

Question on Notice

No. 275

Asked on 22 March 2011

MR WELLINGTON asked the Deputy Premier and Attorney-General, Minister for Local Government and Special Minister of State (MR LUCAS) –

QUESTION:

With reference to the Urban Land Development Authority's planning for the new community at Caloundra South on the Sunshine Coast—

What planning is underway for the provision of electricity to this new community and how will waste from the new community be disposed?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Nicklin for his question.

The provision of electricity services in the Caloundra South Urban Development Area (UDA) is a matter handled by Energex.

I am advised Energex has undertaken whole of region planning in South East Queensland to accommodate growth and meet the needs of large new communities.

I understand Energex has identified the electricity infrastructure needed to support development at Caloundra South. This builds upon the last three years of forward planning for Caloundra South, coordinated by the State Government and the Sunshine Coast Regional Council.

The detailed design of the electricity network will be handled by Energex in response to individual development stages at the site.

In planning for the Caloundra South UDA, the Urban Land Development Authority (ULDA) undertook to create a model community. In keeping with this, the ULDA is also looking at the provision of sustainable housing projects that reduce energy use.

In relation to the disposal of waste, it is intended that household waste will be dealt with under the Sunshine Coast Regional Council's system, while waste water collection and treatment will be undertaken by Unity Water.

The ULDA has considered industry best practice and waste reduction innovations for the new Caloundra South community.

The ULDA released for public comment the proposed Development Scheme for the Caloundra South UDA on 31 March 2011 until 20 May 2011. The proposed Development Scheme includes an implementation strategy that provides for best practise waste reduction techniques, such as:

- reducing, recycling and reusing demolition, construction and household waste materials;
- providing for demonstration projects for alternative technology and service model projects for waste avoidance and recovery;
- containing strategies for sustainable waste avoidance and resource recovery;
- setting transparent and accountable targets to reduce household waste; and
- setting transparent and accountable targets to reduce demolition and construction waste.

The measures are based on current science and knowledge of waste demand and reduction techniques but are also flexible enough to incorporate new technologies as they change over the life of the UDA.

I note the Queensland Conservation Council (QCC) has provided support for the sustainable living goals proposed for the Caloundra South UDA. While the proposed Development Scheme remains to be finalised, this is tremendous early support from a key stakeholder. QCC has described these standards as setting “a new benchmark for Queensland and possibly Australia”.