internal Final Investment Decision approval and the opening of regional headquarters in Townsville.

The Kidston Project commenced construction on Stage 1 of the 50MW solar farm with 24,000 solar panels being installed each week and NAIF first stage board approval now secured.

**Effective management and use of government property**

Property Queensland is delivering projects and processes that support the Queensland Government’s effective management and use of government property for the benefit of Queensland.
Property Queensland is responsible for the management of state owned properties including the repurposing, renewing and disposing of surplus government properties. The outcomes and benefits include:

- providing opportunities for economic growth and job creation through private investment
- creating community benefits by generating revenue for government to reinvest into new infrastructure and services for Queenslanders, and
- providing opportunities for new and improved facilities for communities.

Property Queensland assists relevant government departments, agencies and local councils with re-use opportunities, and manages significant transactions on behalf of government, including strategic and multi-agency transactions and the assessment of property-based market-led proposals (MLPs).

Property Queensland is also involved in developing and implementing portfolio review initiatives to identify innovation, public benefit and value-uplift opportunities and is delivering a transparent reporting and decision-making framework for government.

Under the Queensland Government Land Transaction Policy, Property Queensland receives submissions from state agencies for a range of transactions to deliver effective and efficient management of surplus government owned properties. In 2016–17, a total of 90 submissions were received from eight state agencies, presenting opportunities for improved use of government properties.

**Fortitude Valley PCYC**

Property Queensland is currently leading a two-stage competitive process to identify a preferred proponent for the development of a new PCYC at Fortitude Valley, in Brisbane.

The project is testing an innovative funding model that could be applied more widely, resulting in improved standards of community based facilities.

**Brisbane Broncos training administration and community facility**

The $27 million Brisbane Broncos Training Administration and Community Facility, currently under construction, will provide premier training facilities for the Brisbane Broncos.

The facility, funded by the Brisbane Broncos, will also provide public access to the training field when not in use by the Broncos and a community room and theatre for community groups. The Broncos will also run community programs at the facility.

Property Queensland led negotiations for the lease transaction with the Brisbane Broncos enabling the facility to be built on surplus state government land at Red Hill, Brisbane. The lease agreement requires the Broncos to provide and report on a range of community benefits in exchange for exclusive access to the site.

Construction is around 50 per cent complete directly employing around 84 people. The facility is scheduled for completion before the end of 2017, in time for the 2018 National Rugby League season.

**Queensland Aquarium and Maritime Museum**

Property Queensland is leading a Market Led Proposal (MLP) process for the Queensland Aquarium and Maritime Museum.

The proposal will see the revitalisation of the Queensland Maritime Museum and an innovative aquarium that will present the diversity of Queensland’s rivers, islands, reefs and ocean environments to the world.

The proponent is developing a detailed proposal that will identify how it will deliver the new tourism attraction for Queensland, while protecting the heritage and cultural values of the site and provide improved public spaces that connect to surrounding community areas.

The proponent will fully fund the project’s construction and operation while the government retains site ownership.
**Resource development**

**Aurukun Bauxite Project**

The Aurukun bauxite deposit in western Cape York is estimated to contain up to 480 million tonnes of dry beneficiated bauxite.

The development of this resource by Glencore is expected to generate significant construction and ongoing operational jobs. It also has the potential to provide direct and indirect benefits to the Aurukun and Cape communities in the form of education, training, business opportunities and infrastructure upgrades.

These benefits will be in addition to an Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) with the traditional owners, as well as royalty contributions to the state.

Glencore has entered into a Community Partnership Agreement with the Aurukun Shire Council to deliver a range of benefits to the Aurukun community.

Before construction and mining operations can commence, Glencore must complete technical and financial feasibility, obtain approvals and secure finance. Glencore is progressing with the project, undertaking aquatic ecology, fauna and flora surveys for the purposes of environmental studies for the project.

The department continues to work cooperatively with Glencore, the traditional owners and the Aurukun community to progress this development and realise its benefits.

**South of the Embley (Amrun)**

Rio Tinto has begun expansion of its bauxite mining operations near Weipa, with commencement of construction of the new Amrun mine, around 40 kilometres south of the Embley River.

The Amrun Project includes an open-cut mine, processing plant, bauxite stockpiles, a new port with ship loading facilities and associated infrastructure.

It is anticipated the $2.6 billion project will extend the life of bauxite mining in the area for another 40 years, providing up to 1100 jobs during peak construction and up to 1400 ongoing operational jobs.

Rio Tinto announced its financial investment decision for the Amrun Project on 27 November 2015. Early works began on site in February 2016 and the first shipment of bauxite is expected in early 2019.

On 5 November 2015, the declaration of the Amrun project as a prescribed project was extended by two years until 12 November 2017 to allow the Coordinator-General to ensure project approvals are completed. On 23 May 2016, the Coordinator-General extended the lapsing date of the Amrun Project Coordinator-General’s Evaluation Report by three years, to 24 May 2019.

