

Question on Notice

No. 592

Asked on 7 April 2011

MR WELLINGTON asked the Minister for Transport and Multicultural Affairs (MS PALASZCZUK)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the upgrade and duplication of the railway line between Nambour and Gympie—

When will planning commence on the identification of the proposed corridor for the upgraded railway line?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Nicklin for the question.

The Queensland Government is actively planning to facilitate growth and economic development across Queensland.

In the south east Queensland region, the *South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program 2010-2031* and the draft *Connecting SEQ 2031: An Integrated Regional Transport Plan for South East Queensland* outlines the government's infrastructure priorities. The growth in this region is expected to be significant and that is why infrastructure improvements, including an upgrade of the north coast rail line to Nambour is currently planned.

In the Wide Bay Burnett region, the draft *Wide Bay Burnett Regional Plan* was launched in October 2010. The draft plan was developed with significant consultation with stakeholders and will guide land use and development in the region over the next two decades. The draft plan will also inform infrastructure investment planning for the region.

The Queensland Government is planning for and investing in a staged upgrade of the north coast rail line. A straightening and duplication of the railway between Caboolture and Beerburrum was completed in April 2009.

Planning has not yet identified a need for an upgrade of the rail line between Nambour and Gympie as being a priority within the 2031 planning horizon.

In addition to this, an upgrade of the rail line between Beerburrum and Landsborough is shown to have an indicative delivery timeframe of between 2014 and 2020 in the *South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program 2010-2031*. The next section of the north coast line between Landsborough to Nambour is anticipated between 2026 and 2031.