

**Mr SPEAKER:** No. I believe that the question is in order given that it is asking whether risk is being assessed. I believe that, on those grounds, the question is valid.

**Ms PALASZCZUK:** As with all projects in the state, if they are financially viable they continue to go ahead. We have had nothing to Treasury that would suggest anything otherwise. If there were concerns then I am quite sure they would be raised with the Treasury Department.

### Copper

**Mr HEALY:** My question is to the Minister for Resources. Will the minister advise how copper is continuing to evolve in its uses throughout the world and how important it is to the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan?

**Mr STEWART:** I thank the member for Cairns for his question. Mr Speaker, do I have a mining tale that will rock your world. The story goes: 100 years ago in the rugged outback of North-West Queensland, a chap by the name of John Campbell Miles was looking for gold. He kicked a rock that was so heavy he nearly broke his foot. Some say that it was not Miles's boot that hit the rock but his horse's hoof that struck one of the world's richest deposits of copper. Would members believe that Miles convinced my great-grandfather, Walter John Davidson, to move from Duchess to Mount Isa to help him set up that claim? I would like to table a copy of an original photo that shows John Campbell Miles standing beside my great-grandfather, Walter John Davidson, as part of the original miners from Mount Isa. I am very proud of that.

*Tabled paper:* Photograph, captioned 'Mt Isa, Prospector John Campbell Miles (left) in 1924 with Walter John Davidson, Will Purdy, S Boyce and EC Saint-Smith'.

That set in motion a chain of events that led to the birth of one of our most famous mining cities, Mount Isa. Talk about a great kickstart! Over the past century copper has not just been a one-hit wonder. Copper has been the ultimate multitasker, playing a starring role in electrical wiring, conducting energy, electric goods, plumbing and even jewellery. Let us not forget about the more recent chapter in copper's story. It plays a vital role in the clean energy revolution. From wind turbines to electric vehicles, it is minerals such as copper that are helping power the Palaszczuk Labor government's Energy and Jobs Plan. This is a metal of many talents. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said about those opposite.

Even though Mount Isa copper is 100 years old, it knows how to evolve—unlike the LNP, who have not changed their spots since the dark days of Campbell Newman's 'cut, sack and sell' gang. If the LNP had their way, they would leave Queensland's resources and energy sectors out to rust. It is only the Palaszczuk government that understands how vital minerals such as copper are in powering our future. These critical minerals are essential to our Queensland Resources Industry Development Plan, our 30-year vision for our resources industry. We want Queenslanders to mine and process our critical minerals, from copper to vanadium. These minerals will build the SuperGrid, the batteries and the wind and solar farms that will secure Queensland's energy future and create good, rock-solid jobs. Thanks to pioneers like John Campbell Miles and my great-grandfather, whose vision and determination knew no bounds, Queensland was able to unlock its potential to be a shining beacon of mining success. I encourage those opposite to take a leaf out of Miles's book. No, I am not suggesting they put a boot into Queensland. They do not need any help with that.

### Noosa Hinterland

**Ms BOLTON:** My question is to the Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Youth Affairs. Will the minister advise why this government cannot or will not act to protect the environment, safety and health of Noosa hinterland residents from the ongoing—it has now been three years—devastating volumes of heavy haulage truck movements made possible through an environmental authority that was never fit for purpose?

**Ms SCANLON:** I thank the member for the question. I know that she has been raising this issue on behalf of her constituents for some time now. In relation to that particular quarry, the only involvement my department has is through the environmental authority process. That was, of course, granted some time ago. I am advised by the department that there is no ability at this stage for it to revise that current environmental authority, but if any new information comes to light I would encourage anyone in the member's community or the member herself to bring that forward. The independent regulator can assess whether that does support the grounds to look at amending the environmental authority.

I should say, though, that the quarry operates also under a local government development approval. That development approval considers issues such as the sustainability of the local area and the impacts of the volume of heavy vehicles and haulage routes. Many of the issues that residents are

raising really do fit within the realm of the Noosa council, so I would encourage them to continue speaking with council around what avenues might be available.

I am advised that the Noosa Shire Council has taken a matter forward to the Planning and Environment Court, so there is probably not too much I can say in that regard. Of course, I do acknowledge the issues that residents have raised. I understand that the Department of Transport and Main Roads has also invested something like \$6 million in trying to upgrade the road there to make it safer. I acknowledge the member's advocacy in that space as well. We will continue to listen to the concerns of locals to see if there are avenues available to support any of the concerns that people are raising.

### Tourism and Events

**Mrs MULLEN:** My question is of the Minister for Tourism, Innovation and Sport and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics and Paralympics Sport and Engagement. Can the minister reveal to the House examples of the events that are helping to accelerate the recovery from COVID of Queensland's tourism and events industry?

**Mr HINCHLIFFE:** I thank the member for Jordan for her question. I note and thank her for her interest in the recovery of Queensland's visitor economy. Queensland genuinely is re-emerging as the world's favourite destination. I acknowledge the Premier's earlier announcement in relation to the World Mining Congress, a great example of the way in which the world is, on not just a tourism basis but also a business conference basis, coming back to Queensland. Business conferences and conventions are making a real mark, with Queensland as their destination of choice for the world. The Palaszczuk government has invested \$7 million in incentives to help Queensland's three government owned convention centres recover from COVID. In just the last year convention centres in Brisbane, Cairns and the Gold Coast have secured 37 lucrative national business conference events. The fact that we will see the World Mining Congress add to that is very exciting. As businesses pull the plug on virtual videoconferencing, that \$7 million investment deal has leveraged some \$34 million for the visitor economy here in Queensland.

Our time to shine has really highlighted who we are and where we are, with great events right across the globe. In fact, Hollywood is looking our way as a result. In recognition of the international achievements of Queensland's thriving screen industry, the Palaszczuk government has secured a piece of Tinseltown for the Gold Coast. It was a great pleasure to announce alongside Australian film star Russell Crowe that the prestigious Australian Association of Cinema and Television Arts Awards, the AACTAAs, are coming to Queensland. The AACTA Awards and the international awards will be merged into a single glittering event in February on the Gold Coast for the next three years. The AACTAAs are being reshaped—Mr Speaker, you would take great interest in this—to coincide with the international awards season, including the UK's BAFTAs, the Golden Globes and the Oscars. It will be part of the run-up to the Oscars. It is estimated that the AACTAAs will deliver some \$3.4 million for the Gold Coast and bring some of the world's greatest stars. I have to say—

**Mr O'Connor** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order! Member for Bonney, what is my motivation not to warn you? You are warned under the standing orders.

**Mr HINCHLIFFE:** I do want to highlight how, in that awards season, it is always good to see what awards people might be up for. We have seen today and on a few occasions this week some extraordinary attempts by those opposite to get an acting award. They have confected their outrage about so many things and confected their amusement this morning on a couple of occasions, to the disruption of the House. Let's be sure that we know we are supporting the events industry and making sure Queensland does shine.

*(Time expired)*

### Social Housing, North Stradbroke Island

**Dr ROBINSON:** My question is to the Minister for Communities and Housing. In 2015-16 the government promised to construct new social housing for the Quandamooka people of North Stradbroke Island, Minjerribah. Quandamooka leaders say that no new homes have been built in the past eight years. Can the minister confirm that the government has not delivered on this commitment to the Quandamooka people?

**Mr SPEAKER:** Minister, you have one minute to respond.