The Office of the Coordinator-General continues to work with Rio Tinto on compliance with the conditions set in the project’s Evaluation Report, to streamline conditions of approval and to remove regulatory duplication.

**Byerwen Coal Project**

The Byerwen Coal Project will deliver significant economic benefits to the local regions and Queensland with a predicted employment of up to 350 construction workers and up to 545 operational workers.

Investment costs for the project are estimated at $1.76 billion. The direct value added to the regional economy during the operations phase is estimated to be $289 million per annum and an additional $143 million per annum to the wider Queensland economy.

The project will provide significant opportunities for local and regional suppliers and businesses to benefit economically by providing goods and services to the mine during construction and operations. Queensland will benefit from flow-on activities.
Byerwen is a prescribed project and the Coordinator-General is monitoring the proponent’s progress in securing project approvals. Byerwen’s prescribed project declaration was extended on 23 September 2016 for another two years.

On 27 April 2017, Mining Lease 70434 and Mining Lease 70436 were granted by the Minister for Natural Resources and Mines. This meant that all three critical mining leases required to progress the project have been issued.

Another three Mining Leases are required for the complete project. Early stage construction began on 12 June 2017 with the aim of shipping first coal in early 2018.

**Isaac Plains Mining Complex**

Stanmore Coal Limited (Stanmore) is a Queensland based coal company expanding its recently acquired Isaac Plains operations, the Isaac Plains Mining Complex, that will produce 3.3 million tonnes of both coking and thermal coal over three years.

The project is a major boost for jobs in regional Queensland, and export earnings and royalties for the state.

Stanmore is committed to a strong local and drive-in, drive-out employment strategy, with workers predominantly from Moranbah and Mackay, as well as Emerald and other smaller regional towns. The current workforce is 150.

In May 2016, the first shipment of coking coal was loaded through Dalrymple Bay. This marked the first coal sale for Stanmore from Isaac Plains into offtake contracts with top-tier Asian steel mills.

The Isaac Plains Mining Complex is a Prescribed Project, with the Coordinator-General working closely with Stanmore in obtaining all the necessary approvals to continue development.

**Ravenswood Expansion Project**

Carpentaria Gold (Resolute Mining Limited) is expanding existing gold mine operations in the town of Ravenswood.

The Ravenswood Expansion Project could extend mining operations to at least 2029, with increased average annual production of 120,000 ounces of gold.

The $167 million project would support a construction workforce of 100 and the existing operational workforce of 280. The proponent’s preference is to employ people from within 150km of Ravenswood, which will benefit residents of Townsville, Charters Towers, Ayr and Home Hill.

The Coordinator-General has assisted Resolute Mining in obtaining approvals for the expanded mine, as well as the negotiation of heritage agreements and the relocation of heritage listed buildings.

**South Burnett Coal Project**

The Coordinator-General declared the South Burnett Coal Project a coordinated project on 18 August 2016.

The project proposes an open-cut mine able to produce up to 10 million tonnes of thermal coal per annum for up to 30 years, for domestic and export purposes. It includes a transport corridor extending approximately 131 kilometres from the mine site six kilometres south of Kingaroy to the existing north coast rail line near Theebine.

The proponent proposes to locate either a slurry coal pipeline or rail infrastructure in the transport corridor, which would enable the product to be transported to port.

Capital investment for the project is estimated at $500 million to $950 million, being $200 million to $250 million for the mine site and $300 million to $700 million for the transport corridor.

It is estimated that 600 direct jobs at peak construction will be required for the mine and corridor. Up to 500 jobs would be required during operations.
Olive Downs Project

The Coordinator-General declared the $1 billion Olive Downs Project a coordinated project on 17 February 2017.

Located in the Bowen Basin approximately 40 kilometres south-east of Morabah and 40 kilometres north of Dysart, the open cut mine would produce up to 14 million tonnes per annum of metallurgical coal to be used for steel-making for more than 30 years.

Off-lease infrastructure components of the project include an 18 kilometre rail spur to the Norwich Park Branch Railway, a water pipeline connecting to the Eungella pipeline network, an electricity transmission line and access roads.

The project would generate jobs for 500 to 700 workers during the construction phase and around 960 workers during the operation of the mine at full development.

Public comment was sought on draft terms of reference for the project from 8 April 2017 to 12 May 2017. The Coordinator-General has considered all comments received on the draft terms of reference and finalised the terms of reference for the EIS for the project.

The final terms of reference set out the matters the proponent must address when preparing the EIS.

The project proponent, Pembroke Resources, is required to ensure the project’s environmental, social and economic impacts are addressed, including, Commonwealth, state and local government requirements.

The community will also be consulted on the EIS when it has been prepared by the proponent.